

Collingwood School

West Vancouver, BC, Canada



Greater Vancouver's only Round Square school, its AP program stretching into second-year university math and chemistry.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	65/100
Academic outcomes	67/100
University placement	65/100
Prestige & heritage	66/100
Alumni network	65/100
Facilities	68/100
Transparency	58/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Collingwood occupies a clear niche in Greater Vancouver: a Canadian day school with a strong university-preparatory brief, CAIS accreditation, and a rare international marker in its Round Square membership. That matters. Plenty of schools promise character, service and global outlook; far fewer belong to a network that makes those claims legible. Collingwood also pushes its AP offering beyond the standard menu, with courses extending into second-year university maths and chemistry. For academically ambitious families, that is the sharpest point of difference. Founded in **1984**, the school is young by independent-school standards, but it has built a distinct identity around the four strands it names explicitly: academics, arts, athletics and service learning. The result is *serious academic stretch* without

the old-world baggage of older institutions.

The school's public message is disciplined and coherent. Its strategic plan runs to **2027**, and the leadership transition is already set, with Emily Greenberg due to take over on **15 July 2027** after the current head's long tenure. That gives parents something useful: institutional continuity rather than drift. The language of the school is also revealing. It talks about "critical thinkers", resilience and social consciousness, and roots that in courage, curiosity and community. Those are familiar independent-school values, but here they connect to a concrete structure: a broad co-curricular model, service learning, and explicit engagement with Indigenous communities across its two campuses. There is *a strong sense of purpose* and *an adult seriousness* in that framing.

Why shortlist it? Because Collingwood offers a combination that is hard to find in one place: a Canadian curriculum, advanced AP depth, non-denominational co-education, and a culture that asks students to do more than compile grades. This suits children who are bright, organised and happy being busy; students who want *competitive academic pacing*, but not a school defined only by marks. It will also suit families who value a polished, structured environment and who want university preparation tied to arts, athletics and service rather than bolted on as afterthoughts. Students who thrive here will be *energetic joiners*, *high-functioning generalists*, and teenagers with enough resilience to handle a school that expects commitment across several fronts. Those seeking a loose, low-pressure education will find the fit wrong. Those wanting *depth with range* should look closely.

STRENGTHS

- CAIS accreditation offers external quality assurance.
- English-medium teaching suits many international families.
- Day school structure keeps children at home.
- Athletics and outdoor education are clear strengths.

TRADE-OFFS

- No boarding; unsuitable for families needing residential provision.
- Canadian curriculum may not suit IB-seeking families.
- Head of School transition scheduled for 2027.

ADMISSIONS

Collingwood is a co-educational day school in West Vancouver for ages 5 to 18, so the obvious entry points are the start of junior school and later admissions into secondary years, subject to places. Publicly available material in the source provided does not set out a full admissions calendar, named application deadlines or a year-by-year intake pattern, so parents should not assume a single cut-off or one main point of entry. The school's website directs families to contact Admissions to see the school in action, which suggests a process that includes direct engagement rather than a purely paper-based application.

The school also does not publish, in the material supplied here, the detail of any assessment format, interview structure or decision criteria. What is clear is that Collingwood presents itself through four strands — Academics, Arts, Athletics and Service learning — and around the values of Courage, Curiosity and Community, so selection is likely to look for pupils who can contribute across more than academics alone. No bursary or financial-aid detail appears in the sources provided here.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_7ca0b17700.