

International Education **NANAIMO LADYSMITH**



Love Learning On Vancouver Island!

Updated July 2025



British Columbia has one of the best public education systems in the world . . . our students perform at the top of international assessments



Classic West Coast Communities

- Our seaside communities, located on beautiful Vancouver Island, are safe, peaceful and clean. We are surrounded by forested mountains, rocky shores, sandy beaches and we enjoy the mildest climate in Canada.
- We have easy access to the dynamic cities of Vancouver and Victoria, as well as the world famous ski resort at Whistler Mountain. We have an abundance of rich cultural experiences, recreation and shopping.
- Nanaimo is the right size to have everything you need and Ladysmith overflows with small town charm.

Home Away From Home

- We manage our own Homestay Program and provide students with support, encouragement and guidance. Students are immersed in English language and experience authentic Canadian culture.
- Students fully participate in family life including activities, celebrations and relaxing at home.
- The well-being of our students is closely monitored by experienced Homestay Coordinators. Homestay Coordinators make weekly visits to each school to check in with our students to ensure each homestay experience is the best it can be.



Student Programs

- Our education programs are individually designed to meet the interests and academic goals of each student. Our graduating students have been accepted at universities around the world.
- We offer direct access to academic, fine arts, skilled trades, career and physical health education classes and students learn alongside their Canadian peers.
- For students requiring English Language support, we have English Development classes as well as individualized ELL support



Student Supports

- We have International Student Advisors in every school who ensure students are comfortable at school and are excelling in their classes. Advisors monitor students' academic progress, encourage involvement in activities while providing cultural and social guidance.
- English Language teachers work with classroom teachers to support student learning throughout the day.
- Our schools have counsellors who provide academic, social and emotional support.

Our international students return home with new knowledge, deeper cultural understanding, increased self-esteem, greater maturity and life-long friends from Canada and around the world!



Grade 8 to 12 Schools in Nanaimo Ladysmith



Nanaimo District

population 1700

- A vibrant student group that embraces diversity
- Draws students from across the district to its Hockey, Soccer, Lacrosse and Beach Volleyball Academies
- Easy access to premier athletic facilities including a weight room, all season track and turf fields, swimming pool, skating arenas and community parks
- French Immersion and Francophone school
- Fall and Spring ELL classes



Dover Bay

population 1660

- Enjoys a proud tradition of academic and athletic success; offers Advanced Placement exams
- Has an outstanding Performing Arts Academy and well equipped shops to explore woodwork, metalwork, mechanics, robotics, and culinary arts
- Is well known for environmental initiatives and excellence in mathematics and computer technology.
- Fall and Spring ELL classes



Wellington

population 1150

- Students choose Wellington for its nationally acclaimed Jazz Music Academy, language learning opportunities, enriched fine arts experiences, technology programs with a focus on 3D animation and printing, and its variety of athletics, clubs and activities.
- Wellington is a beautiful building with a unique West Coast interior design and an abundance of natural light
- Robust athletics
- Fall and Spring ELL classes

Engage, Experience, Explore . . .

Join in, explore, compete, contribute! After school activities provide memories for a lifetime. Join your Canadian and International peers in athletics and clubs. Make new friends, improve your own well-being and contribute to your Canadian community. There are choices for everyone and places where everyone belongs.



Engage in School Life!

School life in Nanaimo-Ladysmith includes many extra activities and international students are encouraged to join in. Students pick up new skills, stay active, and build life-long friendships with Canadian peers and students from around the world.



Experience Canadian Activities!

While studying in Nanaimo Ladysmith, students are provided opportunities to experience traditional Canadian activities. Activities include curling, bowling, skating, paddling, snow shoeing, hiking, hockey, skiing, surfing and special events.



Explore Beautiful British Columbia!

Guided excursions include whale watching, surfing in Tofino, skiing at Mt. Washington and cultural trips to Victoria and Vancouver. Highlights for many students are trips to the stunning Rocky Mountains, Yukon Territory, and Whistler Mountain.



Ladysmith

population 670

- Located in the picturesque hillside town of Ladysmith that is known for its warmth, charm and lovely shops and bakeries
- Known for its dynamic extracurricular programs, strong athletic traditions, a vibrant nationally ranked Improv club
- Proud to offer opportunities to get outside and enjoy Vancouver Island, including Outdoor Education and Land and Language courses
- Fall ELL support



John Barsby

population 830

- Known for engaging learners with experiential courses like leadership, athletic training, chef-training, digital photography, trades and robotics.
- Athletic excellence in football, boys' basketball and girls' volleyball
- Bulldog Theatre, fine arts and photography programs give students an opportunity to showcase their talents.
- Fall and Spring ELL classes



Cedar

population 360

- A hidden gem tucked away in rural Cedar
- Offers a unique learning experience that suits students who enjoy small classes, independent personalized learning and an educational setting where everyone knows your name
- "Celia has made a ton of friends at Cedar and honestly I think a few of them will be lifelong friends. This program has been amazing for her and I think it will stay with her for her whole life."

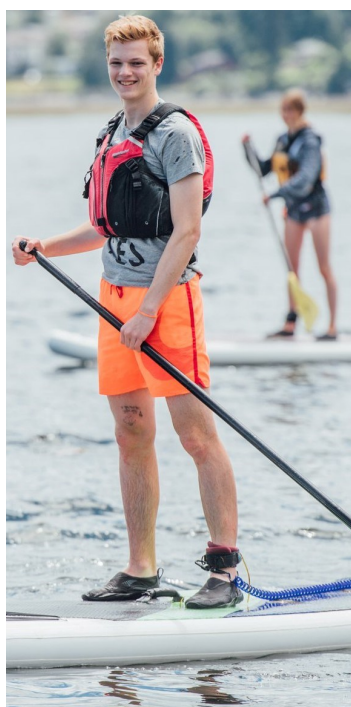
A Rich Variety of Courses

Students create individualized programs to match their interests and to meet their academic goals.

Graduation Requirements (20 courses in grades 10, 11 & 12)

- English 10, 11, 12
- Socials 10 and 11 or 12
- Mathematics 10 and 11 or 12
- Science 10 and 11 or 12
- Physical and Health Education 10
- Career Life 10 and 12
- Indigenous Focused Course
- University Program Pre-Requisites
- Other Elective Courses

English	Social Studies		Science	Mathematics
English	History	Psychology	Chemistry	Pre-Calculus
Creative Writing	Law	Social Justice	Physics	Calculus
Composition	Economics	Genocide Studies	Life Science (Biology 11)	Foundations of Math
Literary Studies	Human Geography	Physical Geography	Anatomy and Physiology (Biology 12)	Workplace Math
Media Studies	Contemporary Indigenous Studies		Earth Science	Career Education
First Peoples English	Political Studies		Environmental Science	Career Life Education
English Development (ELL)	Philosophy			Career Life Connections



Courses and Activities to Choose From!

Arts Education	NDSS	Dover	Wellington	Ladysmith	John Barsby	Cedar
Dance						
Dance Foundation	✓	✓				✓
Dance Performance	✓	✓				
Choreography	✓	✓				
Drama						
Drama	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Theatre Productions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Musical Theatre	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Directing and Script Writing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Music						
Instrumental Music (Concert)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Contemporary Music (Jazz)			✓	✓	✓	✓
Jazz Studies			✓	by demand	✓	by demand
Guitar				✓	School of Rock	Gr. 8
Visual Arts						
Studio Arts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Graphic Arts	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Studio Arts 2D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Studio Arts 3D (Pottery)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Design, Skills and Technology	NDSS	Dover	Wellington	Ladysmith	John Barsby	Cedar
Outdoor Education (Wilderness Studies)	✓	✓	✓	Gr. 9-12	✓	Gr. 10-12
Home Economics						
Foods Gr. 8-12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Textiles	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Fashion Industry		✓	✓		✓	
Culinary Arts Gr. 10-12	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Child and Family Development	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Information Technology						
Computer Studies	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Gr. 8-10
Media Development	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Web Design	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	by demand
Programming	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Graphic Production	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Photography	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Film and Television	✓	✓				
Technology Education						
Woodwork	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Metalwork and Mechanics	✓	✓		Small Engine		✓
Robotics	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Drafting	✓	✓	(Gr. 9)	✓		

** Ask about other popular courses: Psychology, Economics, Philosophy, Engineering.

Business Education		NDSS	Dover	Wellington	Ladysmith	John Barsby	Cedar
Entrepreneurship		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Marketing and Promotion		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Economic Theory		✓	✓				
Law		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Languages		NDSS	Dover	Wellington	Ladysmith	John Barsby	Cedar
French		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spanish		✓	✓	✓	Gr. 12		
hul'q'umi'num' (local Indigenous)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Physical and Health Education		NDSS	Dover	Wellington	Ladysmith	John Barsby	Cedar
Physical and Health Education		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Soccer			✓				
American Football	Flag Football					✓	
Volleyball	Gr. 8-9		✓	✓		Girls only	✓
Ultimate Frisbee		✓	✓				
Basketball		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yoga			✓		✓		
Dance Fitness	Alternative Dance		✓				
Fitness and Conditioning		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Activities <i>*Most require try-outs</i>		NDSS	Dover	Wellington	Ladysmith	John Barsby	Cedar
Athletic Teams	Season						
Basketball	Fall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Volleyball	Fall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
American Football	Fall	✓				✓	
Boys Soccer	Fall	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Girls Soccer	Spring	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Ultimate Frisbee	Spring	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Rugby	Spring	✓	✓	✓			✓
Mountain Biking	Spring	✓			✓	✓	✓
Swimming	Fall	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Golf	Spring	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Track and Field	Spring	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cross-country Running	Fall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Badminton Team	Spring		✓				✓
Athletic Clubs							
Badminton Club	Spring		✓	✓		✓	
Intramurals	Year long	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dance Team	Year long	✓	✓				✓
Weight Room	Year long	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Student Clubs <i>(Many more are offered)</i>							
Student's Council	Year long	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Service Clubs	Year long	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eco Club	Year long	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Art Activities	Year long	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



**** Lots of clubs to choose from: Chess, DND, Math Contest, Social Equity, Model UN, E-Sports, Improv, Horseback Riding (Cedar)**



Love Learning in Nanaimo Ladysmith!

- Welcoming, inclusive schools
- Safe, clean communities
- Surrounded by forests, mountains and ocean
- Strong Student Support programs
- District operated Homestay program
- Mildest climate in Canada
- Easy access to Vancouver, Victoria, and the world famous Whistler Mountain!

Located on Beautiful Vancouver Island on the West Coast of Canada

- Fly to Vancouver International Airport
- Take a 12 minute flight from Vancouver to Nanaimo
- Be met at the Nanaimo airport by your host family or our Homestay program staff
- Settle in and begin your journey!



Contact Us

We'd love to meet you!

<https://studyvancouverisland.ca>