



MACLACHLAN
COLLEGE



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION PACKAGE

2020/2021 SCHOOL YEAR



MACLACHLAN COLLEGE

OUR SCHOOL

Located in the heart of the town of Oakville, Ontario, Canada, MacLachlan College is an independent university preparatory school for 350 girls and boys, Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12. MacLachlan was founded in 1978 on the vision of a school that embraces solid concepts of academic excellence within a stimulating, dynamic environment that nurtures the joy of learning. Students study through meaningful engagement with each other and the world. MacLachlan's caring and expert teachers provide a learning process guided by inquiry, critical thinking and collaboration. MacLachlan is an IB World School proudly offering the Primary Years Programme (Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 6).

FACILITIES

Located on the shores of Lake Ontario, Oakville is situated halfway between Toronto and Hamilton. The benefits of the big city are available to the community, while the town itself remains quiet and picturesque.

The college is located in a heritage mansion that was built in 1856. As a small private school, MacLachlan College's average class size is 18 students, however, in order to better provide personalized attention for each student, class sizes are often smaller.

In addition to two libraries, two art studios, a science lab and a music studio, MacLachlan also features a gymnasium and outdoor field. The school's stadium field turf allows for year round outdoor activities. Off-campus facilities are used for squash, golf, racquetball, tennis and weight training.

The wide variety of extracurricular activities available at MacLachlan demonstrates the breadth of experience offered to students at the college. Wilderness adventure including canoeing, hiking and winter camping are amongst the outdoor activities available through the Duke of Edinburgh International Award Programme. Students also take part in academic competitions such as the Fulford Debating League, the Nora McRae Public Speaking Tournament and the University of Waterloo Mathematics Competitions, to name a few.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

MacLachlan College believes in maintaining an enriching curriculum and a high standard of academic achievement. Students are given the opportunity to strive for their highest aspirations. Our students develop positive self-esteem by being in an engaging and encouraging environment.

MacLachlan College prepares students for the challenges they will face in a post-secondary institution. In order to graduate, students must meet the requirements set out by the Ontario Ministry of Education. Graduating students receive the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) qualifying them for university entrance. The

curriculum consists of courses from a wide variety of subject areas, including English, Mathematics, French, Canadian Geography, Physical and Health Education, Communication Technology, Visual Art, Music, Business, Media Studies, History, Social Studies, Dramatic Arts, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Law, Accounting, Economics and Marketing.

English as a Second Language (ESL) courses are available for students with limited English proficiency. At the beginning of the school year, an English Proficiency Test is conducted to determine the appropriate ESL level for students based on their prior acquisition of English skills.

INTERNATIONAL ESL TESTING

MacLachlan College will host an ESL testing day on the afternoon of our Orientation Day at the end of August. This is an opportunity to meet the Director of International Studies and become familiar with the school environment and procedures. During this initial meeting, grade 7 to 11 students will be given the English Proficiency Test to determine their appropriate ESL placement for the school year. Some additional fees may be required if further tutorials and/or direct instruction is required.

INTEGRATED ESL PROGRAM

MacLachlan College's Integrated ESL Program occurs within the school year from September to June. Our International students attend the majority of their courses integrated with Canadian students and are withdrawn from the core program for ESL classes.

All ESL courses at MacLachlan College will provide opportunities for students to develop English proficiency in the four basic language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing. In addition, students will gain knowledge of their new environment necessary for successful integration into the school and community. In grades 9 to 11 students who successfully complete ESL courses are eligible to earn up to 5 credits towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma. In general, International students will be exempted from the compulsory credit in French.

SUBJECTS

ESL students in grades 1-3 attend integrated classes for most of the school day and receive three 40 minute periods of ESL instruction per six day cycle. Students also receive in-class support in addition to ESL group tutorials based on individual needs.

ESL students in grades 4-6 attend integrated classes for most of the school day and receive four 40 minute periods of ESL instruction per six day cycle. Students also receive some in-class support in addition to ESL tutorials based on individual needs.

ESL students in grades 7-8 attend integrated classes for most of the school day and receive six 40 minute periods of ESL instruction per six day cycle.

Students in grades 9 to 11 integrated classes will generally constitute a minimum of 75% of the school day. When ESL is required, students are withdrawn from some core subjects and attend ESL classes for 80 minutes per day. There are 5 levels of ESL courses offered at MacLachlan College based on the Ontario Curriculum. Course description can be found in the school's Upper School Course Calendar. Students are placed in one of these leveled courses based on their results of the English Proficiency Test conducted at the start of the school year.

Accommodations in programming and evaluation will be made on an individual basis to meet the academic needs of all students in the ESL core subject courses. Subject teachers and ESL teachers consult regularly to discuss student progress and programming.

UNIVERSITY ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM

Grade 11 and 12 students have the option of taking Advanced Placement (AP) courses. An AP course is equivalent to a first-year university course, and successful students may receive academic credit or advanced standing at participating universities in Canada, the United States and abroad. Advanced Placement courses are administered by the College Board and are taught in over 15,000 schools worldwide.

The Advanced Placement Program is synonymous with educational excellence and is an important academic enhancement to MacLachlan College. Educational research shows that the most accurate predictor of success in university is the rigour of a student's high school curriculum. Students who undertake the challenging AP curriculum will be better prepared to achieve this academic success in university. For further information about the Advanced Placement Program please review our Upper School Course Calendar or visit www.ap.ca. The only cost involved in participating in MacLachlan College's Advanced Placement Program is the examination fee. (Approximately \$125 USD per examination). AP classes that are offered at MacLachlan College include English, French, Physics 1, Biology, Computer Science, Calculus AB, and Visual Arts.

RIGOROUS AP STANDARDS

Experienced AP teachers and university faculty from all over the world mark AP examinations each June. The AP examination is given an overall grade on a five-point scale:

- 5 – Extremely well qualified
- 4 – Well qualified
- 3 – Qualified
- 2 – Possibly qualified
- 1 – No recommendation

ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL LITERACY TEST PREPARATION

Successful completion of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (O.S.S.L.T.) is a requirement to graduate from high school in Ontario. The O.S.S.L.T. is written in late March or early April each school year. All students are prepared for the test throughout the school year. In addition, students write a “mock” literacy test in preparation for the O.S.S.L.T. If a student does not pass the O.S.S.L.T after two attempts, then the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (O.S.S.L.C) must be successfully completed prior to graduation.

STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND CAREER EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Student Services Department at MacLachlan is designed to facilitate the process of helping students gain a better understanding of themselves in order for them to take advantage of their opportunities and to meet their social responsibilities. Educational and career planning are emphasized, assuring students access to accurate information resources and the personal assistance necessary to make informed and thoughtful decisions. Through fostering students' awareness and understanding of themselves, the Student Services Department will help them clarify their educational options and career alternatives.

The Intermediate program consists of planned units of instruction in conjunction with individual and group counseling. At the senior level, opportunities for students

to meet with representatives of various colleges and universities are provided, as well as visits to major college and university fairs. A Parents'/Guardians' Evening is held in the fall term by the Student Services Department to explain the college and university application process and to provide information and counseling with regard to program selection.

SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES AND RESOURCES

Senior Learning Commons

The Senior Learning Commons is open throughout the school day for students needing to do research or to study quietly.

Remedial Assistance

As part of the school's commitment to achieving academic success for all students, all MacLachlan College teachers in each subject area are available to meet with students after school Monday through Thursday until 4:00 p.m. Students needing extra help to remediate any academic concerns will be encouraged to meet with their subject teachers to receive extra tutoring. Where circumstances warrant, teachers will require students to participate in remedial sessions after school or during recesses.

Mathematics, English and Science Clinics

In order to help students experiencing difficulties in mathematics, English and science, members of the mathematics, English and science departments are available throughout the school year on designated lunch periods and/or after school to provide any students with assistance.

THE EVEREST CENTRE

"It is not the mountain we conquer, but ourselves." ~Sir Edmund Hillary

Uniqueness is ubiquitous! It is a distinctive human condition. Different minds learn differently and learning patterns manifest in a rich variety of ways. The exciting task for teachers is to learn to understand this and explore the ways that their students can best achieve success. In the true fashion of Sir Edmund Hillary, the Everest Centre has been developed and implemented to enhance and build on the MacLachlan College belief that all students are unique.

Programs under the Everest Centre are designed to complement and enhance MacLachlan's curriculum. Some are incorporated in the school curriculum framework. Other programs may require a more intense application for a specific period of time. Everest programs include: Enriched program units for Gifted Students; Elite Athlete Program; Direct Instruction Modules; Advanced Placement Courses for University credit; Academic Coaches; and Tutoring Services. Some of these programs are offered at an additional fee.

There are a myriad of ways in which young minds differ and the deeply committed and creative faculty members of MacLachlan College subscribe to the heartfelt belief that children learn best in an environment which values these differences. The Everest Centre is the affirmation of these beliefs.

HOMESTAY PROGRAM

MacLachlan College has retained the services of International Student Guardianship Canada (ISGC) to provide homestay services for our international students wishing to live with a Canadian family. Students will benefit from a friendly, family style living arrangement with Canadian families who reside in Oakville and the surrounding area.

Homestay families are carefully screened and take a personal interest in the students who are in their care. Friendly relationships between homestay families and international students often continue long after the student has graduated from MacLachlan College. Homestay students thrive within the warmth of a family home and the richness of a new cultural experience.

Homestays are governed by clear rules and curfews that are monitored by ISGC.

It is mandatory that all students participating in the ISGC Homestay program also have International Student Guardianship Canada (ISGC) as their Guardian. See MacLachlan College Guardianship Information Package for further details and fees.

GUARDIANSHIP SERVICES

MacLachlan College requires that each international student living in Canada without a parent have a local Canadian Guardian while attending school. The Guardian provides the necessary support system for the student and acts as a contact for the school. The Guardian must be English speaking, a Canadian Citizen or Permanent Resident over the age of 21 and must reside in Ontario.

If you do not have a Canadian Guardian MacLachlan College has retained the professional services of International Student Guardianship Canada (ISGC).

TRANSPORTATION

Getting around Oakville is very easy and there are a few options for traveling to and from school. Public Transportation is readily available in the city of Oakville and includes Oakville Transit, GO Transit and local taxi companies. We ask that both the student and family decide which mode of transport the student will use to get to and from school each day. Most homestay students use the Oakville Transit system finding it both simple and inexpensive.

School Bus Service

MacLachlan College offers students an optional school bus service. The average annual cost for this service is approximately \$3,700. School bus fees are not included in the tuition fees and are invoiced separately in October of the new school year. For further information about busing please contact the school office at (905) 844-0372.

Oakville Transit is connected to GO Transit, Mississauga Transit and Burlington Transit. Please visit www.oakvilletransit.com for detailed information about routes and schedules. There is an Oakville Transit bus stop within a 5 minute walk from MacLachlan. The cost for a monthly student pass is approximately \$60.

GO Transit is an interregional transit system created and funded by the Ontario provincial government. The GO train station is a 10 minute walk from MacLachlan College and services the greater Toronto area including Burlington, Oakville, Mississauga and Toronto. Visit www.gotransit.com for complete schedules and fares for trains and buses.

Oakville Taxi Cab Firms

Oakville United Taxi
0044

www.oakvilleunitedtaxi.com

Telephone: 905-338-

Halton Taxi Service
4300

www.aahaltontaxi.ca

Telephone: 905-844-

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The following procedures and documents must be completed and accompany all applications for admission. Upon approval, an acceptance letter will be issued

without delay. The school will reserve a place for the student upon receipt of the full tuition fees. Please note that all documentation must be translated into English.

- Application form completed and signed by parent/guardian along with application fee of \$250 CAD
- Confidential School Reference (MacLachlan College document) from current school. In addition, for those enrolled with English as a second language, please provide an English subject reference
- Copy of most recent and the last two year's final report cards
- Copy of passport showing date of birth
- 1 recent photograph of the student
- Interview in person or via Skype with our Director of International Studies
- Copy of student visa/authorization and date of entry to Canada
- Copy of Canadian Guardianship documents if the student is living in Canada without a parent

Admission is based on a review of the student's report cards and the personal interview. If a personal interview is not possible, a Skype interview will be arranged with our Director of International Studies. The MacLachlan English Proficiency Test will be administered during the Orientation Day prior to the start of the school year or upon the student's arrival in Canada.

If vacancies cannot be confirmed at the time of the application, the student's name will be placed on the wait list. The school will notify the student when space is available and fees must be paid in full at that time to reserve the space.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM – FEE STRUCTURE

Academic Year September 2020 – June 2021

Fees	
Tuition Fee – With ESL	\$31,725
Tuition Fee – No ESL	\$27,090
New Student Enrollment Fee (i)	\$ 2,000
School Bus Service (ii)	\$ 3,700
Health Insurance – 10 Months (ii)	\$ 700 (Mandatory unless other insurance information is provided)

All fees listed are in Canadian dollars

The MacLachlan College tuition fees include the following charges: technology fee, all textbooks & field trip costs. Some field trips may be exceptions as well as all overnight trips.

A non-refundable application fee of \$250 must accompany each application.

- i. A one-time, non-refundable enrollment fee of \$2,000 is payable when the offer of admission is accepted. Fees are used for capital purposes at the discretion of the Board of Governors
- ii. Approximate costs, subject to change

All ISGC Homestay Program and Guardianship fees are paid directly to International Student Guardianship Canada (ISGC)

REFUND POLICY

No refund policy is applicable, unless the student's visa application is denied. Documentation is required.

FEES AND RULES OF THE SCHOOL

FEES

Fees are payable in full in advance for new students and re-registration fees are due in by February 1st preceding the next school year for returning students. The responsibility for parents or guardians for payment of all tuition fees for a full academic year is unconditional. No portion of fees paid or outstanding will be refunded or cancelled in the event of absence, withdrawal or dismissal of any student from the school. No refund policy is applicable, unless the student's visa application is denied. Documentation is required.

SCHOOL YEAR

The school year is divided into three terms: the first term from the opening of school in September until the end of December; the second term from January until mid winter break and the third term from mid-winter break until summer vacation.

DURATION OF ATTENDANCE

When a student is admitted to the school, the original application for admission will be considered to apply on a continuing basis to the grades appropriate to the needs of the student. A place will therefore, be reserved each new school year until the Ontario Secondary School Diploma is completed, or notice of withdrawal is received, or until the student fails to re-register by February 1st immediately preceding the next school year.

GENERAL SUPERVISION

The school has no facilities for, nor can it undertake to provide any form of guidance or exercise any form of control or supervision upon any student outside school activities.

REMOVAL

The school reserves the right to expel, suspend or remove any student who does not adhere to the conduct expectations as outlined in the school's Code of Behaviour. If a student is suspended, expelled, removed or withdraws there will be no rebate of fees.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Application should be made to the school on the forms provided and well in advance of desired date of entry. A non-refundable application fee of \$250 for International students

must accompany
each application form. Fees are due in full upon notice of acceptance and it is this
payment of fees
which confirms a place in the school.