CAIS ACCREDITATION

is **responsive, progressive, personalized,** *and* **supports ongoing school improvement** ensuring that member schools maintain high standards.

EVERY FIVE YEARS

Alternate between Alignment and Collaborative Visits, with the Alignment Visit foundational to CAIS membership.

3 types of visits

1

ALIGNMENT VISIT

A deep policy and process review using the **12 National Standards** and **all Indicators of Effective Practice**.

2

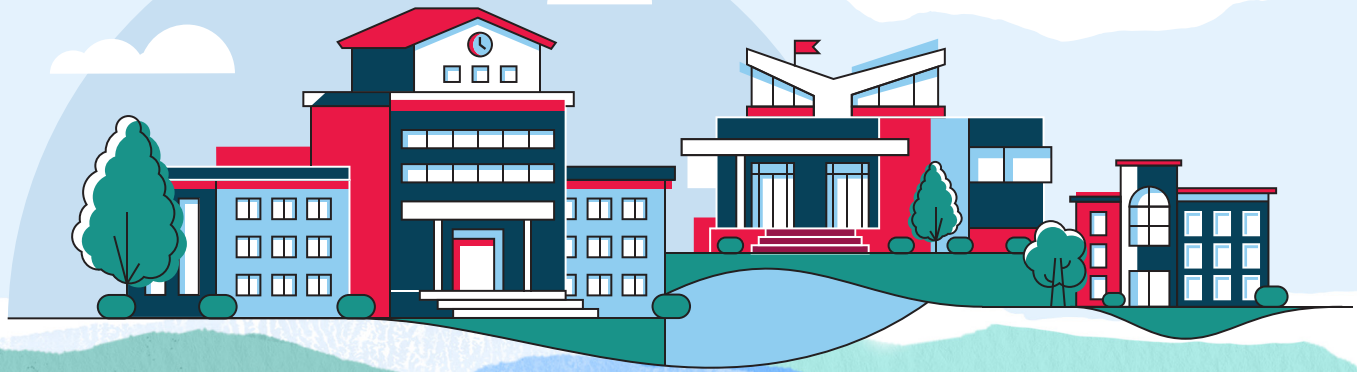
COLLABORATIVE VISIT

Accreditation in Action – a broad and integrated review of school effectiveness **grounded in the three core pillars**, complemented by a school-directed Explore Initiative.

3

FOCUSED VISIT

A supportive visit triggered **as needed by substantive changes** that could impact accreditation status.



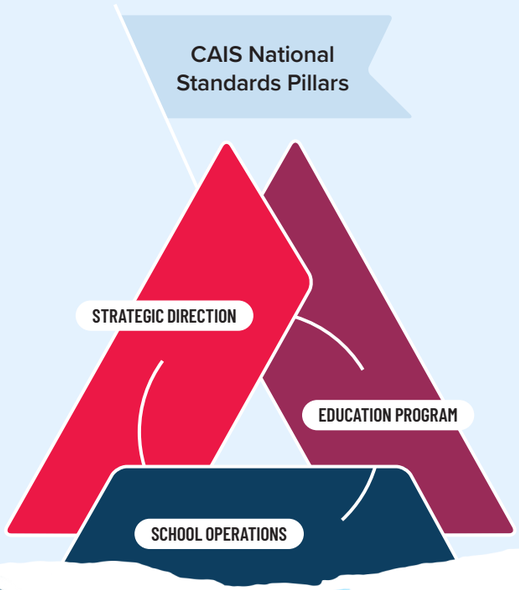
1

ALIGNMENT VISIT

Foundational to CAIS membership, this comprehensive review covers the CAIS Standards and all Indicators of Effective Practice.

Evidence-based assessment of the school's alignment with CAIS Standards, identifying strengths and areas for growth.

Informs future planning by offering actionable insights to support continuous improvement.



All visits are anchored in the Self Study and Peer Review Process.

Alignment and Collaborative Visits require schools to update CAIS annually through the School Improvement Action Plan.

2

COLLABORATIVE VISIT

Accreditation in Action – a differentiated process for member schools to demonstrate their commitment to school improvement and continued coherence with the National Standards through the 3 Pillars.

Eligibility criteria includes successful completion of two Alignment Visits.

VALUE ↑ COST & RESOURCES ↓

Self Study reduced by 80% and cost reduced by approximately 50% compared to an Alignment Visit.

PART 1 The Core Review

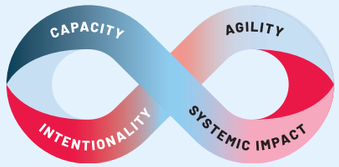
A high-level review, focused on systems thinking and integrated domains to provide critical, strategic, and tactical recommendations identifying potential risk and growth areas.

PART 2 The Explore Initiative

The school selects an initiative that reflects its unique context and strategic priorities. Feedback is forward-looking and not used for determining accreditation status.

CAIS FRAMEWORK

The CAIS Framework is a developmental model for organizational growth that guides and informs the Explore Initiative.



Capacity – people, resources, systems, and culture to enact and sustain meaningful change

Agility – the ability to plan, reflect, learn and adapt to new insights using evidence

Intentionality – ensures that outcomes are defined and anchored in the school's mission, vision, values and strategy

Systemic Impact – broad, systemic and sustainable effects

3

FOCUSED VISIT

A seldom used and highly customized visit to provide feedback and support in crucial areas related to school sustainability and viability.

Initiated by a substantive change that could impact accreditation status.

A specialized team customized to the school's needs to provide targeted support and oversight.

ACCREDITATION & CAIS MEMBERSHIP

As per CAIS By-Laws, accreditation is a requirement for membership within CAIS. The visit protocols were developed by the Standards Council in consultation with schools, and the reports from these visits will be reviewed by the Evaluation Council of the CAIS Board to make the final accreditation decision.

For more details on these visits and our accreditation standards, please use the QR code: