

# SCHOOL PROFILE

2020 – 2021



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

Visit us: [www.stmarg.ca](http://www.stmarg.ca)

Contact us: [admissions@stmarg.ca](mailto:admissions@stmarg.ca)

# Our School

## ESTABLISHED

1908

## ENROLMENT 2019–2020

**Total students:** 313

Foundation Years (JK–Grade 5) 89

Middle Years (Grade 6–8) 85

Senior Years (Grade 9–12) 133

Avg. class size 16

Student:Teacher ratio 8:1

Boarding (Grade 7–12): 81  
*26% of school population*

Countries of origin 25

## INDUSTRY IDENTIFIER

Independent, not-for-profit all-girls 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

Sharon Klein

## SENIOR YEARS PRINCIPAL

Megan Hedderick

## ADVISORS / GUIDANCE

Kathryn DaSilva, Academic Advisor

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Eight-person volunteer board

**St. Margaret's School (SMS)** is a non-denominational, 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 | Cheerleading Club | Dance Club | First Tech Challenge | Gender Sexual Alliance (GSA) | Golf Club | Green Club | Model UN Club | Outreach Club | Peer Tutoring | Robotics / FIRST LEGO League | Student Council | 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 dreams

## SENIOR YEARS COURSES: 2019–2020

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.

In 2020, of our 25 grads, they received 4.6 offers of admission per student.

## THE CLASS OF 2020

<b>25</b>	graduates
<b>115</b>	offers of admission <i>(80% of grads accepted to their first-choice institution)</i>
<b>\$342k</b>	in scholarships and awards <i>(CAD, including four-year renewable awards)</i>

## FIELDS OF STUDY

With the school's focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), we are proud that 66% of our grads are going into pure and applied sciences. The remaining 34% will be studying Business, 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 (3)
- Visual/Fine Arts (3)
- Business (3)
- Sciences (10)
- Pre Medical (2)
- Engineering (4)

*\* These numbers reflect the graduates who applied to schools by June 2020.*

## UNIVERSITY PLACEMENTS

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

## COUNTRIES WHERE OUR STUDENTS STUDY

CANADA  
USA  
CHINA  
JAPAN  
AUSTRALIA  
MEXICO  
SPAIN  
ENGLAND

Prestigious institutions that have accepted our students include:

## UNIVERSITY

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

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