Gateway Academy is a private school located in Phoenix, Arizona that serves more than 70 twice-exceptional (2e) students (those with high-functioning autism) in grades K-12. These students are exceptionally bright but have various learning and social-emotional skill levels. Gateway offers students a tailored curriculum that is challenging and structured, helping to foster reasonability and independence. Students’ unique needs are met through hands-on learning, coupled with a safe and supportive environment that allows them to achieve both academic and personal growth. Students at Gateway sometimes struggle with learning tasks such as coming to class prepared, turning in homework on time, meeting deadlines, and managing time. But school leaders have discovered that integrating technology into their classes helps students excel, especially in world language learning.

Empowering future linguists

At Gateway, learning a second language is required for all grades. Kindergarteners are taught Spanish, and as students advance in their academic careers, more language choices become available. Gateway implemented Rosetta Stone® digital language-learning programs into its classroom curriculum in July 2016, providing a customized world language education that best suits each student’s intellectual strengths.

Gateway students have the opportunity to spend 40 minutes a day, up to five days a week, in an interactive World Language Lab where they use the digital program and receive supplemental instruction from a world language teacher. During this time, students not only learn a new language, but also study its related culture and traditions through group projects and research papers.

Using a balance of in-person and online instruction, the Gateway world language program:

- Allows self-paced instruction to complement each student’s strengths
- Provides students a wide range of language-learning offerings
- Supports students in learning how to complete tasks
- Engages students through interactive digital programs

The potential of every student at Gateway is limitless, and it’s our job to ensure each student has an exceptional learning path that accentuates their gifts by providing them the tools and resources they need to succeed. With Rosetta Stone, our students enjoy a mix of technology and language learning that can be adapted and modified according to their needs, abilities, and interests.”

O. Robin Sweet, Founder, Executive Director, and CEO, Gateway Academy
Individualized instruction leads to great progress
Gateway students are making great strides in learning a new language using a Rosetta Stone program. Because students learn at their own pace in a comfortable environment, they are excited to learn a new language and are engaged in their education. Some have even completed two years of study in one year.

Expanded language offerings
By implementing the Rosetta Stone program in its classrooms, Gateway can now offer its students more language-learning options than ever before. Students in grades K-5 enjoy learning Spanish, while students in middle school can choose among French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, or Portuguese. Students in grades 9-12 can study Japanese, Russian, Korean, Hebrew, or any of the other more than 20 languages Rosetta Stone offers.

“Our daughter, who is studying French, has developed not only a love for the language, but also French music. She is a visual learner who struggles with writing, and Rosetta Stone provides her with images that support a word or sentence, allowing her to comprehend and absorb the material through engaging and interactive pictures, words, and sounds.”

“She is very excited by technology and the computer platform fits her learning style beautifully. The various ways a digital program engages her helps to keep her focused and connected; immediate feedback allows her to understand her areas of opportunity and try again, rather than getting an assignment back with errors when the subject matter is long forgotten. She is so excited about her French studies that she wants to visit France and plans on being our interpreter!”

Erin Garrett, Gateway Academy Parent

About Gateway Academy
Gateway Academy was founded in 2005 by O. Robin Sweet and Dr. Thomas Bloom as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Gateway Academy offers students an academic curriculum that is challenging and structured; rich in its academic offerings; and nurturing in its approach to fostering personal growth, responsibility, and independence. The Gateway community works collaboratively to help students discover and develop their individual gifts and strengths, become self-advocates, and realize their full potential. A safe, thoughtfully prepared sensory-sensitive environment encourages mutual trust, respect, and acceptance among those in its school community.

For more information about Gateway Academy, visit www.gatewayacademy.us.

About Rosetta Stone
Rosetta Stone is a global leader in technology-driven language and learning solutions for individuals, classrooms, and organizations.

Our scalable, interactive solutions have been used by over 12,000 businesses, 9,000 public sector organizations, and 22,000 education institutions worldwide, and by millions of learners in over 150 countries.