

SCHOOL PROFILE

2018 – 2019



ST. MARGARET'S SCHOOL | *Confident girls. Inspiring women.*

Our School

ESTABLISHED

1908

ENROLMENT 2017–18

Total students:	374
Foundation Years (JK–Grade 4)	111
Middle Years (Grade 5–8)	114
Senior Years (Grade 9–12)	145
Avg. class size	16
Student:Teacher ratio	8:1
Boarding (Grade 7–12): <i>37% of school population</i>	110
Countries of origin	25

INDUSTRY IDENTIFIER

Independent, not-for-profit all-girl school, registered under the Societies Act of BC.

ACCREDITATION

BC Inspector of Independent Schools

AFFILIATIONS

Canadian Accredited Independent Schools (CAIS) | National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) | Independent Schools Association of British Columbia (ISABC) | Federation of Independent School Associations BC (FISA) | National Coalition of Girls Schools (NCGS)

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Cathy Thornicroft

SENIOR YEARS PRINCIPAL

Megan Hedderick

ADVISORS / GUIDANCE

Kathryn DaSilva, Academic Advisor
Kate Steele, School Counsellor

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Eight-person volunteer board

St. Margaret's School (SMS) is an all-girls, independent day and boarding school located in the city of Victoria, on the scenic west coast of British Columbia, Canada. Founded in 1908, SMS is an international centre for girls' learning and leadership development, providing empowering education for girls from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12 (Boarding: Grades 7–12).

SMS values diversity and inspires excellence of mind and strength of spirit. Students here are challenged to take responsibility for their own learning experience; to develop individual worth, academic excellence, personal wellness, and a connection with nature; and to provide service to their local and global community.

CAMPUS & LOCATION

Our picturesque, modern campus is located at the intersection of urban and rural areas, which offers numerous advantages: our 22-acre property boasts access to extensive recreational sites and trails, while located less than 20 minutes from the city's vibrant downtown core. Our superior facilities include a LEED-certified building (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), modern residence houses, culinary arts room, and athletics centre. Other special places on campus include a greenhouse, dance studio, outdoor classroom, tennis courts, and our very own slice of west coast forest.

The capital city of British Columbia, Victoria is best known as Canada's most beautiful and temperate city. Greater Victoria's culturally-varied population totals 360,000 people. The city boasts a vibrant arts scene including world-class museums, galleries, and performing arts institutions including dance, music, opera and theatre. SMS's makes use of its unique environmental and nearby wilderness for our outdoor education program, and other field trips.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

At SMS, girls don't just get equal opportunity, they get every opportunity. Girls take the lead in student government and on our Steering Committee, and yearly extracurricular offerings respond to the interests of our students. In addition to an extensive program of clubs and recreational activities, there are options for private lessons in music, speech arts, driver training, and more.

CLUBS & COMMITTEES: Art Club | Belfry Theatre Club | Cheerleading Club | Dance Club | Gender Sexual Alliance (GSA) | Golf Club | Green Club | Math Competition/Challengers Club | Model UN Club | Outreach Club | Peer Tutoring | Robotics / FIRST LEGO League | Rock Band | Student Council | Steering Committee | Tennis Club | Triathlon Club | Yoga | Writing Club

ATHLETICS & WELLNESS

Physical Education at SMS emphasizes broad participation in order to foster enjoyment of physical activity as a benchmark for lifelong healthy living. We believe the experience of belonging and working together as part of a team should not be limited to just a few elite athletes. Students keep active with competitive teams and intramurals, as well as recreational clubs like cheerleading, tennis, triathlon, and yoga. SMS also recognizes and supports aspiring athletes in their individual training through scheduling accommodations and the Program of Distinction – and is proud to count some Olympic medallists among its alumnae.

TEAM SPORTS: Aquatics | Badminton | Basketball | Cross Country | Intramurals | Night League Basketball | Rowing | Soccer | Track & Field | Volleyball | Rugby

Academic Approach

SMS is Canada's first and only girls' STEM school: our rigorous, university preparatory program is delivered with an inquiry-based approach. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics but refers to a project-based, inter-disciplinary model of learning. It is important to note that a sound grounding in Humanities and an emphasis on Fine Arts education are equally important in a well-rounded STEM approach.

Advanced Placement (AP), accelerated learning, and self-directed projects for credit are options available to challenge our students and help them prepare for the next phases in their education.

Experiential learning is an important part of our educational approach: our leadership development program begins in Kindergarten, and all students benefit from participation in the annual outdoor education program (Outweek), and various opportunities for peer mentoring, public speaking, community service, job placements, the Duke of Edinburgh Program, and more.

Our Program of Distinction (PoD) is an elective, capstone project completed through independent study over the course of the senior years. Introduced in 2015, students are mentored and recognized/credited for pursuing excellence in their own chosen field such as Leadership, Fine Arts, Athletics, or Ecological Stewardship. To complete a PoD, students prepare and present a type of thesis and defend it before a panel of school officials and community members.



MOTTO Servite In Caritate ~ Service with Love
VISION Confident girls ~ Inspiring women
MISSION Empowering her to set her own course and shape her own

SENIOR YEARS COURSES: 2018–2019

AP Calculus (AB)
AP Computer Science Principles
AP English Literature & Composition
AP Human Geography
AP Studio Art
Beginning Band, 9–12
Biology, 11–12
Pre-Calculus, 11–12
Calculus 12
Career Education, 9
Chemistry, 11–12
Choir, 9–12
Communications, 12
Comparative Civilizations, 12
Drama, 9–12
Economics, 12
English, 9–12
English Literature, 12
Fitness for Life / Racquet Sports, 10–12
Foods & Nutrition, 11
Foundations of Mathematics, 11–12
French, 11–12
Graduation Transitions, 12
History, 12
Independent Project, 11–12
Information / Communications Technology 11–12
Intro to Investing / Money Matters, 11
Jazz Band, 9–12
Intro to Japanese, 11
Japanese, 11–12
Law, 12
Leadership, 9–12
Mandarin, 11–12
Media Arts, 11–12
Music / Concert Band, 9–12
Outdoor Recreation, 11–12
Planning, 10
Photography / Yearbook, 11
Physical Education, 9–12
Physics, 11–12
Psychology, 11
Raquet Sports, 11–12
Science, 9–10
Social Studies, 11
Intro to Spanish, 11
Spanish, 11–12
Sustainability Studies, 11
Textiles & Design, 11
Visual Art, 9–12
Visual Arts 3-D, 11–12
Writing, 12

Our Graduates

One hundred percent of SMS graduates receive offers of admission from post-secondary institutions of their choice. This year, of our 39 grads, two students chose to take a gap year for travel or work. Of the 60 scholarships offered to our graduates in 2018, the largest awards were from DePaul University valued at \$72,000 USD, and the University of New Hampshire valued at \$24,000 USD.

THE CLASS OF 2017

39	graduates
149	offers of admission (80% of grads accepted to their first-choice institution)
\$423k	in scholarships and awards (CAD, including four-year renewable awards)

FIELDS OF STUDY

With the school's focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), we are proud that 31% of our grads are going into pure and applied sciences. Including degree programs with significant Math components increases this STEM ratio 50%. The remaining 50% will be studying Arts and Humanities, disciplines which ground and connect the STEM fields.

Our guidance department provides resources and one-on-one advising to help students explore career paths, post-secondary programs, scholarship opportunities, and their own strengths and interests.

DISCIPLINE (NUMBER OF STUDENTS) *

Arts / Humanities / Social Sciences (11)
Visual Arts (3)
Food and Nutrition / Dietetics (1)
Business (8)
Civil Engineering (1)
Economics (2)
Health Sciences / Nursing (2)
Sciences (9)
General Studies (2)

** These numbers reflect the graduates who applied to schools by June 2018. Two students are taking a GAP year to work, travel and volunteer. Another student applied to schools Japan, whose admissions decisions were still pending at the time this document was published.*

UNIVERSITY PLACEMENTS

You will find our graduates at universities all over the world.

LOCATION	ALL OFFERS
CANADA	82%
US	10%
UK	8%
JAPAN	N/A*

Prestigious institutions who accepted our students in 2018 include:

UNIVERSITY

Acadia University	University of Alberta
American University	University of Bath
Australian National University	University of Birmingham
Bentley University	University of Edinburgh
Boston University	University of Manchester
Brock	University of Maryland
Camosun College	University of Massachusetts
Clark University	University of Melbourne
Denver University	University of Michigan
DePaul University	University of New Hampshire
Drexel University	University of Northern BC
Evergreen State College	University of Ottawa
Guelph	University of Sydney
Indiana University	University of the Fraser Valley
John Hopkins University	University of Toronto
King's College London	University of Victoria
King's Dalhousie	University of Warwick
London School of Economics	University of Washington
McGill University	University of Waterloo
McMaster University	Washington University in St. Louis
Miami University	Waterloo
Nanyang Technical University	Western University
National University of Australia	Williams
Ohio State University	York
Ottawa	
Queen's University	
Ryerson	
Simon Fraser University	
Singapore Management University	
The George Washington University	
Thompson Rivers University	
Trent	
UBC	
UC Berkeley	
UC Irvine	
UCLA	
University College London	