



CANADIAN SCHOOL OF MILAN

Canadian School of Milan
Educate for today. Inspire for tomorrow.





Welcome to CSM

A welcome from the Founder.

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the Canadian School of Milan. We are looking forward to providing your child with an outstanding educational experience in a truly vibrant and exciting international environment. We strive to build on a reputation of excellence as we seek to meet the needs of all children enrolled in our school. Our staff members are enthusiastic and passionate about teaching and offer a wealth of experience and expertise. At the Canadian School of Milan, we aim to create a stimulating, safe and positive learning environment, with high expectations of achievement and behavior. We are committed to making the curriculum accessible to all children by employing a range of teaching styles and approaches which will motivate our students to develop independent, life learning skills.

We hope that you will find this guide informative and we look forward to working closely with you to ensure all of our students achieve their potential, whether that is in their academic work, the performing arts, or sports.

Yours,
M.A. Salvadori del Prato
Head of School



Mission

Educate for today. Inspire for tomorrow.

OUR MISSION IS TO EDUCATE FOR A CHANGING WORLD THROUGH AN INQUIRY-BASED LEARNING APPROACH, TO PROMOTE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND INTERCULTURAL MINDEDNESS AND TO INSPIRE A GROWING PASSION FOR LEARNING.

"My daughter joined CSM in the middle of a school year and she felt happy since day 1, which was the most important thing for us. It became her second home since she got to know almost everyone."

Adriana, Lower School Mother



Our Core Values

We aim to create a fair, equal, safe and encouraging environment.

At CSM we actively teach the moral and ethical values that reflect the values of Canada. These values contribute to our quality education and to the social and emotional development of our children.

Respect

We respect ourselves and our environment and treat each other with consideration and understanding. We respect each other's point of view, we respect the property of others and treat others fairly.

Responsibility

We are accountable for the decisions we make so we can be trusted and depended on. We realize that our decisions impact our community. We honour our commitments.

Integrity

We are respectful, trustworthy and honest. We demonstrate integrity when we uphold honesty and differentiate between what is right and wrong.

Perseverance

We work hard to achieve excellence. We hold on and don't give up when a problem appears too challenging.



Our Vision for Excellence

Global readiness and creative mindset.

To flourish in an evolving international landscape, our students need to learn multiple skills, languages and learn the nuance of world cultures.

At CSM, students develop global readiness across every detail of our programme, from the IB curriculum to community service initiatives and experiential learning opportunities around Italy and the World.

Our rich, interdisciplinary curriculum focuses on inquiry, discovery, creativity and building community. It aims to provide children with real and meaningful opportunities to use the skills both as a member of a community and as independent learners. We set clear expectations for learning, and approach instruction with the understanding that each child's development is unique and individual.

Creativity is now considered the most important quality for tomorrow's top leaders. Our teachers encourage students to rethink and find new solutions for the obvious. Our program guides students through creative learning challenges by acquiring technology expertise and employing design-thinking strategies.

Our inventive environment allows our teachers to support our students' needs and aspirations.



CSM is proud to be part of the Global Schools Programme, a UN led Sustainable Development Solutions Network Youth Initiative. The aim of this programme is to educate students about sustainable development.

Lower School

Our Lower School Curriculum is designed to give a holistic educational experience and to foster creativity and the natural curiosity of our young students.



Nursery – Grade 5 (ages 3-10)

Lower School begins with Nursery, where the main focus is on personal, social, emotional, physical and language development. Children are encouraged to explore art, music, math and phonics through games in order to make learning fun and ensure a smooth transition onto the next level.

Lower School students follow an inquiry based approach to learning and are encouraged to adopt the attributes of character education through the fundamentals of the core subjects – Language Arts, Mathematics, Science & Technology, Social Studies, Art, Music, Drama, Italian, French, and Physical Education. The academic programme is complemented by field trips, external sports activities, co-curricular clubs, a large playground, a library area, a cafeteria with freshly prepared daily meals from our kitchen staff, and the opportunity to engage in leadership skills with our Student Council.



Through the use of differentiated instruction, we help ensure alignment and academic success.



Our curriculum reflects our global distinction by combining the best curricula from around the world. In Early Learning, we are inspired by the Italian Reggio Emilia approach, grounded on the discovery of creativity and problem-solving skills. Later, children are taught a blend of the world-renowned Ontario curriculum, the British National curriculum and elements from the Italian's rich History programme.

“Transitioning our Pre-K and First Grader last spring from the US was made easier because of the care and guidance of the dedicated CSM staff. Settling into a new culture is challenging enough, but as any parent knows if your child is thriving – those challenges are well worth it.”

Cynthia, Lower School Mother

Upper School

Our Upper school lays the foundation for success in further education and the world beyond the classroom.



Middle Years Programme (MYP) (ages 11-16)

The Middle Years Programme recognises the unique developmental characteristics of early adolescence, which is marked by significant physical, intellectual, emotional and moral growth and change. In recognition of this, the MYP seeks to facilitate learning experiences that are authentic, holistic, relevant, engaging, and build a healthy sense of self. International-mindedness is woven into the fabric of the programme's framework and is expressed through the IB learner profile.

Students follow a full schedule of core courses - Language and Literature (English and Italian), Language Acquisition (French, Spanish, or Italian), Mathematics, Sciences, Individuals and Societies, Health & Physical Education, Art, Music, Drama and Personal/Social Education. The Student Council provides many opportunities for students to develop collaborative and leadership skills with their peers as they engage in friendly competitions, charity fundraising, and community activities. Our Athletics Programme is designed to encourage participation and skill development.



This framework helps ensure that all students receive a broad and balanced education to draw upon before making decisions about subject specialization in the Diploma Programme (Grades 11 & 12).



Diploma Programme (DP) (ages 16-18)

CSM offers the IB Diploma Programme to eligible students entering eleventh grade. The IB is a comprehensive two-year programme that is widely recognized and considered to be an international passport to higher education. It encourages critical thinking, research skills, and service as part of the learning process.

CSM is an IB World School offering the Middle Years Programme (MYP) and the Diploma Programme (DP). IB World Schools share a common philosophy: a commitment to high-quality, challenging, international education that we believe is important for our students.

More information about the IB MYP and DP is found in our IB Booklet.



Athletics and Extra-curricular Activities

A opportunity for leadership and personal growth.

Athletics

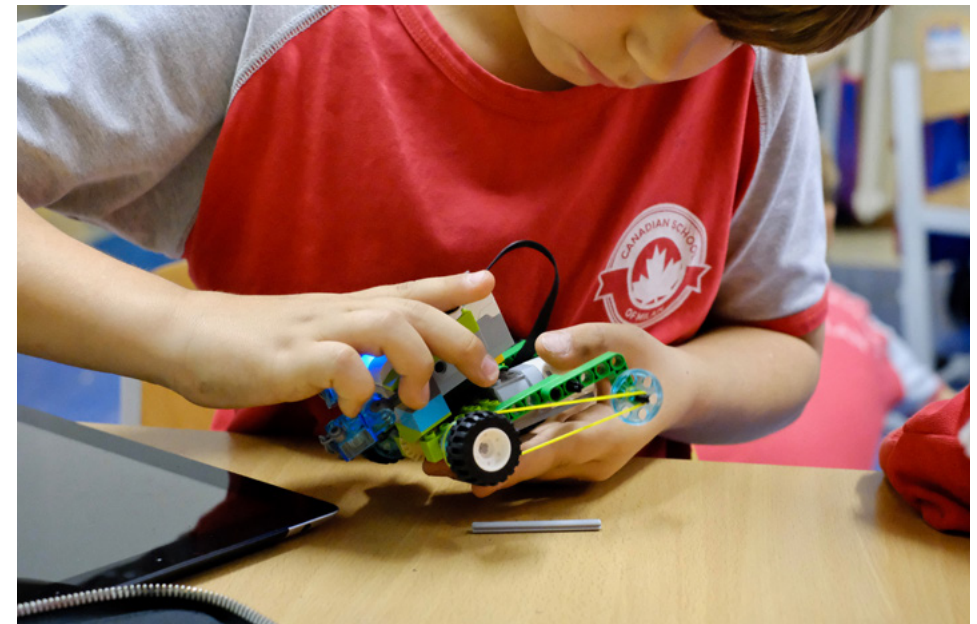
We believe that a dynamic Athletics programme is essential to develop character, sportsmanship, teamwork, commitment, discipline and conflict management.

CSM's facilities include a gymnasium and an outdoor sport field. We also regularly bus our students to nearby sports centers in the city.

We offer a variety of sports including: ice skating, soccer, volleyball, cross-country, basketball, baseball, softball, tennis, and more. Our Upper School regularly participates in local basketball, volleyball and soccer tournaments competing locally against other schools. Our annual Sports Day at Milan's Arena Civica promotes friendly competition and fun between our school Houses.



LEARNING
CONTEXTUALIZED TO
THE REAL WORLD



Extracurricular

CSM organizes a wide range of activities during lunch time and after school which are designed to reinforce and balance our rigorous academic curriculum, as well as provide a means for our student to discover and nurture their talents.

Students participate in engaging activities such as music, art, drama, robotics, recreational sports, and student-led clubs and organizations.



Visual and Performing Arts

A unique way to stimulate the brain and develop creative problem-solving skills.

Arts education is an important part of our approach in developing well rounded students. Arts teaches students to perceive and think in new ways and develop their creativity, reasoning, imagination, dexterity and intuition. Additionally, through Arts students learn to build bridges between verbal and non-verbal communication, as well as logic and emotion.

Visual Art

Visual Art gives students the chance to explore creativity while developing fundamental skills. The program encourages children to become confident in expressing their creativity and to appreciate the work of others. Visual Art is taught across all grades through a rich, experiential curriculum and through the exposure of a wide range of mediums, and principles of design. The Art Exhibition in late March is the culminative event for our DP Visual art students.

Music

CSM students regularly engage with music and drama through theatre performances and instrumental and choral concerts. A wide range of private and group music lessons are offered to students of all ages.



Students are challenged to thrive in multiple areas and to explore new interests and pathways to learning. It is quite common for our students to believe they can become both scientists and musicians.

Excursions and Trips

Team building activities that promote social bonds and experiential learning.

One of CSM's core missions is to enhance learning and provide students from a young age to engage outside the classroom to learn about the world around them and apply their knowledge in a variety of ways.

Through experiential learning, students come across topics such as biodiversity, ecosystems, sustainability, survival, pollution and more. These interactive and immersive experiences promote community building, enrich curricular content and help develop collaborative, interpersonal skills.

Each experience connects our students and links directly to a subject at their grade level.

Some popular day or overnight trips destinations include:

- Venice
- Verona
- Florence
- Poland
- Normandy
- Sports Challenge Week (Dolomites)
- Rome



Leadership and Service Learning

Teaching students how to become adaptable, open-minded, and active citizens.

Student Council & House System

Student Council allows students to find their voices, participate in decision-making, and to embrace their leadership potential. Student Council at CSM provides opportunities to develop leadership roles and to have an active role in student affairs to create a dynamic, engaging and inclusive school community. Students learn responsibility, decision-making, cooperation and self-awareness

through the various leadership roles across Upper and Lower School. The student government strives to enrich the student experience at CSM by organizing fun community-building events and service initiatives. CSM House system across all grades deliver an opportunity for students to develop leadership skills, support community, and provide structure for school spirit and sense of belonging.



Service Learning

CSM students develop a life-long understanding of the importance in sustaining healthy relationships with themselves, their families, our community and our environment. Students are encouraged to play an active role in the life of the school, their local community and beyond.

Each year our Upper School students dedicate hours to Creativity, Action and Service (CAS), which are key components of the IB Programme. CAS offers students an opportunity to support the school's mission of developing engaged citizens of the world.



Ongoing opportunities, large and small – raising funds for charity, collecting campus recycling, singing carols at an elderly nursing home, or participating in service trips abroad, encourage students of all ages to develop a commitment to service and service leadership.



Examples of Community Service at school are:

- Terry Fox Run
- Organizing sports tournaments for children with disabilities
- Food and clothing drives (eg. Thanksgiving fundraiser)
- Themed days fundraisers
- Mentoring and tutoring younger students
- Organizing, supervising and hosting activities during school events

University Counseling

For students that are driven and equipped for success in post-secondary education, and in life beyond.

The year before entry to the Diploma Programme, students begin a university counseling program as part of their learning journey.

This programme ensures that CSM students develop research, social, communication, and self-management skills and apply their learning and successes to the challenges and exciting process of exploring the best courses and university for their further education.

One-to-one university counseling is offered to all students and students are supported through every step of the selection and application process including SAT standardized testing.



CSM Parents

Working together to build an effective home-school partnership.

We are very proud of CSM Parents, our Parent Teacher Association. CSM Parents play an important role in fostering a spirit of cooperation within our international community of students, parents and teachers as well as:

- Promote open and positive communication between parents, teachers, and school administrators in order to provide feedback and new ideas to be put forth;
- Connect the community through social events in order to create friendships and make new families feel welcome;
- Contribute to the school community and beyond by organizing fundraising activities.



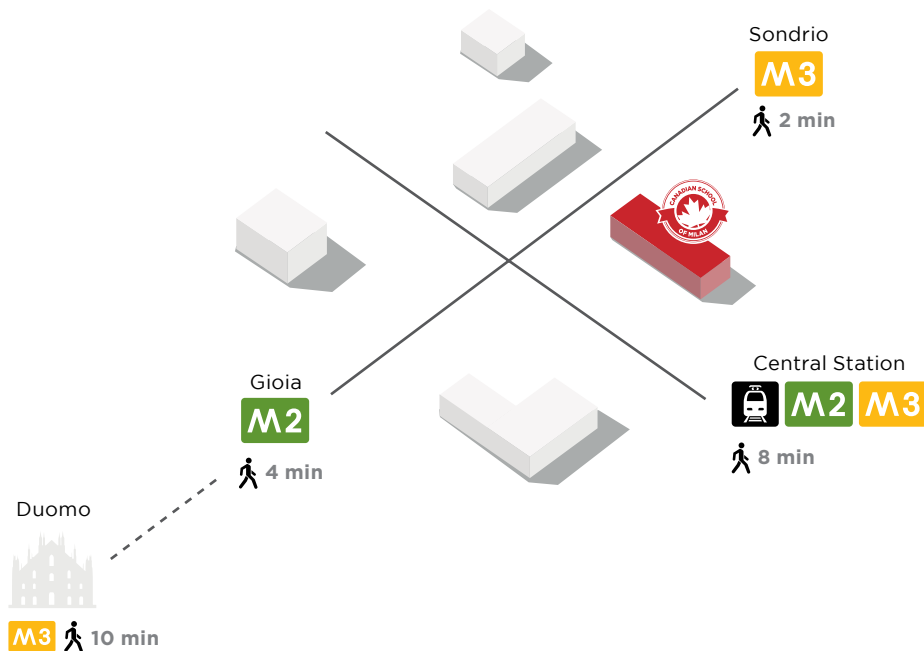
CSM Parents is run by parent volunteers and they work closely with the CSM administrative team to coordinate key events throughout the year.

Location

A central and strategic position for both parents and students.

The Canadian School of Milan is located in the center of Milan, just steps away from the Central station as well as several Subway, bus and tram stops.

Our strategic location gives parents the opportunity to be involved in their children's daily school life while also taking advantage of the city's infrastructures and landmarks.



Become part of CSM

We look forward to meeting you and sharing our school.

Admissions

We welcome applications for admissions from motivated families from all backgrounds who wish to join our international and dynamic community.

Applications are considered all year long through a selective process led by our admissions team. Where a place is available, decision for admissions is based on the student's past reports, outcome of an admission assessment, and successful interview with the Principal or a Head of Department. For more information, to visit the school, or to complete an application form please visit: www.canadianschool.it

For any questions, please contact: admissions@canadianschool.it

"The school has a warm atmosphere and everyone knows and cares about each other. Perfect for expat families thanks to its diversity."

Ayano, Lower School parent

Kindly understand that the information present in this publication is accurate at the time of production and publication (January 2020). The Canadian School of Milan reserves the right to make amendments at any time without prior notice.



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