



**INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION  
FOR GLOBAL THINKERS AND DOERS**

**MILAN + ITALY**



# WELCOME TO SCHOOL



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. 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 behaviour. We are committed to making the curriculum accessible to all children through utilising a range of teaching styles and approaches, and state of the art technology, 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 pupils 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

Our purpose is to promote academic excellence by providing a culturally diverse environment for families from around the globe and inspire students to become life-long learners and global citizens, who will contribute positively to the world.





## DIVERSITY

Multiculturalism is the founding heart of Canada. Different cultures living in harmony, offer a unique path for personal growth and enrichment. Although both English and French are the official languages of Canada, English is the primary language taught at CSM. Children also study French as a foreign language starting as young as five years old. From grade 1, two Italian programs are implemented for Native Italian speakers preparing for the Italian state examinations, as well as beginner Italian for our international students. Becoming multilingual opens up valuable opportunities and empowers young people with an important ability to communicate across cultures. At the Canadian School we are proud to welcome children and teachers from all over the world. Close to 50% of the students who enroll every year are international. We strongly believe that diversity fosters strength and a common ground for sharing, learning, and growing.







## PRE-PRIMARY PROGRAM (NURSERY AND PRE-KINDERGARTEN, AGES 3-5)

A day in the Pre-Primary at the Canadian School is enriched with new experiences and opportunities to both challenge and engage. The goal of our program is to provide a happy, safe, and stimulating environment where each child feels welcome and secure. Communication in English and cooperation in work and play are emphasized in Pre-Primary. Children are encouraged to take initiative, challenge themselves and discover their own remarkably creative selves. Our curriculum provides total development of the child's physical, emotional, social, creative and cognitive self in a child-centered environment. Through guided activities and play, each child develops his or her cognitive, physical, artistic and social skills. Daily experiences are offered with blocks, toys, painting, music, dramatic play and physical education.







## **PRIMARY SCHOOL PROGRAM (GRADES KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 5)**

The Primary School Curriculum is mainly based on the Ontario Ministry of Education Curriculum Expectations. Canada is a bilingual country and is considered a world leader in language training and pedagogy. The Ontario education system emerges as a model and an example of prudent pedagogical education. Ontario has also received the highest rating in the Program for International Student Achievement (PISA) results for any jurisdiction in an English speaking country.

The objective of our primary program is to instill a love for learning by providing meaningful learning opportunities for our students to flourish as independent, global learners. The best way to achieve this understanding is through active participation, engaging in hands on interactive lessons, and fostering critical thinking. With small class sizes active learning is strengthened. Students will be able to excel by having personalized and individual learning experiences from teachers in terms of instruction and assessment.







## THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM (GRADES 6 TO 10)

Canadian School is a candidate school for the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (MYP) accreditation. The MYP offers a philosophy and a curriculum framework to meet the needs of 11 to 16 year-old students. It aims to combine the best research and practice from a range of national systems and the knowledge and experiences of international schools.

It recognizes 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 through the fabric of the program's framework and is expressed through the IB learner profile.

The framework provides flexibility for teachers to develop teaching programs that are responsive to needs of students who are making sense of a rapidly changing world and to make authentic connections between their learning and local, regional and international contexts.





## MYP CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

The IB MYP has eight subject groups on the outside of the octagonal curriculum model (Figure 1). All students are expected to study from each of these subject groups, and each group is of equal value. This helps ensure that all students receive a broad and balanced education to draw upon before making decisions about subject specialization in Years 12 and 13.

### Global Contexts

Global Contexts is the MYP's framework for organizing the curriculum's content and skills with deep conceptual understanding. Conceptual understandings of taught content help students transfer ideas across topic areas and traditional subject boundaries for powerful cross-curricular learning. The Global Contexts build upon the knowledge and thinking skills developed through the PYP's transdisciplinary themes.

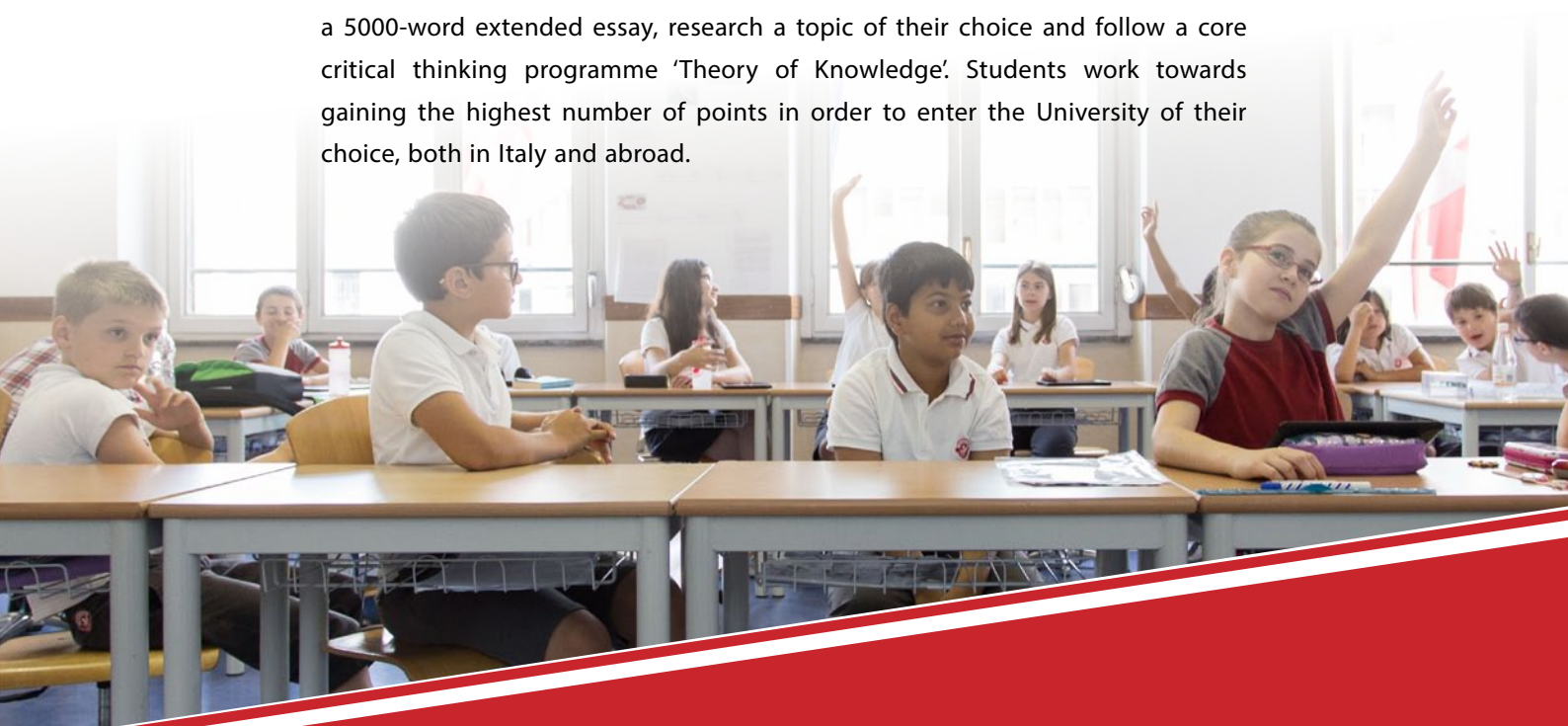
### MYP Certificate

Students who have completed the MYP will be awarded a MYP Completion Certificate. The Certificate will include overall MYP subject grades for all eight-subject areas. The Certificate will also provide evidence of how a student has met the Canadian School expectations. For students who have completed the last two years of the MYP, their certificate will include their Personal Project grade. These students will also receive formal recognition of their Personal Project achievements from the IB.



## THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) DIPLOMA PROGRAMME (GRADES 11 TO 12)

The IB Diploma Programme is a broad-based two year course, requiring study in six subject areas, including a study of Literature in a (near) native language, a modern foreign language, Mathematics, a Humanity and at least one of the Sciences. In addition, students participate in a Creativity, Action, Service programme, write a 5000-word extended essay, research a topic of their choice and follow a core critical thinking programme 'Theory of Knowledge'. Students work towards gaining the highest number of points in order to enter the University of their choice, both in Italy and abroad.



## STAFF AND FACULTY

The Staff and Faculty Members at CSM are uniquely qualified to lead what will become one of Milan's leading International Schools. Staff members are international and are all native tongue speakers in the subject area they teach. The faculty is committed to ongoing research and development to ensure increasing quality of the program. They adapt instruction to meet the daily needs of students and participate in rigorous professional development to improve classroom practice.



## AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

In addition to the curricular opportunities available to CSM students, the school organises a range of extra-curricular activities during lunchtime and after school. Activities may include Homework, Ballet, Chess, Soccer, Baseball, Gymnastics, Clay, Karate, Hip Hop, Glee Club, Photography, Choir. We also offer an extensive music programme with individual and group lessons using a wide variety of instruments. The After School Programme varies from year to year depending on numbers and demand and the official schedule of the programme will be available at the beginning of each school year.





## MUSIC & ARTS

Studying music and an instrument at any age stimulates the brain in a unique way and generates academic benefits. Music at CSM is taught by specialist teachers, and it soon forms an integral part of school life. Students of all grades have the opportunity to become involved in choirs, orchestras, bands and ensembles and perform at school-wide assemblies and concerts. The school has a wide range of musical instruments and digital equipment with individual terminals, as well as keyboards for composition and music technology work at the disposal of all students. For particularly motivated students, private lessons are available for voice and instruments including piano, violin, and guitar, led by professional music teachers.







## ATHLETICS

Sports, fitness and health are central to the Canadian School of Milan mission. By providing numerous opportunities for physical education and sports competition, CSM ensures each student develops a foundation for life-long health and physical fitness. CSM sports program complements the school's overall educational philosophy by providing the opportunity for all students to enhance their physical and mental health, sharpen their individual skills and learn to collaborate through team play.

We encourage all our students, whatever the age, to achieve their full potential, whilst ensuring a commitment to fair play and encouraging a philosophy of team spirit. In addition to our in-house facilities, CSM students travel to nearby city sports centres and pools.

### ATHLETIC EXPERIENCES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR INCLUDE:

- Ice-Skating (figure or hockey)
- Swimming
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Floor hockey
- Outdoor adventure
- Badminton
- Tennis
- Track and Field
- Yoga and Meditation
- Dance



## TECHNOLOGY

As we sail through the twenty-first century, CSM recognizes the importance of incorporating the careful use of technology in daily classroom activities. Each of our classrooms are equipped with a state of the art Apple operating system which includes Apple TV, Whiteboards, I-pads and Mac computers. Teachers incorporate these technologies in various ways in their daily planning and lessons. By integrating technology in the classroom, we believe we are equipping our students with the essential skills needed to meet the demands of post secondary studies and job markets







## ACTIVE LEARNING - LEARNING BY DOING

In a rapidly changing society, it is important that students gain a deep, critical understanding of the world around them. We believe the best way to achieve this is through active participation, which demands students take direct responsibility for their own mastery of ideas.

Teachers at CSM guide students through their development with engaging and interactive hands-on strategies. Learning activities often include networking with the local community. Lessons frequently involve a wide variety of learning experiences, such as:

- Literature circles
- Role plays
- Model construction
- Presentations
- Film-making
- Lab experiments
- Guest speaker sessions
- Concept mapping
- Learning journals
- Peer teaching
- Field trips
- Exchange student program with Toronto partner schools





## GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

In times of evolving technologies, shifting economies and diminishing environments, young people need to learn how to become adaptable, open-minded, and active citizens.

CSM provides students with a thought-provoking environment to learn the skills needed to play influential roles in the world-to-come. Some of the opportunities that enhance our students' sense of awareness are:

- **Student Council and Leadership Club**
- **Eco Club and Volunteering Club**
- **Fundraising events**
- **Model United Nations Conferences**
- **Commemoration of international events, such as World Peace Day**
- **Tribe system that promotes universal values**

Volunteering and service learning are elements running throughout the school's programs. Through these activities, students acquire a positive drive for improving the world as well as valuable experience for entrance to post-secondary education.







NOW YOU CANADA



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