



International Student Program Comox Valley

HERE
FOR YOU

www.studyinbritishcolumbia.com

Welcome to the Comox Valley International Student Program



The Comox Valley International Student Program is a division of the Comox Valley School District. The program is dedicated to offering personalized education to international students from around the world. Since 2005, we have been empowering students and helping them develop a global mindset while fostering their emotional and academic intelligence.

- Small class sizes emphasizing individual attention to students
- Staff and homestay families provide students with a dedicated support system
- An advanced curriculum prepares students for success in their post-secondary education
- Experienced teachers, nationally recognized in their fields
- ESL/ELL support available to all students at no extra cost
- International Support teachers at each high school exclusively provide guidance for international students
- Learning support teachers at every school
- Mental health counselling service available to all students
- University application assistance

96% student satisfaction rate

8,000 students

Welcome to Our Community

Comox, Courtenay and Cumberland are the three main communities found in the Comox Valley. This friendly, inclusive community offers urban amenities in a close-knit environment.

- A very safe and welcoming community
- Four-season outdoor recreation; skiing/snowboarding, mountain biking, hiking, golfing and multiple watersports
- Modern facilities including recreation centres, movie theatres, restaurants, boutique shopping and local transit service
- Stunning natural surroundings
- Mildest climate in Canada



Join Us in the Comox Valley

Nestled between the mountains and the sea, the Comox Valley is located

- halfway up the east coast of Vancouver Island
- 20- minute flight from Vancouver
- 2.5 - hour drive from Victoria
- 1 - hour drive from Nanaimo Ferry Terminal

The Comox Valley International Airport welcomes multiple daily flights from Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton. Ferry service is a 1 hour drive south, operating between the city of Nanaimo and Vancouver.



98% English Speaking environment

70,000 population

Our Program Offers You Great Options

Whether you wish to graduate from a secondary school and pursue a university education in North America, experience a short-term program of 3 to 10 months in a Canadian high school environment, or study English in our 1 to 2-month Summer Program, the Comox Valley International Student Program offers you full integration into an authentic Canadian high school environment, with academic and elective classes based on your needs and interests.

Graduation Program

- Start in September, January or April
- BC Government approved graduation courses and exams
- Earn the prestigious British Columbia Dogwood Graduation certificate
- Receive post-secondary application consulting designed to help you successfully apply to the top North American universities

Short-Term Program

- Start in September, January or April
- ESL/ELL instruction
- International student activities and trips designed to maximize your experience

26:1 - student teacher ratio

82% of graduates go to top universities like University of Toronto, University of British Columbia and McGill University

Summer Program

- Start in July or August
- Classes are taught in English within local school classrooms
- Daily recreational activities in the community and beyond (surfing, hiking, whale watching)

Specialized Programs

- EXPLORE Outdoor Education
- Golf Program
- Hockey Program
- Volleyball Program



Exciting Opportunities at Each School

Our students have access to every academic course offered in BC, as well as a huge variety of elective courses that range from the Fine Arts (music, photography and Art) to applied technology (robotics, programming, and animation) and many others. Our 300 international students come from over 25 countries around the world and make up 10% of the total student population in our secondary schools. As well as 3 secondary schools (grades 8-12), there are 2 middle schools (grades 6-9) and 13 elementary schools (Kindergarten – grade 6) in the Comox Valley.



GP Vanier Secondary School

- 1,150 students in grades 8-12
- Home to the Comox Valley Sports Centre, with more than 15 sports teams
- EXPLORE Outdoor Education Program and Hockey Program
- French and Spanish language courses
- Excellent Theatre program
- Nationally recognized Robotics and Science programs
- Provincial championship rugby and basketball programs
- Regular school bus service to the school

Athletic, Artistic, Energetic, Newly Renovated

Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School

- 1,000 students in grades 8-12
- A top ranked school in BC
- French Immersion program
- Superior Music program
- Competitive skiing and snowboarding team
- Golf Program
- Walking distance to homestays



Innovative, Competitive, Bilingual



Highland Secondary School

- 800 students in grades 8-12
- French language course
- Dual credit courses for college
- Elite female volleyball program
- Excellent STE(A)M and shops courses
- Walking distance to homestays

Individual Attention, Academic Focus, Engaging Teachers

Become Part of a Canadian Family

The Comox Valley International Student Program is very proud of our internally run Homestay Program. Our dedicated Homestay Coordinators carefully screen each of our homestay families. Before you arrive, homestay families are provided with a thorough orientation to ensure you are always safe and well cared for. Our Homestay Coordinators are available to assist you and homestay families. They will maintain active communication throughout your time in our program.

You'll be treated like 'part of the family' and can expect:

- Three meals per day plus snacks
- A private room and access to all amenities in the home
- Participation in family events and holidays
- Your homestay parents to advocate for you with your school
- Assistance with personal banking, SIM card, homework, activity sign-ups, and completing school forms
- Access to medical or dental care if required
- Transportation to activities outside of school hours



99% English as first language families

1-2 students from different nationalities per family

91% homestay satisfaction rate

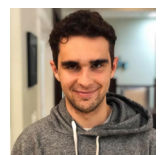


Here's what our students and homestay families have to say



"I called my host parents Mom and Dad. My Mom is very good at cooking. She often makes me good food and takes me out for family trips." --Doris, PR China

"I feel very lucky to live with my host family. I always talk to my host Mom when I come across difficulties at school or in life. I trust her a lot." --Molly, Vietnam



"I'm very happy with my host family and I could say many good things about them. They like to do activities and made me feel part of the family." --Jose, Spain

"The bond you created worldwide with different families and students is really something to be treasured." --Corrie & Ed Howard



Student Life

While living and studying in the Comox Valley, you will have endless opportunities to experience all that the area has to offer. By joining a school team, going on adventures with your homestay family, or taking part in planned activities planned exclusively for you by the Comox Valley International Student Program, you will get to travel all over Vancouver Island. There is always lots to do right here in the Comox Valley, and you will have the freedom to explore the community and spend time with your friends.



50+ student clubs
A variety of sports teams

20 student trips per year

Apply Now

Apply online at: studyinbritishcolumbia.com/apply

1. Include your previous two years of school transcripts as well as your current school year transcript
2. Include a letter of introductions, written by you, in English. Tell us about yourself and why you want to study in the Comox Valley.
3. Choose the program
4. Choose your start date -
- September, January or April

Our District Principal Welcomes you

We look forward to your arrival in the Comox Valley. As a medium-size school district, we pride ourselves on offering personalized service and support to International students from around the world. Your experience here will leave you feeling challenged, energized, and with memories to cherish for a lifetime.



---- *Mr. Greg Kochanuk, District Principal*



Need more information?

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