

# SANICH SCHOOLS

K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOL



VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

# Saanich International Student Program (SISP)

## Semester or full-year academic program

Students are fully integrated with Canadian students in academic and elective classes for a cultural and academic study abroad experience.

## BC Graduation Program

Students study in Saanich for a minimum of two years and up to four years to complete graduation requirements for a BC Government Graduation Certificate.

## Program details

PROGRAM ESTABLISHED: 2001

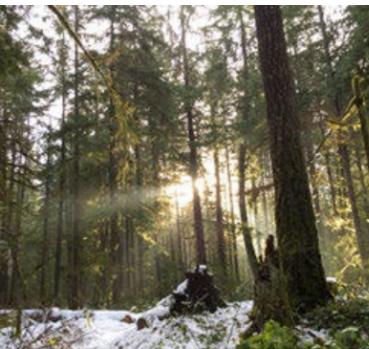
PROGRAMS OFFERED: Full Year, 1 Semester, Short Term

SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS: Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate

PROGRAMS OFFERED IN: English and French

ENTRANCE DATES: September & February

APPLICATION DEADLINES: Continuous



## Three High Schools, Hundreds of Opportunities, a Lifetime of Memories!

### SAANICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS K-12

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS: 14

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS: 8

MIDDLE SCHOOLS: 3

HIGH SCHOOLS: 3

TOTAL STUDENTS: 8,000

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: 350

The high school years set the stage for life. A world-class education and inspiring location combined with great experiences and life-long friendships creates a great foundation.

Saanich Schools have three world-class high schools all supporting the Saanich International Student Program (SISP). Each school offers the same rigorous academics plus an extraordinary offering of activities and programs in sports, the arts, outdoor education and integrated studies.

Beautifully located on Southern Vancouver Island, in the Greater Victoria area, students experience the best of city and rural life. There is easy access to the city of Victoria, quaint ocean-side towns and villages, and breathtaking nature. This safe region offers a low crime rate, high percentage of English speakers and Canada's mildest climate, creating an ideal place to learn and grow. Consider Saanich Schools and SISP as your pathway to academic and social growth during your high school years.

“

*It's a great experience to live alone in an unfamiliar environment where you have to adapt to the different culture. The challenge to become self confident and independent is incredible and the fact that you can say that you've had the time of your life at the end makes everything perfect.*

Markus (Germany)

## SAANICH AT A GLANCE

POPULATION: 110,000  
 AREA: approximately 100 sq km  
 AMENITIES: beaches, lakes, forests,  
 recreation/cultural activity centres

# Beautiful Saanich

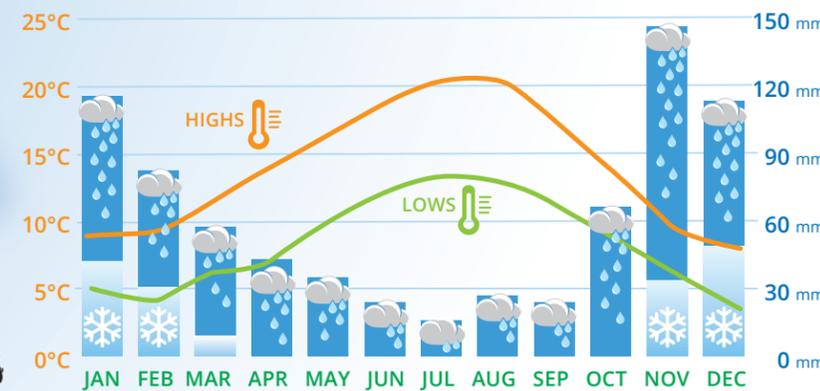
## The ideal setting to live and learn

Featuring the perfect blend of rural and urban landscapes, Saanich is the largest municipality in Greater Victoria.

Surrounded by ocean, Saanich has a long shoreline with many beautiful sandy beaches. Saanich also offers opportunities for nature hikes in its natural parks, as well as two lakes for swimming, fishing and rowing.

The capital city of British Columbia is Victoria. Vancouver, with a population of 2.4 million, is British Columbia's largest city and is located on the mainland. It is just a short 15-minute flight or approximately two and a half hours from Saanich Schools by car/bus and ferry.

Vancouver Island offers a very mild climate—warmer winters and cooler summers, compared to the rest of Canada. Greater Victoria winters are rainy (but only 60% of the rainfall of Vancouver) with the occasional snowfall.



PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS



VICTORIA INNER HARBOUR

- ☀ High Schools (grades 9-12)
- ★ Middle Schools (grades 6-8)

British Columbia is Canada's westernmost province. Home to 350,000 people, Greater Victoria, is located on the Saanich Peninsula on the southern tip of beautiful Vancouver Island.



CLAREMONT HIGH SCHOOL



PARKLAND HIGH SCHOOL



STELLY'S HIGH SCHOOL



SIDNEY MARINA





## Student support and safety

SISP Homestay Coordinators provide on-going student support and monitoring with school based office hours (two days per week) and regular communication with host families. Every school has an assigned Homestay Coordinator, who is available via email and phone during school hours. During the evenings, weekends and holidays, students and host families can reach out to SISP Management, including a Homestay Manager by calling the SISP emergency phone. Student safety and support in Saanich is paramount.



*You must make the effort to meet new friends. I have several Canadian friends and they really help me. My teacher also showed me what there is to do here and at home I joined in the family things. Also, you can go out and walk in the streets here without being afraid.*

Gerard (Mexico)



**OVER 200**  
caring host families  
are ready to welcome  
you to Saanich



# Your Home Away From Home

## The experience of a lifetime

The SISP homestay program is internally run by Saanich Schools employed Homestay Coordinators. The SISP homestay team carefully screens families from Saanich School's neighborhoods through an extensive online application, a criminal record check, and a home visit by a Homestay Coordinator to meet the family. A quality placement for every student is the priority and SISP ensures that students are placed in clean, caring homes. Homestay staff put extensive thought and care in matching students with compatible host families, always taking into consideration student's interests, dietary needs, allergies, and preferences.

## All homestay accommodations include:

- A furnished room with an outside window
- A bed with clean linen (sheets, pillow, and blankets)
- Access to a shared or personal bathroom with clean towels
- Access to the common living area of the home
- A quiet, heated, and well-lit study space
- Three meals per day (breakfast, lunch and dinner) plus a healthy snack
- Interaction with family and family activities
- Pick up and drop off at Victoria International Airport (YYJ) or BC Ferries

## Each year students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of exciting trips and activities

Throughout the school year there are a number of special student activities. Some include a visit to Tofino where students enjoy whale watching and visit the breathtaking Long Beach. Other favourite adventures include visits to Vancouver, quaint Coombs and Cathedral Grove Park, home to some of the world's biggest trees. Skiing at Whistler, Mount Washington or possibly even the Rocky Mountains may be on the ever-changing agenda. To see a full list of exactly what adventures are planned for this school year check out the *Saanich International Student School Activity Schedule*:

[www.studyinsaanch.ca](http://www.studyinsaanch.ca)





**90%**  
of recent international student graduates were accepted to North American Universities



**CANADIAN EDUCATION**  
is ranked in the  
**TOP 5**  
in the world



## Advanced Placement Program

High schools in Saanich offer the required academic courses for graduation plus a variety of elective courses all adhering to the British Columbia (BC) Ministry of Education curriculum requirements. International students graduating from high school in Saanich will graduate as educated citizens, with the knowledge, competencies, and skills they will need to transition successfully into higher education, training, or the workforce.

- All instruction is facilitated by BC certified teachers
- University and College application assistance is available for grade 12 students
- After school tutorials and academic support is available for English Language Learners

# Outstanding Academics

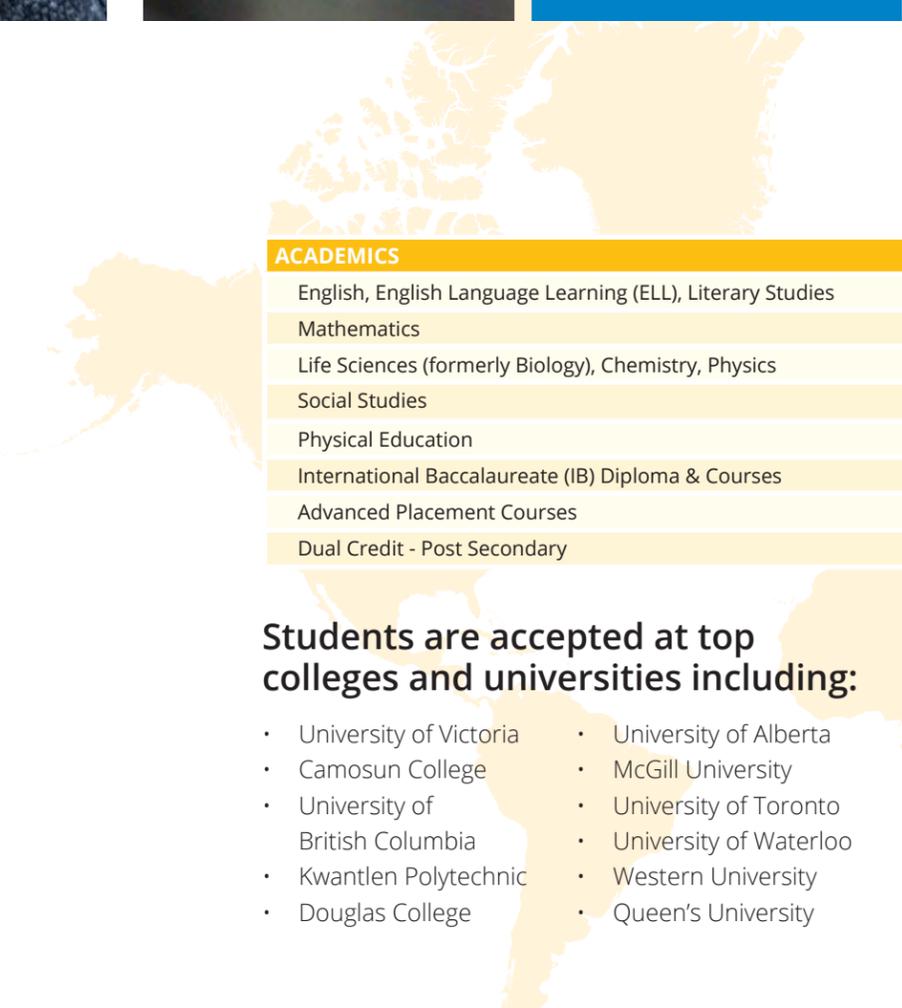
Saanich School's graduates attend highly ranked colleges and universities

Saanich Schools offer the opportunity to study in a small, medium or large high school. The core academic areas are standard across each high school providing international students with the ability to graduate with a BC Dogwood graduation certificate after two or more years of study. Additionally, studying for a shorter period of time, one semester to a full year, to obtain transcript legalization upon return to their home country is possible. Both options share a culture of inclusion and high academic rigor.

Saanich Schools welcome a wide range of English Language Learners (ELL). The academic support and rigor in Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses accommodates high achieving students while beginner and intermediate ELL classes are also offered in all high schools.



Review academic opportunities offered at Claremont, Parkland and Stelly's when choosing your academic pathway in Saanich Schools.  
[Claremont High School – claremont.sd63.bc.ca](http://claremont.sd63.bc.ca)  
[Parkland High School – parkland.sd63.bc.ca](http://parkland.sd63.bc.ca)  
[Stelly's High School – stellys.sd63.bc.ca](http://stellys.sd63.bc.ca)



	PARKLAND	STELLY'S	CLAREMONT
<b>ACADEMICS</b>			
English, English Language Learning (ELL), Literary Studies	✓	✓	✓
Mathematics	✓	✓	✓
Life Sciences (formerly Biology), Chemistry, Physics	✓	✓	✓
Social Studies	✓	✓	✓
Physical Education	✓	✓	✓
International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma & Courses	✓		
Advanced Placement Courses		✓	✓
Dual Credit - Post Secondary			✓

### Students are accepted at top colleges and universities including:

- University of Victoria
- Camosun College
- University of British Columbia
- Kwantlen Polytechnic
- Douglas College
- University of Alberta
- McGill University
- University of Toronto
- University of Waterloo
- Western University
- Queen's University



Stelly's High School offers exceptional Digital Media and Graphic Design Courses



Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) program is offered at Claremont High School

## More to Explore

Saanich Schools offer optional “Elective” classes in Arts, Business, Economics, Technology, Trades, Languages, and more. Expand your education and find your passion through these exciting classes.

Elective classes are a significant draw and new concept for many international students. The British Columbia Education system encourages students to pursue elective classes during middle and high school as a compliment to traditional academic classes. On your path to graduation you will need to complete fine art and applied skill electives, also known as “exploratory” classes in lower grades. Elective classes offer many benefits that help support international students development as well-rounded learners and individuals. Saanich Schools International Student Program support staff at Claremont, Parkland and Stelly's help you select and build your school schedule with a balanced compliment of elective and academic classes.

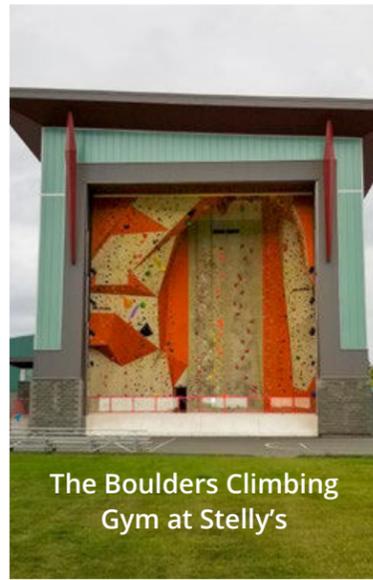
If studying for a semester, or one school year, elective classes balance your school day with more

rigorous academic courses. Review the chart for a specific elective subject that interests you and consider the corresponding school when applying to the Saanich International Student Program.

There are many clubs for international students to join in Saanich Schools. Clubs are offered before and after school, and during lunchtime. Clubs like the model United Nations (UN), Leadership, Math, Chess, and even Table Tennis are great ways for students to meet Canadian friends and improve spoken English. Greater Victoria and Saanich also have numerous community based clubs and activities you can join. School staff, homestay families and international program staff can help you become involved in the school and the community while studying in Saanich.

## EXPLORE YOUR INTERESTS

	PARKLAND	STELLY'S	CLAREMONT
<b>ELECTIVES</b>			
Accounting			✓
Art	✓	✓	✓
Automotive Machining/Technology	✓	✓	
Business			✓
Catering		✓	
Computer Science	✓	✓	✓
Culinary Arts	✓	✓	✓
Digital Media	✓	✓	✓
Drafting	✓	✓	✓
Electronics	✓		
Engineering			✓
Entrepreneurship	✓	✓	
Foods, Food Studies and Cafeteria Training	✓	✓	✓
Graphic Art		✓	
Industrial Coding & Design		✓	
Information Technology		✓	✓
Leadership	✓		✓
Marine Repair & Restoration	✓		
Marketing	✓		✓
Mechanics	✓	✓	
Metal Art & Jewelry	✓	✓	✓
Metal Fabrication		✓	✓
Metal Work	✓	✓	
Photography	✓	✓	✓
Professional Cook Training		✓	
Psychology	✓		
Robotics			✓
Sustainable Gardening		✓	
Textiles	✓	✓	✓
Web Design	✓		
Woodwork	✓	✓	✓
Yearbook	✓	✓	✓
<b>LANGUAGES</b>			
French	✓	✓	✓
Spanish	✓	✓	✓
Japanese		✓	
French Immersion		✓	
<b>PROGRAMS</b>			
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)			✓
Institute for Global Solutions (IGS)			✓
Marine Service Technician Program	✓		
Global Perspectives		✓	
Digital Media & Graphic Design Program		✓	



The Boulders Climbing Gym at Stelly's



Saanich schools graduates include **OVER 60** national, Olympic and professional athletes



Stelly's is the only high school in Canada offering a state-of-the-art indoor climbing wall

# The Pursuit of Excellence

Saanich Schools offers the opportunity to participate in a variety of specialized “academies” that promote skill development.

Athletic opportunities are available to all international students in Saanich. Physical Education classes ensure students experience a variety of sports and physical activity. Skill development, participation and sportsmanship are the emphasis in these classes.

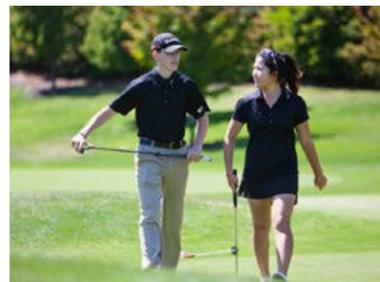
Each high school and middle school has sport teams, clubs and academies that practice and compete primarily before and after school. For students wishing

to focus on a specific sport, multiple academies are available and highlighted on the academy chart.

Whether you are looking for a recreational sporting opportunity to improve your English, stay active and meet friends, or a high performance sporting experience in an Academy, SISP and Saanich Schools have an offering for you.



	PARKLAND	STELLY'S	CLAREMONT
<b>ACADEMIES</b>			
Aquatics			✓
Lacrosse			✓
Golf			✓
Rowing			✓
Climbing		✓	
Ice Hockey	✓		
Judo	✓		
Sailing	✓		
<b>FALL SPORTS</b>			✓
Aquatics	✓	✓	✓
Boys Soccer	✓	✓	✓
Climbing		✓	
Cross Country	✓	✓	✓
Field Hockey			✓
Rowing	✓	✓	✓
Volleyball	✓	✓	✓
<b>WINTER SPORTS</b>			✓
Basketball	✓	✓	✓
Curling			✓
Wrestling		✓	
<b>SPRING SPORTS</b>		✓	
Badminton		✓	✓
Girls Soccer	✓	✓	✓
Golf		✓	✓
Mountain Biking	✓		
Rugby	✓	✓	✓
Sailing	✓		
Tennis		✓	✓
Track & Field	✓	✓	✓

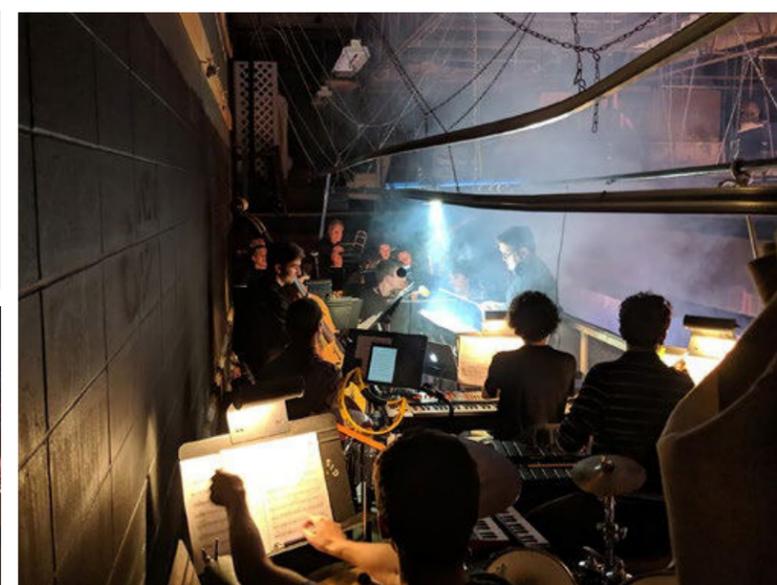




The Ridge Theatre at Claremont High School hosts community and school productions



In Saanich high schools, Fine Arts courses are combined to produce and perform first class musical theatre productions.



## Many Faces of Artistic Expression

In Saanich all students can give voice to their inner-artist through Fine Arts courses offered in our schools

**SAANICH SCHOOLS** have a long history of providing exceptional fine and performing arts courses for students. Each Saanich high school offers a wide range of courses in the arts, offering endless possibilities for students to pursue artistic expression.

**STELLY'S HIGH SCHOOL** offers the largest programs in Saanich for Jazz Band and Concert Band, and is the only school currently offering Film Studies. Stelly's combines courses in Stagecraft, Choir, Band, Dance, Drama and Musical Theatre to produce first class Musical Productions. Stelly's also offers courses such as Music Composition, Guitar, Visual Arts and Graphic Arts.

**CLAREMONT HIGH SCHOOL** has a one-of-a-kind Focus on Fine Arts (FOFA) program, offering a wealth of opportunities for students to deepen and display their knowledge and appreciation of the Fine Arts. Students can choose from a variety of disciplines such as Dance, Drama, music and visual arts, while being supported in their learning by specialized staff.

**PARKLAND HIGH SCHOOL'S** Musical Theatre production in semester one involves up to 90 students in all aspects of the show and typically runs for four nights to sold out audiences. Parkland also offers two different band options as well as Dance, Guitar and Graphic and Visual Arts.

	PARKLAND	STELLY'S	CLAREMONT
<b>ARTS</b>			
Drama	✓	✓	✓
Musical Theatre	✓	✓	✓
Stagecraft		✓	✓
Theatre Production	✓		✓
Band	✓	✓	✓
Jazz Band	✓	✓	✓
Concert Band	✓	✓	✓
Choir	✓	✓	✓
Dance	✓	✓	✓
Guitar	✓	✓	✓
Visual Arts	✓	✓	✓
Graphic Arts	✓	✓	✓
Film Studies		✓	

Parkland  
Secondary



An IB  
World  
School



**SAANICH**  
**SCHOOLS**  
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Victoria, British Columbia, Canada  
sisp\_info@saanichschools.ca  
[studyinsaanich.ca](http://studyinsaanich.ca)

 @studyinsaanich  
 @studyinsaanich



**Advanced  
Placement  
Program**