

Admissions Guide



School Facts



We offer the Ontario
(Canada) Curriculum for Early
Years, Elementary, and
Secondary students aged
4 – 18 years



We have an international community with more than 45 student nationalities



100% of our teachers are qualified educators with more than 90% registered with the Ontario College of Teachers in Canada



Our graduates are successful. They receive offers in areas such as Al, engineering, medicine, business, social sciences from the top 50 universities globally



All grades emphasize mathematics, science and the arts through STEAM, projectand passion-based learning



Our International Language Programs offer three options: French, Japanese, and Putonghua



The OSSD+ Signature Program offers students the opportunity to focus on a specialization, gain real world experience, and build an academic portfolio for post-secondary application



More than 80 extracurricular activities



Strong athletics program and competitive varsity teams with championships in volleyball, basketball, ball hockey, and ultimate frisbee



Innovative learning environment with 1:1 iPads (Grade 1-3) and 1:1 laptops (Grade 4-12)



No capital levy or debenture. Monthly School Fee x 10 months per year



Convenient location
Our campus is just a 3-minute
walk from the MTR station

Welcome



It is my honour to welcome you to DSC International School (DSC).

DSC is a Canadian International School with 35 years of excellence. Our programs, curriculum, and educational philosophy ensures that our graduates leave with future-ready skills, knowledge, and global awareness. Our teachers offer a supportive, challenging, and engaging learning environment. This ensures students develop future-ready transferable skills within our cross curricular and integrated learning model. DSC's educational philosophy inspires students to strive for excellence and make a positive difference within the local and global communities. We do this by promoting a love of learning and developing students' social, emotional, intellectual, and physical intelligence.

Our student body represents more than 45 nationalities with over 1,000 students enrolled from Early Years (3-year old) through Grade 12. As a through-train school, with all grades enrolled on the same campus, students develop strong bonds and our senior secondary students benefit from the leadership skills they develop while mentoring and coaching elementary students. DSC's community is built around the principles of inclusivity, kindness, student success, and extracurricular enrichment.

DSC's teaching team has over 100 educators with the large majority, over 90%, being Canadian trained teachers. Our teachers demonstrate the same love of learning that they strongly advocate for within our student community. We firmly believe that the process of upskilling and professional learning ensures we stay focused on student success by continually enhancing our teaching strategies, curriculum planning, assessment and evaluation approaches, and other professional skills.

DSC's curriculum focuses on the development of transferable skills within our cross curriculum and integrated learning model. This approach ensures our students are successful and are prepared for post-secondary education.

DSC's Individual Pathways Program begins in Grade 7. This program is designed to help students understand their aptitudes, passions, interests and then match these with a post-secondary program and destination. DSC graduates gain offers from the top 50 universities globally. In June 2021, the 100% of our Grade 12 graduates were accepted into universities around the globe with a vast majority receiving offers for both their program of choice and university of choice.

The 2021-22 school year is an exciting milestone for DSC International School. We will be celebrating our 35th Anniversary. During this year we will be celebrating 35 years of excellence while also laying the foundations for future success. The School has embarked on a multi-year campus redevelopment project that focuses on providing learning spaces designed specifically for our teaching and learning approach which is heavily based on creativity, innovation, collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving. The first phase of the journey will see an entire floor transformed from separate classrooms to an integrated Creativity and Innovation Hub. This Hub will be the focus point for the Arts, STEAM, Innovation, Robotics, and Hydroponics and Nutrition.

I invite you to spend some time browsing our new website at www.dsc.edu.hk or contact us for an individualized campus tour and admissions consultation.

Dr. Jason Walter Head of School

Through-train School

For students aged 3 – 18 years old

Section	Division	Age	Grade at DSC	Canada/USA	UK(Year)	Hong Kong
Elementary	Early-Years	4	PG1B	Junior Kindergarten	Reception	K2
		5	PG1A	Senior Kindergarten	1	K3
	Primary	6	1	1	2	P1
		7	2	2	3	P2
		8	3	3	4	Р3
	Junior	9	4	4	5	P4
		10	5	5	6	P5
		11	6	6	7	P6
Secondary	Intermediate	12	7	7	8	F1
		13	8	8	9	F2
		14	9	9	10	F3
		15	10	10	11	F4
	Senior	16	11	11	12	F5
		17	12	12	13	F6



Vision & Mission

Our Vision

Inspire all to strive for excellence and contribute to a better world.

Our Mission

Provide an engaging and real world learning environment inspiring students to strive for excellence and make a positive difference within the local and global communities.

We will do this by promoting a love of learning and developing students' social, emotional, intellectual, and physical intelligence.

Our Core Values

- Fostering diversity
- Developing student success
- Supporting balance in life
- Creating opportunities

Personality

- Integrity
- Dedicated
- Creative
- Collaborative
- Innovative

Performance

- Best value
- Global pathways
- Highly qualified teachers
- Excellent school leaders

Dream! Succeed! Celebrate!



Why Canadian Education?

The Canadian education system has demonstrated year after year that Canadian educated students perform higher than most other countries in international test outcomes. Many jurisdictions worldwide view the Canadian curriculum as a leader at the forefront of educational pedagogy, assessment, and evaluation strategies when looking at reforming their educational practices to improve student learning.



DSC is registered with the Hong Kong Education Bureau according to the HK Education Ordinance Chapter 279 as ED/1/21579/88. In Ontario, the School is listed as School Board #B78000 and Private School #879037 and can be found in the list of Ontario's international schools at http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/list/international.htm

Top Ranking

In the international PISA tests, Canada consistently scored in the top 10, outperforming many developed countries such as US, UK, and Australia.

Extensive Course Selection

Canadian education offers a wide range of subjects and courses for students allowing for career planning based on individual passion and university destinations.

Multiculturalism and Inclusivity

Based on the cultural diversity in Canada, the Canadian education system highly respects multiculturalism and inclusivity. Our teachers are dedicated to fostering diversity and embracing the individuality of all of our students.

Unique Assessment Approach

Canadian education focuses on knowledge, thinking, communication and application in all areas of assessment which encourages and instructs students to think independently, critically, and creatively while applying their knowledge in various situations.





Teachers

DSC International School is registered with the Ontario Ministry of Education and it is a requirement to maintain a minimum of 80% Ontario certified teachers within the school. However, we are committed to ensuring more than 90% of our teachers are members of the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT).



Teachers are registered with Hong Kong Education Bureau

100%

Qualified Teachers

94%

Teachers trained in Canada

27%

Teachers have teacher qualifications and advanced degrees (Masters and/or PHD)

64%

Teachers obtained Additional Qualifications in various areas such as Reading, Math, Inclusive Education, English as a Second Language, and many more.

Student Demographics

We are proud of being a multicultural school with students enrolled from all over the world.



Australia 1.5%

Bangladesh

Brazil

Canada 7%

Chile

China 6%

Cuba

Finland

France

Germany

Hong Kong SAR 19%

India 22%

Indonesia

Ireland

Israel Italy

Japan 18%

Jordan

Kazakhstan

Korea 7%

Malaysia

Mexico

Nepal

. New Zealand

Norway

Pakistan

Philippines 1.2%

Poland

Romania

Russia

Saudi Arabia

Singapore

Spain

Taiwan

Thailand

Turkey

United Kingdom 2%

United States 3%

Vietnam

University Pathways

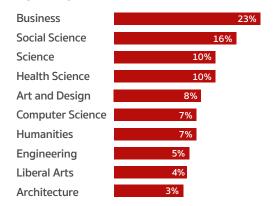
Our graduates receive offers from the top 50 universities worldwide, with many of them entering their first choice of programs in a wide range of fields. Our guidance team works closely with our students to provide:

- Academic counselling
- Social and emotional counselling
- Career and life planning
- University selections and applications
- Community involvement opportunities

University Acceptance Rate in 2019 - 2021



Top 10 University fields accepted by our graduates in 2019 – 2021



Notable Offers from the Top 50 Universities worldwide 2019 – 2021

#World University Ranking 2021 (Times Higher Education)

11th Imperial College London



Science (Chemistry)

16th University College London



Economics

18th University of Toronto



Social Science and Humanities Science (Physics and Environmental) Life Science

Engineering

Science (Chemistry and Physics)

Computer Science

Kinesiology

Accounting

Economics

Criminology Forensic Science

Architectural Studies

Psychology and Health Science

Co-op Management

20th Tsinghua University



Fine Art Chinese Language

27th London School of Economics



Economics

30th University of Edinburgh



Science (Chemistry) Mechanical Engineering Science (Biological Science) **Business and Economics**

32th University of Melbourne



Criminology **Computer Science** Commerce

34th University of British Columbia



Engineering Science Commerce Management **Computer Science** Engineering Forestry Science

35th King's College London



Sport Science Political Science Science (Chemistry and Biochemistry)

39th University of Hong Kong



Engineering **Architectural Studies** Design **Business**

47th Hong Kong University



of Science and Technology

Science Engineering Engineering (Artificial Intelligence) **Business Management**

49th University of Wisconsin



Political Science

Learn more about our university destinations

DSC graduates attended more than 500 universities and colleges worldwide, visit our website dsc.edu.hk for a full list of schools and destinations.





Early - Years Pre-Grade 1B & Pre-Grade 1A

DSC's full-day Early Years Program focuses on establishing a strong foundation for learning and preparing students, both academically and socially, for Elementary years and beyond.

The primary goals for the Early Years Program are to:

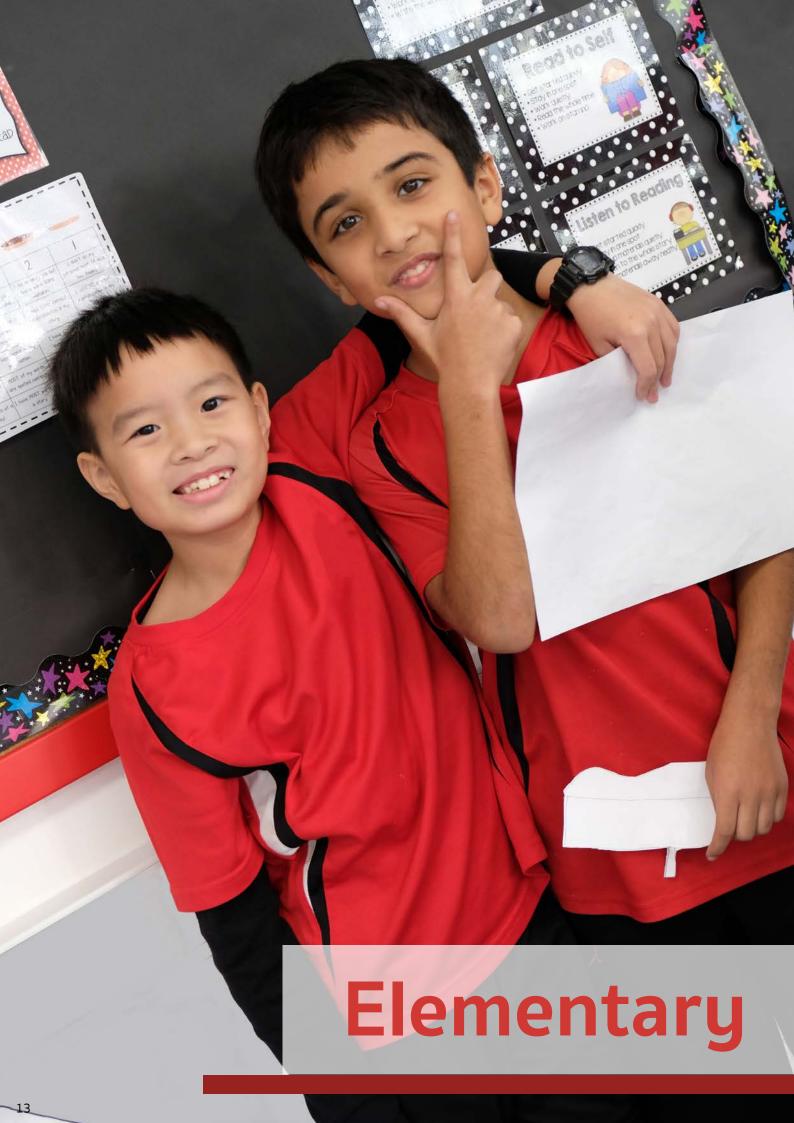
- Establish a strong foundation for learning in the Early Years;
- Help children make a smooth transition from home or preschool settings to school settings;
- Allow children to reap the many proven benefits of learning through relationships; play and inquiry;
- Set children on a path of lifelong learning and nurture competencies that they will need to thrive in the world of today and tomorrow.

Our full-day Early Years Program provides 3 to 5 year-olds with multiple opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills within the four frames of our play and inquiry-based curriculum:

- 1. Belonging and Contributing
- 2. Self-Regulation and Well-Being
- 3. Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics (Numeracy) Behaviours
- 4. Problem Solving and Innovating

Our Early Years teachers consistently reflect and adjust to the needs of their classes as a unique community. Our focus on an individualized approach to learning allows for high-quality experiences to take place in the classroom which enhances a child's individual strengths and caters to their individual learning needs. There is a conscious focus on developing learning skills, such as independence and self-regulation, as these skills are needed for our students to be successful in their academic years ahead. Our program meets the expectations of the Ontario curriculum by supporting every child to reach their full potential through a program of learning that is interesting and relevant to them.





ElementaryGrade 1 – Grade 6

Our comprehensive Elementary Program focuses on literacy, numeracy, STEAM, and passion projects across all grades. Our Elementary students take the following courses:

- · English /Literacy
- Mathematics
- Science and Technology
- Social Studies
- Health and Physical Education
- The Arts (Drama, Dance, Visual Arts, and Music)
- International Languages (French, Japanese or Putonghua)

DSC is known for having established an engaging and challenging curriculum where students can thrive due to the support of professionally trained teachers and the socio-emotional care experienced within a friendly atmosphere of students and school professionals. We believe that a quality education begins with a safe and supportive classroom environment and builds on the collective strengths of the students. Our commitment is to challenge our students intellectually, help them grow socially, guide them toward independent thinking, and develop advanced problem-solving skills. These skills will help prepare them not only for our excellent Secondary Program but also for life in the 21st Century.

In addition, our student-centered approach to learning develops thinking and communication skills, problem-solving skills, and social skills as well as fostering empathy through the School's approach to conflict resolution, celebration of diversity, and commitment to civic responsibility. This responsibility exists within both physical and virtual learning spaces. The integration of technology throughout the curriculum, continuing from our Early Years Program, assists students in using technology in safe and productive ways. This includes collaborating online and accessing learning support materials off-site through our web-based learning platforms. Curriculum-based field trips support our philosophy that learning occurs both within the classroom and outside in the community.





Secondary Middle School

Grade 7 - Grade 8

Students in Grade 7 and 8 continue to focus on both academic and social skills necessary to support their growth and development. Students have specialized subject teachers and rotate through the day to subject-specific classes. The academic program includes:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science and Technology
- History
- Geography
- Health and Physical Education
- The Arts (Drama, Dance, Visual Arts, and Music)
- International Languages (French, Japanese or Putonghua)

Subject teachers prioritize the creation of inclusive and stimulating learning environments to support and challenge student thinking. Teachers are also committed to providing differentiated instruction to enhance student mastery of the subject material. Students demonstrate their mastery by applying knowledge of the subject material in unique and varied ways.

Digital literacy and digital citizenship are infused into all subject areas. In addition to teaching and assessing subject-specific material, Grade 7 and 8 teachers collaborate to create a variety of activities that develop transferable skills and promote safe and responsible use of learning technologies.

There is also a House Leagues program to help students build a strong sense of community and personal accomplishment through team-work. This program encourages the importance of balancing academics with healthy active living. It fosters friendly competition between homeroom classes and encourages students to develop collaboration skills as they learn to work together as a team.



Secondary **High School**

Grade 9 - Grade 12

High School is a very busy time for students – both academically and socially. The Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) program requirements are rigorous yet offer students flexibility to choose courses which align with their individual strengths and their post-secondary pathway interests.

Our teachers are committed to creating stimulating learning environments that challenge students to critically analyze, interpret, and communicate their understanding of course content and its implication and/or application. Curriculum delivery is dynamic and varied with multiple opportunities for students to practice/ demonstrate their knowledge and understanding in a variety of ways.

The High School academic year is structured into two semesters. Semester 1 runs from September to January/ February while Semester 2 is from January/February to June. Students typically take 4 courses per semester. This allows students to focus more time and effort on fewer courses in comparison to other non-semestered school models.

We offer a broad range of courses from a variety of subject areas to meet student interests, aptitudes, and post-secondary destination requirements.

GUIDANCE AND CAREER EDUCATION



Scan to view a full list of all courses offered at DSC.

OSSD Graduation Requirements

Students must complete each of the following to be eligible for graduation:

- 30 credits = 18 compulsory courses + 12 elective courses
- 40 Hours of Community Service
- Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (in Grade 10)

Recommended Pathway to Graduation

Grade 9 Grade 10 Grade 11 Grade 12

- 8 Courses
- 10-15 Hours Community Service
- ECA

- 8 Courses
- 10-15 Hours Community Service
- ECA
- 8 Courses
- Complete Community Service
- ECA
- Research post secondary opportunities
- · Prepare for external exams
- 6 8 Courses
- FCA
- Focus on Post Secondary Applications

OSSD⁺ Signature Program

About OSSD⁺ Signature Program

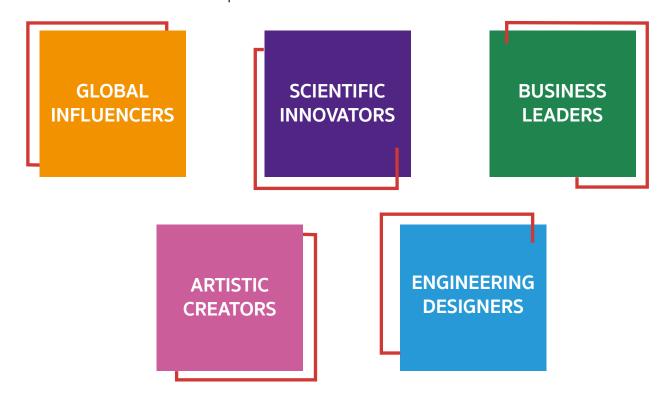
DSC is dedicated to preparing students to get into the program and career pathway of their choice. The OSSD⁺ Signature Program provides an enhanced, rigorous academic framework that aligns with their interests, passions, and goals.

The purpose of the OSSD⁺ Signature Program is to promote specialized academic discipline, enhanced community outreach and leadership development, real-world experiences, and career mentorship through work placements. Our bespoke programs offer a great opportunity to maximize the high school experience and acquire the skills necessary to make a positive difference in the local and global communities.

The Career Integrated Learning (Co-op) course provides opportunities for students to demonstrate the knowledge and skills developed throughout the program with relevant work experience in their area of specialization.

OSSD⁺ Signature Streams

DSC International School offers 5 options for students to choose from:





International Languages

French (Grade 1 – 9)

Our French program is a Second Language Program that follows the Ontario French curriculum. All students with or without knowledge of the language can choose to enrol in this program with the exception of Grade 9. Students wanting to select French as their second language credit option in Grade 9 must have at least 600 hours of French in order to enrol.

French as a Second Language Program - Ontario French Curriculum

Early Years

Grade 9

French Credit Course

Japanese (Grade 1 – 12)

We offer a Japanese First Language Program for Grade 1 - 8 that follows the Japanese National Curriculum. This program is only open to students whose first language is Japanese. For Grade 9 - 12, students have the option of choosing Japanese as a Second Language (Level 1, 2, or 3) as a credit course.

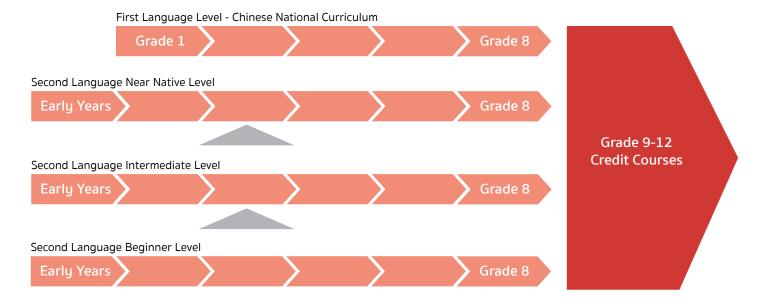
Japanese as a First Language Program - Japanese National Curriculum

Grade 9 - 12

Japanese Credit Courses

Putonghua (Grade 1 – 12)

We offer both First Language and Second Language Putonghua Programs for our students. Our Putonghua teachers are all native Putonghua speakers and qualified to teach in Hong Kong and China. All students with or without knowledge of the language can choose to enrol in this program.



Learning Support

English as a Second Language (ESL)

The English as a Second Language (ESL) Program is recommended to students who require support to transition into mainstream English. The ESL program focuses on the four areas of language acquisition for fluency and literacy: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Elementary



^{*}Students new to English language typically progress through the ESL program in 2 years or less

Secondary



Inclusive Education Specialist

As members of the Student Support Team, our Inclusive Education Specialists and educational assistants support students with individual learning needs. In collaboration with teachers, a support plan is developed to ensure student success. Inclusive Education Specialists also coordinate with external experts to develop and support individual education plans.

Guidance Counsellors - Secondary

Our Guidance Counsellors provide academic and social counselling to students, assisting them in developing skills needed for academic success, and to ensure that they are meeting their graduation and post-secondary destination requirements.

In addition, the Guidance Counsellors support students with the development of an Individual Pathways Plan (IPP) which assists them in mapping out a plan for both their academics and post-secondary destinations.

Elementary Counsellor

Children at early ages mostly communicate through playing and doing art. Our Elementary counselling program focuses on child centered-play therapy and art therapy. Everyone in the school community can refer and access the sessions to address any emotional and behavioral concerns.

Health Team

DSC is committed to providing a safe learning environment. Our health team provides on-site first aid and first responder support, works closely with the Student Support Team on medical-related issues, and coordinates immunizations. In addition, the Health Team hosts First Aid training courses for students and staff.



STEAM Education

STEAM Education

DSC International School is proud to be a leader in providing technology–infused learning activities to all of our students. Meaningful technology integration is an important part of the School's educational philosophy. Our use of technology ensures that our students master 21st Century competencies, such as critical thinking and problem solving skills.

ICT Educational Specialists

Our team of ICT Educational Specialists ensure students and teachers are supported with the use of technology in the classroom in order to enhance learning experiences.

STFAM

STEAM refers to an interdisciplinary approach to learning, focusing on the application of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics to solve real-world problems.

STEAM usually centres around project-based learning and helps students develop essential 21st Century Learning skills like creativity, critical-thinking, communication, and collaboration.

Our curriculum is infused with the principles of STEAM education. Inquiry-based learning, collaboration, real-world application, and lifelong learning are all integral parts of the curriculum for students in all grades. Rigorous teacher planning and implementation of the curriculum ensures that STEAM occurs beyond traditional science classrooms to reach all corners of the school.

Examples of STEAM education at DSC include:

- Genius Hour (Grades 1-6)
- Project-based Learning
 - Technology education
 - Physical science, computer science, social science
- Extracurricular Activities
 - Maker spaces
 - Video game design and programming
 - Drama production
- Experiential Learning Week
 - Robotics Competition
 - STEAM Camp

Creativity and Innovation Hub

Our Creativity and Innovation Hub is designed especially for students to explore more within the areas of STEAM, Al/Robotics, Hydroponic and Nutrition, Media Design, Performing and Visual Arts. Our studios are fully equipped with the latest technologies and it is open to all the students from Early Years to Secondary.



Whole-Child Education

For 35 years, DSC has been known for a balanced whole-child education developing a love of learning and students' social, emotional, intellectual, and physical intelligence.

Extracurricular Activities

We offer a wide range of extracurricular programs for our students. With over 80 options school-wide we encourage students to learn new skills, make new friends, and develop social and leadership skills while building a strong sense of community and school spirit. Our extensive extracurricular offerings include such activities as robotics, sports clubs, Chinese culture club, board games club, debate club, hiking club and so much more.

Athletic @ DSC

DSC is proud to offer a wide range of varsity teams where students engage in healthy activities for the body and mind, while at the same time acquiring the skills to compete, collaborate, and problem solve.

Our Athletics Coordinator works with passionate coaches to enable students to compete against schools in Hong Kong as a member of the International Schools Sports Federation of Hong Kong (ISSFHK) as well as the Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation (HKSSF). DSC has won numerous medals and championship banners in addition to competing in overseas tournaments. Our sport teams include: Badminton, Basketball, Cross Country, Soccer, Squash, Touch Rugby, Track and Field, Volleyball, Ultimate Frisbee, and Ball Hockey.

Community Involvement

Elementary

Starting from Early Years, our teachers collaborate and hand pick places within our local community where our youngest students can go and learn about the different roles people have and how we are all connected to each other. The importance of providing experiential learning opportunities continues in Elementary through field trips. Students are regularly given opportunities to extend their learning beyond the walls of the classroom and serve the community around them.

Secondary

The purpose of community involvement is to reinforce civic responsibility, strengthen the community, and develop a positive self-image. Volunteering is a great way to gain experience, build up one's resume for university entrance, and become a well-rounded person. As part of the OSSD requirement, students must complete a minimum of 40 hours of community service. Our Guidance Counsellors works with students to find suitable placements so that students can meet this graduation requirement. In addition, during our Experiential Learning Week, students travel to different destinations and have the opportunity to work towards their community service hours on various service projects.

Arts

The spotlight is always on at DSC! We value creativity and we provide professional training for all the artists in many different areas including Visual Arts, Dance, Drama, and Music. We host our large-scale art exhibition and performances annually and we also bring our students outside to learn all about art around Hong Kong.

Reporting and Grading

In PG1 to Grade 8, there are three reporting periods. Students receive a Progress Report in November and a Report Card in January/February and June. In Grade 9 to 12, students receive two report cards per semester - a mid-term report card, and a final report card.

Grading Scale

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Achieve- ment	Description	Ontario Provincial Standard	Letter Grade	Percentage Mark Gr 7-12
4+	The student has demonstrated the required knowledge and skill with a high	Achievement exceeds the provincial standard.	A+	95 – 100
4	degree of effectiveness. However, this does not mean that the student has		А	87 – 94
4-	achieved expectations beyond those specified for the grade/course.		A-	80 – 86
3+	The student has demonstrated most of the required knowledge and skills.	Achievement meets the provincial standard.	B+	77 – 79
3	Parents of students achieving at this level can be confident that their children		В	73 – 76
3-	will be prepared for work in subsequent grades/courses.		B-	70 – 72
2+	The student has demonstrated some of the required knowledge and skills.	Achievement approaches the	C+	67 – 69
2	Students performing at this level need to work on identifying learning gaps to	provincial standard.	С	63 – 66
2-	ensure future success.		C-	60 – 62
1+	The student has demonstrated some of the required knowledge and skills	Achievement falls much below the provincial standard.	D+	57 – 59
1	in limited ways. Students must work at significantly improving learning in the		D	53 – 56
1-	specific areas needed if they are to be successful in the next grade/course.		D-	50 – 52
R / Below Level 1*	The student has not demonstrated the required knowledge and skills.	Extensive extra support is needed.	R	Below 50%
l**	There is insufficient evidence available to determine a letter grade or percentage grade.	Insufficient work completed.	I	No Grade

^{*} Grade 7-8: Students who achieve below 50% will be given "R"

^{*} Grade 9-12: Students who achieve below 50% will be given their actual percentage mark

^{**} Only for Grade 7-8 subjects and Grade 9-10 courses

Admissions

Join us now!

We offer a rolling admissions policy throughout the school year so that students can start school at any time. Your child can join DSC any day of the month, any month of the school year. For High School Students we welcome new students at any point throughout their High School career. Students can join in Grade 9, Grade 10, Grade 11 or even in their final year (Grade 12) and still receive the world recognized Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

Application Journey

School tour and private consultation

Submission and review of application package and supporting documents

Interview and assessment/ evaluation

Acceptance to DSC

Meet our Admissions team!

As a school that greatly celebrates diversity, we offer school tours and consultation in Cantonese, English, French, Hindi, Japanese, and Putonghua.





Head Office - Admissions

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