

# MERRICK PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Prospectus



MERRICK  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL





## Welcome to MPS

Merrick Preparatory (MPS) is a private co-educational day and boarding high school with a maximum capacity of 60 students, offering grades 9 through 12 and a University Qualification Year (UQY).

Since its opening in 2012, students from more than 26 countries have called Merrick Preparatory School home. International students come for the focused academic attention and small class sizes in one of Canada's safest communities. Domestic students come to broaden their international understanding and perspective by immersing themselves in a truly international education with students from around the world. Both Domestic and International students build lifelong friendships that span the globe and gain entry into world-ranked universities.

Located in historic Merrickville, Ontario (known as "The Jewel of the Rideau") and acclaimed as **Canada's Most Beautiful Village** by *Communities in Bloom*, MPS is perfectly located for focused academic study in a small, safe, caring community. Our school is located in one of the town's most notable buildings. Constructed in 1861, it overlooks the picturesque Rideau River and Canal System (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) and is located just 45 minutes from Ottawa, the nation's capital city.





## Headmaster's Welcome

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I am delighted to welcome you to Merrick Preparatory School! We provide a world class education for grade 9, 10, 11 and 12 students wishing to gain entry into the finest universities in North America and abroad. We have a 100% university acceptance rate and over 30% of our graduates receive scholarships exceeding \$5,000.

Our school is nestled on the shores of the Rideau Waterway – a UNESCO World Heritage Site - in Merrickville, Ontario, a safe, quiet and clean village where students can focus uninterrupted on their studies. Home to nationally and internationally renowned artists and named “The Most Beautiful Village in Canada”, the warmth of this historic town provides an idyllic family environment for learning. Just 45 minutes from Ottawa, the nation’s capital, our students have access to Parliament Hill – seat of our federal government, our national museums, national art gallery, national performing arts centre, Rideau Canal – the worlds longest winter skate-way, two universities, two colleges and the spectacular National Capital Commission’s Gatineau Park.

Our boarding students enjoy luxurious rooms with en suite bathroom, fine dining and some of the best teachers this country has to offer. Our day students share classes with students from around the world providing a dynamic and truly international education. With an average class size of 10 students and over 140 hours of in-class instruction per credit course, our students excel and reach beyond their grasp. Individualized and focused attention, academic differentiation combined with personal and social growth result in students who become courageous, resilient and compassionate global citizens.

**Come join the Merrick Preparatory School family.  
Your success starts here!**

Kevin Farrell  
**Headmaster**







## The Merrick Preparatory School Advantage

### Enhanced Academic Program

In depth approach to ensuring student academic successes and that no student falls through the cracks.

### Certified and specialized teachers

Ontario College of Teachers (OCT) certification with a specialization in English as a Second Language (ESL) and University Guidance.

### Small class sizes

Average class size of 10 students.

### Contact time

140 hours In-class instructional hours per course compared to the Ontario standard of 110.

### 60 boarding student capacity

Small by design, we limit intake to preserve individualized student attention ensuring success for all students.

### Safe, friendly, family-like environment

Students develop strong, personal relationships with their classmates, staff and community.

### 24/7 supervision

Residential staff, teachers and Headmaster live on campus to provide round-the-clock support and care.

### Technology

Teachers are equipped with state-of-the-art technology allowing them to effectively integrate digital teaching methods. Wifi is available throughout the school.

### Multicultural environment

Students build global networks with peers from Canada and around the world.

### Recreation facilities

Several common rooms with TVs, game consoles, a games room with a pool and ping-pong table, a piano, and a sports and weight room, in addition to various outdoor playing fields and a basketball court.

### Above industry-standard accommodations

Queen/Double-sized beds, 4-piece ensuite bathrooms and individual climate control in rooms up to 39 sq meters.

### ESL support

ESL-specialized teachers deliver the curriculum from an ESL perspective to maximize learning.

### English only policy

Maximizing English language acquisition and proficiency.

### Co-curricular activities and recreational sports

Various post-academic day activities and sports provide students with the benefit of physical activity as well as interacting with classmates and staff.

### 100% post-secondary placement with significant scholarships

100% of our graduates gain entry into their first-choice program and average over \$5,800 in entrance scholarships.

### Structured schedule

Rigorous academic day, various co-curricular activities which include IELTS and OSSLT preparation and teacher-supervised study hours.

### Over \$555,000 in university scholarships

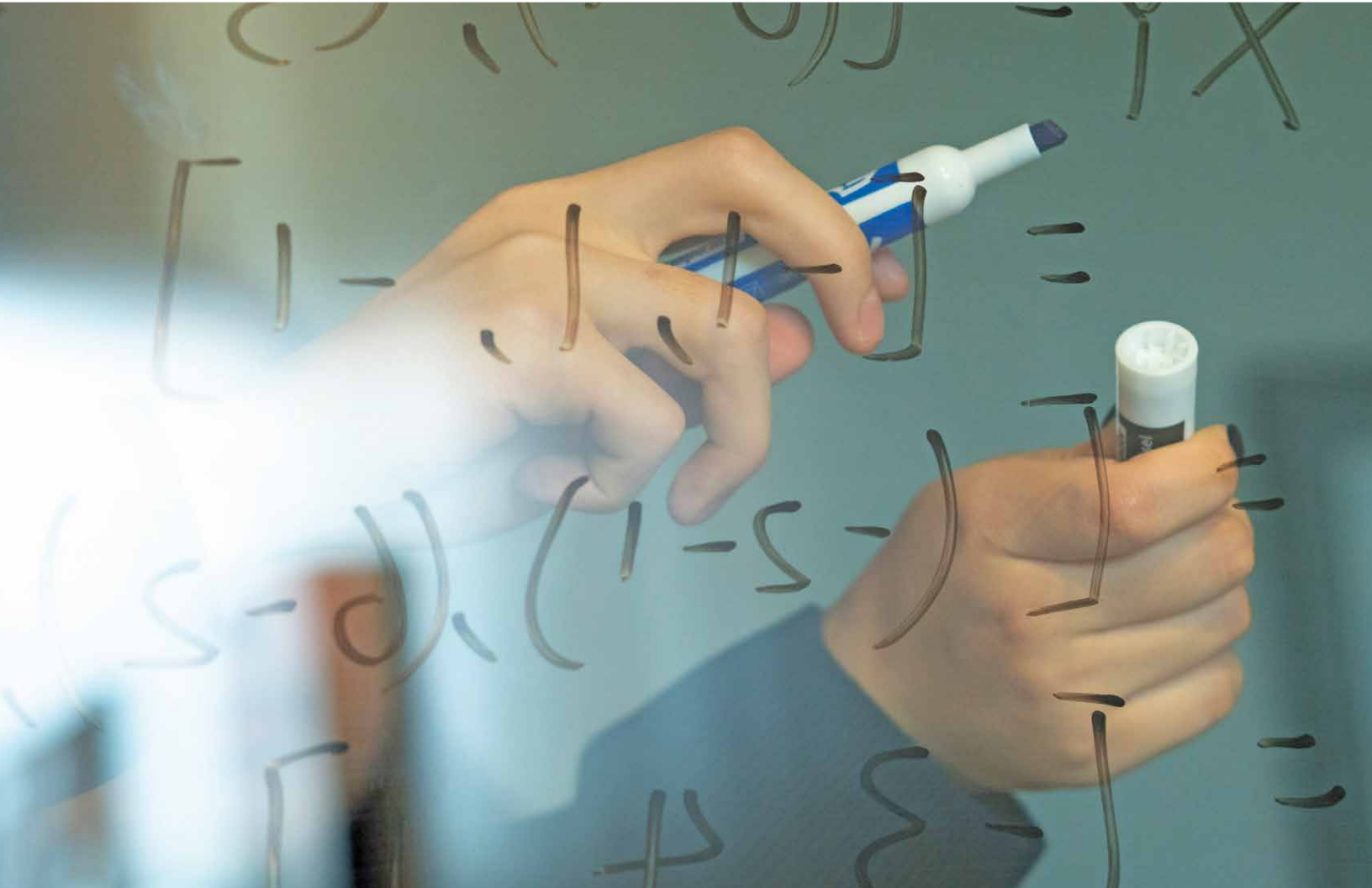
Awarded to 95 graduates from 2012.

\* As of 2019

### #1 ranked high school education system in the world

Conference Board of Canada.





# Our Approach

## ENHANCED ACADEMIC PROGRAM

**At Merrick Preparatory School our focus is on whole student development to ensure success. We have created a failsafe system to ensure each child reaches beyond their grasp to achieve their full potential. Our unique Enhanced Academic Program has five main components integrated into our students' daily lives.**

### ► Daily Tutorial Support

Upon joining MPS, each student is placed in a grade specific Advisor Group with a Teacher Advisor who is a Guidance Specialist. The Advisor Group, consisting of 6-8 students, meets daily for one hour and stays as an intact group for the duration of a student's stay at MPS, ensuring consistency and support. Advisors provide tutorial support, academic guidance and continuity for the student and parents, providing consistent communication and ensuring each student's specific needs are met.

### ► Advisor Program

More than just academics, MPS provides a broad education to our students. One hour a week, students meet in their Advisor Group and cover a wide range topics relevant to today's youth. Our unique Advisor Curriculum covers topics ranging from financial literacy, banking and budgeting, to physical, mental and emotional health, to healthy relationships, to diet, hygiene and nutrition, to organizational and time management skills, to effective study habits, stress management and life after MPS.

### ► International English Language Testing System (IELTS) and Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) Preparation

As part of our Complete Care Program, our Enhanced Academic Program is free of charge and is included in our tuition fee, including three hours of IELTS preparation and one hour of OSSLT preparation a week. Our dedicated ESL and IELTS Specialist delivers three hours of IELTS preparation per week, ensuring our students have competitive IELTS scores and the advantage required to gain entry into their first-choice university. All students must pass the OSSLT or take the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC). Our OSSLT specialist teacher provides one-hour of OSSLT preparation per week to prepare students for this Ontario Ministry of Education exam. This preparation also enhances our students' English language skills, thereby improving their overall academic performance.

### ► University Guidance

All of our teachers are trained and certified Guidance Specialists. Not only does this assist students from grades 9 – 11 during their Daily Tutorial Support, it is specifically to their advantage in grade 12 when their Advisor becomes their University Guidance Counselor. Unlike other schools where one guidance counselor manages the university applications of all students with whom they have no relationship,

our expert Guidance Counselors have a deep understanding of their Advisees and are perfectly positioned to guide them through the university application process. For one hour a week in their grade 12 year, our students meet with their Guidance Specialist to ensure complete, full and timely applications, including scholarship applications. The result is a 100% post-secondary placement rate with 100% acceptance into first-choice programs at world-ranked universities and over 50% of our students winning significant scholarships.

### ► Student Success Program

Each week all MPS staff, together with the Headmaster, meet for one hour to review and discuss each students' progress and success. Meeting weekly ensures strategies for success for each student are reviewed and adjusted, ensuring no student falls through the cracks. With our Daily Tutorial Support, Advisor Program, small class sizes, maximum school size of 60 students, dedicated Residential Life Staff who work with our students after school and on weekends, and a Headmaster who lives on campus, no student can fall through the cracks because there are no cracks! Even the smallest of concerns, academic or social, are addressed immediately. The result is our students are successful on every front, learning the coping skills to address any issue they confront.









## RESIDENTIAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

**Merrick Preparatory School offers boarding students the opportunity to participate in cultural, recreational and sporting events in the region, from sightseeing, attending seasonal festivals, visiting National and Provincial Parks and historic sites to skiing and swimming in Canada's iconic crystal-clear lakes.**

### On campus

Students have access to several common rooms with large-screen TVs, game consoles, a games room with a pool and ping-pong table, a piano, various board games and a sports and weight room, in addition to various outdoor playing fields and a basketball court.

For our boarding students we offer large rooms, up to 39 square meters, with Queen/Double-sized beds, 4-piece ensuite bathrooms, individual climate control and home cooked meals based on student's dietary requirements.

## STUDENT LIFE

Merrick Preparatory School students participate in a wide variety of co-curricular activities. These engaging and diverse activities contribute to making MPS a vibrant and cohesive school community. Co-curriculars are offered from 4:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evening and are included in the tuition fee.

### Fall

Aerobic exercise  
Arts and crafts club  
Badminton

Ball hockey  
Basketball  
Conservation club  
Fit-Bit club  
Food and nutrition club  
Football  
Horseback riding  
IELTS and OSSLT preparation  
Lanark Animal Welfare Society (LAWS)  
Math club  
Multicultural club  
Music (piano, violin, drums, guitar, flute)  
Photography club  
Ping pong club  
Slacklining  
Smoking cessation program  
Soccer  
Student council  
Swimming  
Ultimate frisbee  
Volleyball  
Yearbook club  
Yoga

### Winter

Aerobic exercise  
Arts and craft club  
Badminton  
Basketball  
Book club  
Chess club  
Conservation club  
Cooking club  
Debate and speech club  
Engineering club  
Exercise club  
Financial literacy  
Ice hockey  
IELTS and OSSLT preparation  
Indoor soccer  
Math club  
Music (piano, violin, drums, guitar, flute)  
Ping pong club  
Student council  
Swimming  
Volleyball  
Yoga

### Spring

Aerobic exercise  
Arts and craft club  
Badminton  
Ball hockey  
Baseball  
Basketball  
Conservation club  
Engineering club  
Farewell Party Committee  
Football  
Golf  
Horseback riding  
IELTS and OSSLT preparation  
Music (piano, violin, drums, guitar, flute)  
Photography club  
Ping pong club  
Running club  
Soccer  
Student Council  
Swimming  
Ultimate frisbee  
Volleyball  
Yearbook club  
Yoga


## COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ENGAGEMENT

Merrick Preparatory School is an active and integral member of the Merrickville community. Our students participate in various community initiatives and many of the villagers know our students by name. Merrickville is home to our students and they are warmly welcomed wherever they go.

All of our students must complete a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement activities coordinated by our Director of Residential Life. These experiences help form bonds with the community, enriching our students' lives and the lives of those with whom we share this beautiful historic village on the shores of the Rideau Waterway.







## Did you know?

MPS students develop disciplined study habits, acute critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and become globally aware.

## Programs

**MPS offers grade 9–12, ESL Foundation, and an University Qualification Year in such a way that it is tailored to suit the educational, cultural, and linguistic needs of our students.**

### Grade 9–12

Merrick Preparatory School ensures our students are prepared to enter world-ranked universities. Since our founding in 2012, we have maintained a 100% post-secondary placement rate, with over 93% of our graduates gaining entrance into their first-choice university. Offering the Ontario Ministry of Education curriculum and the #1 world ranked Ontario Secondary School Diploma, MPS takes a pedagogical approach that is surpassed by none. In small class sizes averaging 10 students, our teachers expertly tailor course delivery to meet our students' academic, cultural and linguistic needs.

### ESL Foundation

Our English immersion program allows students to increase their English language skills in preparation for grade 9, 10, 11 and 12 and seamlessly integrate into the North American education system. The success of this program is due to integration of academics, language acquisition and community involvement as well as an immersive English environment. MPS will recommend 1, 2 or 3 semesters of the ESL Foundation Program based on a student's English competency. Students are continuously evaluated to determine a suitable time to transition into our academic programs.

### University Qualification Year

Our UQY program is designed for students who have a high school diploma from their home country yet are looking to improve their English and academic standing to broaden their university opportunities. Students gain a rich understanding of the North American pedagogical approach and curriculum. Students have access to 3 hours of IELTS prep per week resulting in a competitive IELTS score. One-on-one academic guidance helps ensure post-secondary placement and enhanced scholarship opportunities. The UQY program provides students the opportunity to earn the world-renowned Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Thus giving MPS students a significant advantage over peers as they enter North American or UK post-secondary institutions.



Course Offerings 2012–2019	9	10	11	12	ESL
Biology			•	•	
Business Leadership: Management Fundamentals				•	
Business: Accounting Fundamentals			•		
Business: International Business Fundamentals				•	
Business: Introduction to Business	•	•			
Canadian and International Law				•	
Canadian and World Geography				•	
Canadian and World Politics				•	
Canadian Geography	•				
Canadian History Since World War I		•			
Canadian Studies					•
Career Studies & Civics and Citizenship		•			
Challenge and Change in Society				•	
Chemistry			•	•	
Drama	•	•	•		
Earth and Space Science				•	
Economics: Analyzing Current Economic Issues				•	
English	•	•	•	•	
English (Conversational)					•
English as a Second Language (ESLDO) Level 4					•
English as a Second Language (ESLEO) Level 5					•
Environmental and Resource Management				•	
Environmental Science			•		
Exploring Technologies	•				
French as a Second Language	•				
Food and Nutrition	•	•			
Force of Nature: Physical Processes and Disasters			•		
Geography: Canadian and World Geography				•	
Healthy Active Living	•	•			
Health For Life			•		
Introduction to Anthropology, Sociology and Psychology			•		
Mathematics: Principles of Mathematics	•	•			
Mathematics: Functions and Applications			•		
Mathematics: Functions			•		
Mathematics: Advanced Functions				•	
Mathematics: Calculus and Vectors				•	
Mathematics: Data Management				•	
Media Studies			•		
Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC)			•	•	
Origins of Citizenship: History of a Canadian Ethnic Group			•		
Philosophy: Questions and Theories				•	
Physics			•	•	
Science	•	•			
Travel and Tourism: A Geographical Perspective			•		
World Geography: Human Patterns and Interactions				•	
World History Since 1900: Global and Regional Interactions			•		
World History Since the 15th Century				•	
World History to the End of the 15th Century			•		
World History: The West and the World				•	
World Issues: A Geographical Analysis				•	



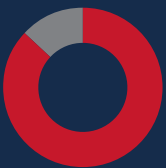


# The Boarding School Advantage

Studies conducted by Statistics Canada prove that students enrolled in Canadian private schools perform better academically than students attending public schools. On standardized reading, math and science tests, private school students out-scored public-school students by 9%. In a survey conducted by the Association of Boarding Schools (TABS), 87% of boarding students reported that they were very well prepared for the rigours of university life compared to only 39% of public schools' students.

Private school students not only excel in academics, they also engage more frequently in extra-curricular activities such as sports, social clubs and community service. Additional life skills, such as initiative, collaboration, resilience and independence, are developed and matured.

As a leading private day and boarding school, parents choose Merrick Preparatory School because they recognize the benefits gained by their children, including a competitive learning advantage and the social skills required to be successful in their future academic and career endeavours.



Boarding School Students



Public School Students

■ % of students that feel prepared for university life

■ % of students that **DO NOT** feel prepared for university life



## Testimonials



*I began Orientation Week at the University of Toronto for Aero Space Engineering on Monday, and I am liking it so far! I*

*would not have been able to reach this step if not for my Merrick Family. I really want to say a huge 'THANK YOU' to all of you. Thank you for accepting me into your family last year. Thank you for all your helpful advice and care that you have given me this past year. You are all wonderful! You have all helped me to grow and I feel much more ready for the new journey that awaits. Lastly, I want to appreciate all your support during the summer break; your research, your words of encouragement and your concern towards my progress all meant a lot to me.*

**Olamide** from Nigeria 🇳🇮



*Merrick Preparatory School prepared me very well for studying at the University of Toronto. Compared to my peers*

*in my classes I am better prepared and able to handle the large workload. The teachers at Merrick Prep covered much of the material I am now studying as a first-year university student; they prepared me exceedingly well. Merrick Preparatory School also taught me how to take notes appropriately in a lecture and seminar format class. I am writing, not typing, all my notes in English on my tablet. The education I received at Merrick Preparatory School was excellent and prepared me extremely well for studies at the University of Toronto.*

**ChuanWen (Oscar)** from China 🇨🇳



*I miss Merrick Preparatory School so much! This year at U of T I am living in residence, which is great, but the rooms*

*are so small – I really miss my Merrick Prep room and bed! Unlike Merrick Prep where I could access my teachers at any time and get help from them and the Residential Life Staff and Headmaster Kevin Farrell were always available, here the classes are so huge! (more than 300 students) and it is hard to get any help from the professors. They don't provide you with guidelines or rubrics so you have to figure everything out on your own, but Merrick Preparatory School prepared me for that. I miss Merrick Prep so much and can't wait to come back and visit.*

**Daria** from Russia 🇷🇺



*Before I attended Merrick Preparatory School, I was not confident with the use of my English language skills in a*

*daily manner. MPS's staff enhanced my skills and provided me with the needed skills and resources to be able to apply to the best universities in Canada and the U.S. I am absolutely pleased and blessed that I've been part of this great academic institution. If you are looking for a promising and excellent academic future, then Merrick Preparatory School is your place! It will be your second home and you'll build wonderful lifelong memories and friendships.*

**Abdul** from Oman 🇴🇲



*Feras just finished his first semester at University of Tampa studying Finance. His grades are excellent. It clearly re-*

*flects the value of the quality education he got at Merrick Preparatory School. I am happy that we took the decision to bring him to MPS. He is on track to get a full Kuwait government scholarship after he finishes 30 Credits. I really appreciate your help, especially during challenging times for Feras. I expect Feras to be highly successful during his college life and afterwards, in large part due to MPS.*

**Mr. Ayman Al Bannaw**

father of Feras from Kuwait 🇰🇼



*I'm so thankful to you [Headmaster Kevin Farrell], and Mrs. Bannon and of course my teachers, classmates,*

*and friends and everyone in Merrick Prep. I'm here because of you! I learned so much at Merrick Preparatory School; sometimes it was really hard, but worth it because I'm here now! I miss Merrick Prep so much! Thanks again for believing in me! It made all the difference!*

**Deren** from Turkey 🇹🇷



*I honestly miss you [Headmaster Kevin Farrell] and all of my teachers, residential life staff and friends. It is*

*pretty overwhelming transferring to a university; it was very stressful, especially for an engineering student. It was very hard to adapt socially, but not that much academically, since I pretty much had a similar workload at Merrick Preparatory School. The engineering program is very tough though. I am pretty solid, however, in courses like geological engineering, physics, calculus, chemistry and all labs because Merrick Prep has done an amazing job preparing me. My time management skills are far and away better than all of my engineering friends, because Merrick Prep has immensely help me deal with high work loads. My lab reports are within 80-90% because of the education quality Merrick Prep provides. All of the courses I took at Merrick Prep are useful in university. I find myself having more knowledge in subjects like physics, chemistry, and geological engineering compared to my engineering friends. My English communicating skills were so much improved during my time at Merrick Preparatory School. I did not find any difficulties communicating with any native English speaker at the university. My academic and social experience at Merrick Prep has immensely helped me deal with many challenges in university. Without the academic support I have received from Merrick Prep, I would not be successful at university.*

*I miss Merrick Preparatory School life a lot, because it was more caring than here! The environment at Merrick Prep is more peaceful, and more loving, I found. But I am adapting progressively.*

*You have no idea how much I miss the school! Please tell everyone hello for me, and tell them I miss every single one of them!*

**Yazeed** from Oman 🇴🇲



*I totally regret leaving Merrick Preparatory School and now realize what a good school and education I got there.*

*At my new school I do not get the support or guidance I received at MPS. I am not doing as well academically, and my English is not as strong. I was not accepted at any universities and have to take an ESL (English as a Second Language Program) bridge program at university before I can start my academic program. I know had I stayed at MPS for grade 12 this would not be the case as my English would have continued to improve with your "English Only" policy and the support from the teachers and the residential life staff.*

**Tao (Tyler)** from China 🇨🇳



*Merrick Preparatory School has better prepared me for university than other schools I have attended because they*

*offer more support, care and one-on-one instruction. The small class sizes and the detailed attention and instruction from my teachers has made all the difference!*

**Evelyn** from Mexico City 🇲🇽



*Merrick Preparatory School taught me how to give my best in any subject that I am studying.*

*They helped me to understand that which I did not and to develop myself and my learning skills in such a way so that I could be successful at university. University is hard, but Merrick Prep taught me to keep a positive attitude to get through the tough stuff. It is a pleasure to share this little bit of insight with students who are coming to Merrick Preparatory School from every continent.*

**Hatem** from Oman 🇴🇲



*A few days ago, I ran into Tony [Xuyuan (Tony) Chen, Graduated June 2015, attending University of Toronto,*

*Computer Engineering], and we were discussing our time at Merrick Preparatory School. Both of us were reflecting on what a great education Merrick Prep gave us and how well it prepared us for the rigours of university. Interestingly, I used to complain about things like the Fulford network closing at 11pm during the week and the consequences for breaking school rules. However, once I left Merrick Prep, I have found that in university these rules and the support of my teachers has set me up for success. Here [at university] there is no TA or teachers who can support me in daily life or in my studies; whereas at Merrick Prep I had great support and structure and I am using that now in university to get great marks. At Merrick Prep I had to study really hard, the teachers gave us a lot of work. Now at university, it makes the learning so much easier, my experiences at Merrick Prep, I realize, were very important. Teachers like Mr. Wood and Mrs. Grant, they helped me a lot. If I had questions they were always there to help me deepen my understanding. It was a great experience at Merrick Preparatory School and my success at U of T is very much a result of what MPS taught me.*

**Boyuan (Kelvin)** from China 🇨🇳



*The amount of work we get here at UBC is way less than what I used to get at Merrick Preparatory School. Merrick*

*Prep prepared me to do my assignments well and to be able to handle the workload here.*

**Alhanoof** from Oman 🇴🇲





## Core Values



### Courage

Through challenge, adversity and in overcoming, our students develop self-confidence, resilience and independence; and from this the courage to venture into the unknown.



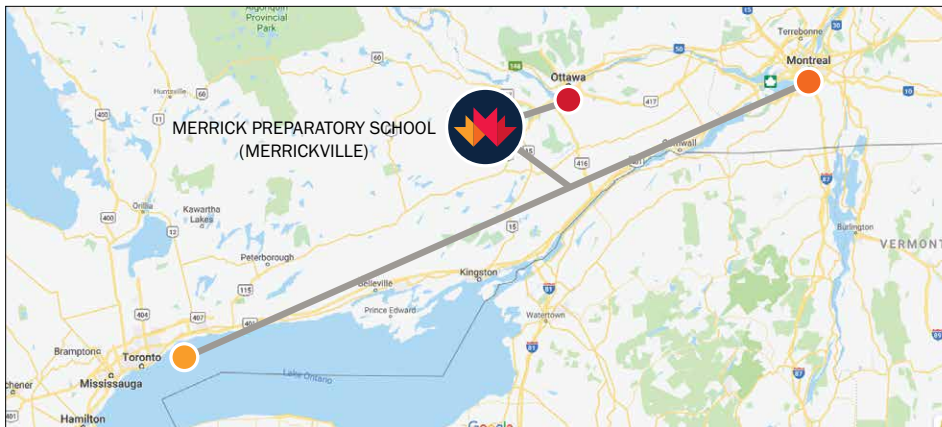
### Compassion

Through diversity, understanding of difference, humility and empathy, our students develop a deep sense of compassion.



### Community

Through shared experience, communal living and service, our students understand the value of intra-dependency and the importance of relationship; resulting in globally and community minded citizens.



● OTTAWA (63 KM) ● MONTREAL (217 KM) ● TORONTO (368)

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