

Westfield Secondary School

SUPPORT STUDENTS TO EXCEL THEMSELVES

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Why Westfield

Westfield Secondary School (WSS) is an independent secondary school. We offer a rigorous liberal arts and progressive curriculum, extensive co-curricular program, and supportive residential environment.

- ✓ Inspected and accredited by the Ministry of Education, with registration number 667931, WSS grant credit courses towards earning an **Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)**.
- ✓ **100% university acceptance rate** in 2017-2018: Statics suggest that 80% of local students in Canada are accepted by universities, while only 20% of foreign applications can make it. WSS graduates are deemed local students, so have a better chance.
- ✓ **Small Classes** : Research has shown that high school students in smaller classes have higher grades and perform better on their university entrance exams.
- ✓ **Technology** : Teachers use a third-party app called Schoology to upload course content for ease of access by our students. Students are able to upload their assignments and parents can monitor their child's progress.
- ✓ **Teach Support** : Our after-school programs are overseen by our dedicated staff in order to provide tutoring, exam preparation, and homework support.
- ✓ **Scholarships** : Westfield provides a Principal Recommendation Letter to all students seeking post-secondary scholarships. Through our own scholarship fund, we are pleased to reward select students with exceptional academic achievement.
- ✓ **Settlement Services** : Westfield provides airport pickup service, support with opening a bank account, acquiring a phone carrier contract, and general familiarity with surroundings.
- ✓ **Strong School Parent Communication** : Parents are kept informed by Westfield's dedicated staff. Teachers and administrators often conference with parents to provide updates regarding the student's academic progress or other matters of concern.
- ✓ **IELTS** and **TOEIC** official test centers
- ✓ Located in Markham, Canada's "**High-Tech Capital**", 30 km northeast of Downtown Toronto

Academic Programs

Westfield provides:

(A) instruction from grades 9 - 12

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OSSD Credit Requirements: One component of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) graduation requirements is the accumulation of 30 credits. A breakdown of the credits is listed below.

- **Compulsory Credits:** Students must earn the following 18 compulsory credits in order to obtain the OSSD:
 - 4 credits in English (1 credit per grade)
 - 1 credit in French as a second language
 - 3 credits in mathematics (at least 1 credit in grade 11 or 12)
 - 2 credits in science
 - 1 credit in Canadian history
 - 1 credit in Canadian geography
 - 1 credit in the arts
 - 1 credit in health and physical education
 - 0.5 credits in civics
 - 0.5 credits in career studies
(1 credit per grade)

Plus

- 1 additional credit in English, or a third language, or social sciences and the humanities or Canadian and world studies, or guidance and career education, or co-operative education *
- 1 additional credit in health and physical education, or the arts, or business studies, or co-operative education *
- 1 additional credit in science (grade 11 or 12), or technological education (grades 9-12), or co-operative education *

*a maximum of 2.0 credits in co-operative education can count as compulsory credits

- **Optional Credits:** In addition to the 18 compulsory credits, students must earn 12 optional credits selected from the courses listed as available in the school course calendar.
- In addition, students must complete:
 - complete **40 hours of community involvement activities;**
 - successfully complete the provincial **Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)**

- WSS delivers a fine balance between a liberal arts and progressive education. Experiential learning is combined with analytical and creative thinking. Real world connections solidify classroom work and provide context.
- All of which is inspected by the Ministry of Education that bestows Westfield with the authority to grant credit courses towards earning an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).
- The school year is divided into **3 semesters**. This allows students to achieve 10 credits (1 per course) in an academic year.
- Generally, semesters start on the first Monday of the beginning of September, January and May. In some cases, an exception to a late application will be accepted. Accordingly, the student concerned will adopt certain adjustments of semester dates.
- Additional support is provided after school in the study hall.
- Students who enter Westfield Secondary School will have the choice between full-time or part time student status. To be considered full-time, students must be registered between a minimum of 7 courses, or a maximum of 10, across all three semesters. No more than 10 courses may be taken in an academic year.

(B) 'Pre-university' program

- To meet English requirements for studying in a university or college, international students must pass the English Assessment Test.
- Not only English, Pre-U program also teaches a variety of lessons, including Science, Math, Physics and many other subjects that will benefit their learning later in post-secondary institutions.
- Earn the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) after completing this program. With it, international students will be eligible to apply for any colleges or universities in Canada.
- Easier to get visa/ study permit as no English test / level is required upon applying for a visa for the program.

(C) IELTS course

- optional
- WSS is an IELTS official test center.

(D) Part-time & Online

- Students enrolled for on-campus or online classes may qualify for part-time student status if they are enrolled in a minimum of 2 courses in the first and second semesters.
- For those students who wish to study online, virtually any Ontario Secondary School course can be taken through one of our partner schools. These can be arranged within a short period of time and can be completed from anywhere in the world.
- Part-time students may also be interested in private or semi-private courses. The schedule preference is at the student's discretion, convenient for students who are seeking additional coursework to complete the OSSD requirements. Students must communicate their interest for this type of learning in advance so that the necessary preparations can be made.

Student Services

Westfield Secondary School provides ongoing support to international students. Our caring student support service team offers 3 areas of support:

Preparatory services,
student care and counselling, and
university counselling.

In preparation for your experience at Westfield, our support service team will provide you with **pre-departure information** that includes assistance relating to visa matters, information on overseas student health coverage, and the appropriate orientation for new international students.

Once the students have arrived, they will continue to receive **ongoing support** by our international student advisers when required. Our advisers provide **confidential counselling** services and strategies to improve the student's general well-being. Should a student take ill, our advisers will often drive a student to a **medical clinic** and provide **translation support** if necessary.

University counselling begins from the moment the student arrives. Each credit course in a student's timetable is carefully curated to meet the university requirements for the student's preferred university program. Westfield actively coordinates university presentations with many of Ontario's universities such as University of Toronto, York University, Trent University, McMaster University, Queen's University, Western University, Wilfred Laurier University, University of Waterloo, and many more.

Arrival and Accommodations: A student support representative from Westfield personally greets every student upon their arrival at Toronto Pearson International Airport to transfer him/her to their selected accommodation. This carefree service eases arrival anxiety and transitions students smoothly into their new home.

Our student service representative will coordinate accommodations before your arrival. Short-term living arrangements may be assigned if there is insufficient time to find long-term accommodations.

A student who is under the age of 18, without a custodian in the area, is paired with a home-stay family that will provide a comfortable room, three meals a day plus snacks, and transportation to and from the school campus. Our local homestay families are personally interviewed by our accommodation officer and are chosen for their experience and friendliness.

* Students who are over 18 years old may rent local accommodations. Parents will need to review and sign all rental agreements.

Obligations of the Homestay Host:

- 1) Airport pickup and welcome student's first arrival.
- 2) Welcome the homestay student as a member of the family.
- 3) Regular conversation in English.
- 4) Opportunities to experience Canadian culture.
- 5) Provide a house key, security access codes, and host family contact information for the student.
- 6) A private room with bed, desk, desk chair, desk light, internet access, comfortable chair.
- 7) Shared/private access to a bathroom, laundry facilities, microwave, toaster oven, and suppliers to keep your room and bathroom clean.
- 8) Daily continental, self-serve breakfast to be eaten at your leisure/with family.
- 9) Provide adequate and nutritious food as defined in this contract.
- 10) Daily nutritious dinners to be eaten together with the family.
- 11) Space in a kitchen cupboard and refrigerator to store student's personal food.

Application form for homestay should be submitted along with the Homestay Agreement.

Application for the Home-stay Program, and the Home-stay Agreement are available on the school website.

Partner Schools

Through extensive networks, Westfield has established partnerships with several high-profile schools in China. Our **2 + 1 program** gives students the chance to complete two of three years of high school in China and the opportunity to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma in their final year at Westfield.

We have designed a non-credit online English language program to support prospective students over the two years preceding their arrival. Our intent is to ensure students have the necessary language skills to navigate their academic studies in Canada.

Listed below are sister schools in China:

1. Shaoxing Luxun Senior High School
2. Wuhan No.4 High School
3. Hubei Yichang No.1 middle School
4. Zhejiang Yuexiu University of Foreign Languages
5. Shenyang Shiyuan School
6. Zhengzhou 31 Middle School

Life at WSS

Westfield Secondary School arranges exciting activities and excursions regularly to promote students' physical well-being and provide them with further opportunities to learn about Canadian culture.

Westfield is proud to offer our students a uniform that identifies them as young men and women of character. We believe that a school uniform promotes a student focused learning environment, safety, equality, school pride, and the development of school community.

Campus Facilities

WSS locates in Markham, Ontario, Canada, just above Toronto. Markham hosts a diverse population and is one of the safest communities in Canada. Students living in Markham will have access to transportation to explore local communities and the Greater Toronto Area.

Our current facility can accommodate several classes of various sizes. Students have their own dining hall, a study area, and a common area with games. We are proud to partner with local community and fitness centers to offer students top notch exercise amenities and opportunity for sporting events such as swimming and basketball.

Community Work

Community volunteering is an integral part of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma. It takes place through non-profit and community organizations. Students meet new people and it provides students the opportunity to support a cause they care about. Most importantly, it is a great way to learn and develop skills that may inspire a student's career choice.

Tuition

The tuition for a full academic year as a full-time student at Westfield Secondary School is CAD 21,000. As a full-time student, students are entitled to enroll in 7-10 courses during the academic year. The tuition will cover all academic course work and exams between September – June.

The mandatory non-tuition fees total CAD 2,900 in all. They are:

- Admission fee \$300
- Medical insurance \$600
- University Application Services \$600
- School activities \$ 600
- Student services \$50
- School uniform \$200
- Textbooks and locker rental \$ 550

Some of the mandatory non-tuition fee may be required for the second year of study, if applicable.

Incidental fees are varied and will be included in the information and admissions package.

Part-time students must consult with the Admissions department directly for further details.

Application Procedure

Step 1: Application

Applications can be submitted through the Westfield online application system.

Incomplete applications cannot be processed and will be returned to you to complete and resubmit. Please see our website for current application deadlines.

Step 2: Assessment:

Westfield International Admissions team will assess your application. The following will be assessed prior to sending a Letter of Acceptance (LOA):

- English language entry requirements.
- Academic entry requirements.

A complete application is normally assessed within five business days.

Step 3: Offer

If your application is successful you will be sent one either a Provisional Letter of Acceptance, a Conditional Letter of Acceptance, or an Unconditional Letter of Acceptance. Each offer outlines the next steps in the application process including accepting your offer. Please note, you must not use your Letter of Offer to apply for a student visa.

Step 4: Acceptance

Accepting your Letter of Acceptance generally includes the following steps:

- Paying the deposit outlined in your Letter of Acceptance
- Signing and returning the Terms of Agreement

Once completed, Westfield will issue a Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) which you can use to apply for your Canadian student visa.

Step 5: Visa

The Government of Canada is responsible for issuing visas to students who wish to study in Canada. To ensure that you are not delayed, you must apply for your Visa immediately upon receipt of acceptance. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/student.asp>.

Westfield Education

Westfield Education is an independent institution, consisting of three schools:

- Westfield Secondary School (WSS)
- Westfield Education Language School (WELS)
- Westfield Education International Academic (WEIA)

Westfield Education Language School (WELS)

- Member of Languages Canada, a national language education association
- Partnership with Trent's **EAP** program designed to facilitate an easy transition between secondary and post-secondary education. Trent University is ranked #1 in Ontario and #3 in Canada.
- Offers accredited English programs, both short-term and long-term, courses to prepare students for academic study at the post-secondary level, as well as foundational level courses introducing students to the language.
- Provides IELTS and TOEIC exam preparation courses
- talented teachers use the most recent research and best practices in second language acquisition (SLA), to support and challenge students to achieve quality work
- Official IELTS test venue operated by IDP Canada
- Official TOEIC test venue

Westfield Education International Academic (WEIA)

- Offers online credit courses such as Mathematics, Science, English, Arts, etc.
 - One-On-One Tutorials: Students who are enrolled in an online credit course will be provided a qualified tutor.
- Delivers professional development programs, business communication program, etc.