



Canadian International School of Hong Kong
香港加拿大國際學校



THRIVING UNDER PRESSURE

Canadian International School of Hong Kong (CDNIS) has its highest enrollment ever at a time when many international schools are struggling to find students.

This speaks to the school's sterling reputation and its fantastic admissions department, as well as the experience of Head of School Dr. Jane Camblin, who before joining CDNIS three years ago was head of two top international schools in the US; The United Nations International School of New York and the French American International School in San Francisco.

"Let's just say, I'm glad this wasn't my first headship," she said.

Camblin is looking forward to what should be the most normal and prosperous year of her tenure, as CDNIS has a number of new initiatives on the horizon. She is especially excited about the hiring of a new Director of University Counselling who, unlike traditional guidance counsellors, will liaise closely with students and parents early on to help determine the best fit post-secondary options ahead of time.

"We are looking to start the procedure of university counselling much earlier than we have in the past," Camblin said. "It's such an important and complicated process, there's

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so many different systems depending on where you apply in the world. It's something that parents and students stress about so we feel when it comes to getting ready, the earlier the better."

CDNIS is also directing additional resources towards its arts programmes and has hired a new Director of Visual and Performing Arts, whom Camblin hopes will turn the school into a much-

needed artistic hub of Hong Kong.

"CDNIS is blessed with such tremendous facilities, including a state-of-the-art theatre, top-end art and music facilities, and a fantastic film programme, that our aim is to put performing and visual arts on the map and differentiate ourselves in that way," she explained. "We have so many creative and passionate artistic staff and students, so bringing in someone to tie it all together will make the arts programme at CDNIS that much better."

CDNIS has always provided its students with a lot of options and this year they've launched a new bilingual Mandarin/English curriculum as part of their Early Years programme. The bilingual programme will expand to other grades in the coming years as its focus is to prepare students for a business world that will be heavily influenced by the mainland.

Additionally, CDNIS is the only school in Hong Kong where students can graduate with both the IB Diploma and Ontario Secondary School Diploma, the latter granting credits and final marks in grade 11. Some universities prefer these concrete scores to the IB's predicted grades. In this way, the dual-diplomas give students a huge advantage when applying to top universities around the globe.

"Students can position themselves using either their IB or Ontario results and present themselves in the way that most benefits them," Camblin said. "These two internationally recognized diploma options ultimately open more doors for our students."

