

ADMISSIONS BOOKLET



Embrace. Empower. Unleash.

The CA Way

Since our earliest days as pioneers in inclusive education, Calgary Academy has lived and breathed by a simple yet profound ethos: we place the individual needs of each student at the heart of everything we do. Rooted in this commitment, the spirit of Calgary Academy is embodied by a unique and authentic energy. Our growth-oriented, nurturing and inclusive culture promises that each student will be empowered to exceed their own expectations and to believe in the boundless opportunities the future holds. Hope, belonging, and a palpable sense of optimism fill our school and our hearts. Calgary Academy's four pillars and guiding principles are woven throughout innovative programming proven to be incredibly successful since our inception; however, the true essence of Calgary Academy can only be captured by a feeling that is difficult to portray with words but undeniable in spirit. It is a feeling that fosters safety and life-long loyalty, and it is why Calgary Academy is a place so many families, students, staff, and alumni are so proud to call home.





WELCOME TO CALGARY ACADEMY™.

Untapped Potential.

We know that every student learns differently. We tailor our teaching to the way each child learns because it is through a customized, personalized approach that we can unleash each child's untapped potential.

We're here for unique learners.

School is a huge part of every child's life. It's where they learn to read, write, do math, and while doing so, discover their own unique way of learning. It's where children challenge themselves, overcome difficulty, and learn and grow from those encounters. It's also where students make friends, try new things and explore their interests. To be a place of community, connection, and inspiration is a tall order, but our holistic approach to education and our vibrant learning community does just that. The result? Empowered students with the confidence, independence, and connections needed to experience success in school and in life.

By defying the conventional, we can achieve the exceptional.

No matter where students' talents lie, or interests take them, we strive to make our school a place they look forward to. School shouldn't feel like a chore. It's exciting. It's challenging. It's fun! Learning doesn't just take place in the classroom, it happens on playing fields, under spotlights, in art studios, and around the world. Every aspect of our school and community contributes to the sense of belonging, pride, and purpose that our students will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

REACH

A word to live, work and learn by.

At Calgary Academy, REACH is our way of life. These principles embody our core beliefs and guide the way our students interact with each other and the world. These principles are more than just words on the wall; they're embedded in our community. We live, breathe and speak them every day. Students learn to embrace REACH by seeing examples of its success in every aspect of our school, from fellow students to staff. Once students are comfortable with REACH, it serves as an essential guide and positive reference point for decision-making and social success.



R

Respect

Acceptance and compassion towards themselves, others and their surroundings.



E

Enthusiasm

A passion for living, learning, and the ability to bring positivity and energy to every experience.



A

Altruism

A concern for the welfare of others without anticipation of reward and an understanding that our actions help us become the people we admire.



C

Commitment

The self-motivation to set goals and work relentlessly to achieve them, even when it is challenging.



H

Honesty

Sincerity and integrity towards themselves and others, and the recognition that this is the foundation of meaningful relationships.

Four Pillars

At Calgary Academy, we strive to help our students develop their self-confidence and social skills as well as their academics. We're here to guide and support our students in building a future that goes beyond their next report card. By staying true to our pillars, we can help our students build amazing lives.

Maximize every student's academic performance.



We teach students the core processes necessary to build an effective learning toolbox. Our customized academic programs are designed to leverage a student's natural strengths and to close academic skill gaps. For students at or above grade-level, we provide enrichment opportunities that enable them to tackle more complex tasks.

Teach independent work habits and transferable skills.



Once students have filled their toolbox, they need to develop the independent work habits and transferable skills to use their tools effectively. By complimenting time management, organization and planning strategies with transferable skills such as test preparation, test taking, and technology fluency, we ensure students can use their tools to achieve success in learning and life.

Improve pro-social and self-advocacy skills.



Empathy, asking for help, and speaking up are just some of the critical skills children need to form healthy friendships and relationships with peers and adults. We teach students how to choose actions and assess consequences as they develop the foundational skills required to have healthy social experiences wherever they go.

Build self-esteem and self-confidence.



Students need a safe, secure and predictable learning environment to build self-esteem and self-confidence. By developing meaningful student-teacher relationships, we make sure every student has the opportunity to succeed and that every accomplishment is celebrated. As a student's self-esteem and self-confidence grows, they ignite a passion for success in every aspect of life.

OUR PROGRAMS

Over the years, we've refined our Academy and Collegiate programs and are proud to offer a full K-12 student experience.

Together, our programs form a vibrant learning community where every child can succeed.



“Your learning experience is seriously tailored for you. It's like getting fit for golf clubs, no one has the same experience here. I think everyone has different strengths and weaknesses so your teachers really customize the way you take in knowledge. It's incredible how they will design your whole experience here at Calgary Academy.”

Khobe Clarke
CLASS OF 2019

Kindergarten

RATIO: 12:1

With an emphasis on relationships, communication, and mindfulness, our youngest learners develop their confidence and build a strong foundation for life-long enjoyment of learning through our play-based Kindergarten program.

Our students make sense of their world through exploration and interaction, and we nurture a solid foundation in core literacies and numeracy. Social-emotional awareness, self-regulation, and social skills are developed through role play, collaboration, and coaching.

The full-day Kindergarten program is appropriate for typical learners.



Academy

RATIO: 16:2

When students' academic performance is at stake, there isn't a moment to spare in providing them the support they need. The Academy program is designed to remediate learning difficulties through a strengths-based program. Students develop the social and academic skills necessary to help close their learning gaps.

Our experienced and specialized teachers tailor the way they teach to the way each student learns and may recommend accommodations to promote independence around specific task demands.

The Academy program is appropriate for students who are not able to produce work at grade level, or who may have a diagnosed learning difficulty or other conditions that may affect their learning. Some students may later transition into the Collegiate stream when their learning gaps are reduced and they've developed the necessary independence.

Collegiate

ELEMENTARY RATIO: 16:1

JUNIOR AND HIGH SCHOOL RATIO: 18:1

Embracing individuality and unleashing independence, our Collegiate students are preparing to thrive in a rapidly changing world. This grade-level program focuses on increased independence, enables students to collaborate, challenge themselves, and engage richly in the world around them.

With a focus on preparing for post-secondary, students leave with the mindset and skills to continually take on new challenges. Teachers move seamlessly among their different roles as mentors, instructors, guides, and facilitators as they encourage students to drive their own learning.

The Collegiate program is appropriate for typical learners.

PROGRAM FEATURES

We know every child learns differently. Our program features are designed to teach students the way they learn best so they can unleash their potential. By embracing that ethos and converting it to practice, we empower students to surpass their expectations and achieve outstanding personal success.



KINDERGARTEN – GRADE 6

Strong Foundations

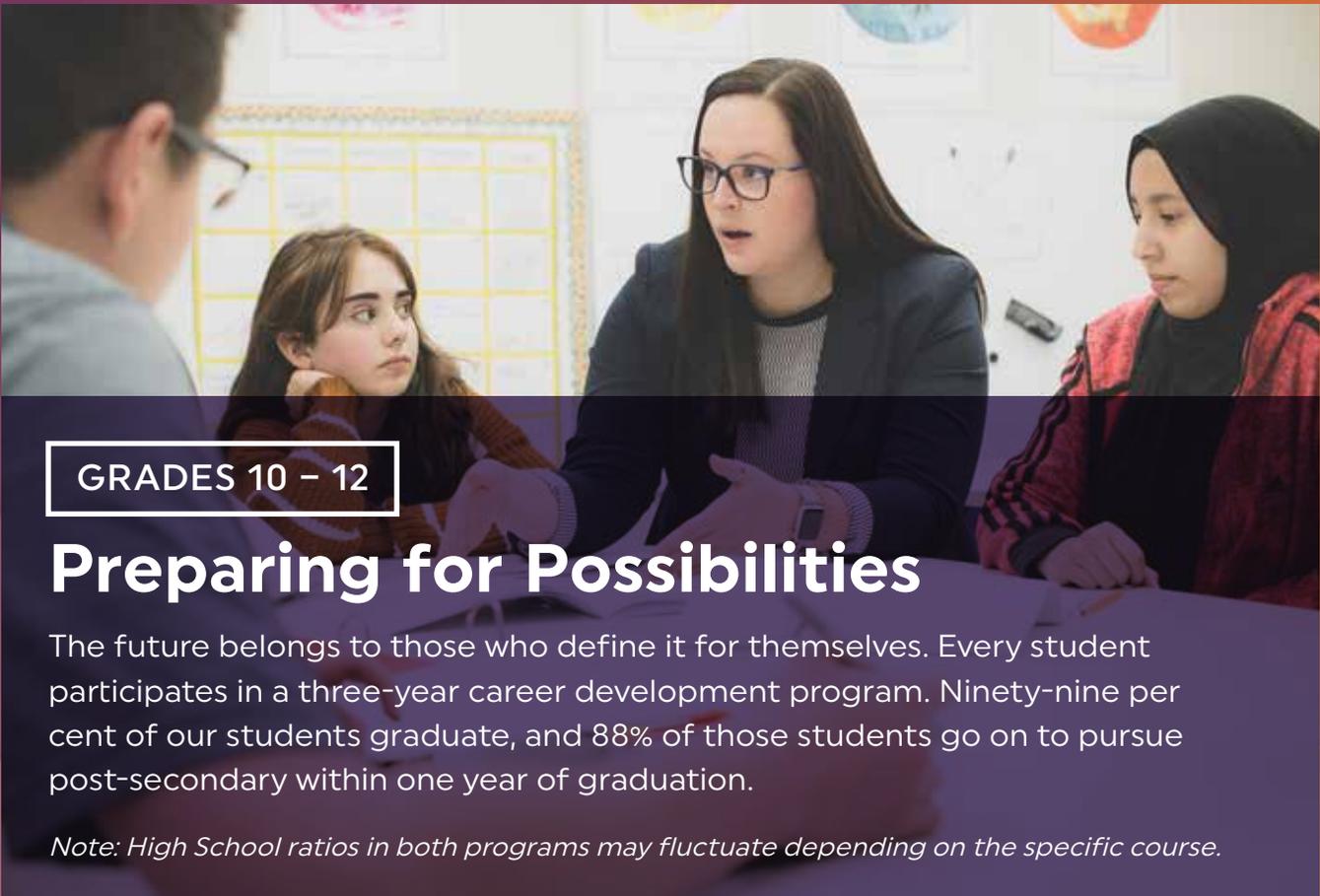
A strong foundation in core and emerging literacies, competencies, and learning strategies sets students up for a successful learning journey that challenges and inspires them.



GRADES 7 – 9

Engaging Activities

Engaging academic classes, competitive athletics teams, leadership opportunities, an annual junior drama production, and an in-school ski and snowboard club ensure the junior high years are packed with interest-based activities.



GRADES 10 – 12

Preparing for Possibilities

The future belongs to those who define it for themselves. Every student participates in a three-year career development program. Ninety-nine per cent of our students graduate, and 88% of those students go on to pursue post-secondary within one year of graduation.

Note: High School ratios in both programs may fluctuate depending on the specific course.

INTEGRATED STUDIES

Integrated studies are where we showcase our holistic approach to education. We know powerful moments are just as likely to occur on the stage or sports field as they are in a classroom. By giving students a variety of ways to explore what they love, we help them develop additional intelligences and capacities, and have a lot of fun doing it!

Integrated Studies vary by grade and may include:

 Art	 Construction Lab	 Digital Studies
 Drama	 Guitar	 Leadership
 Music	 Outdoor Education	 Photography
 Robotics	 Spanish	

Grades 6–12 have the opportunity to be involved in our extra-curricular drama productions each year, regardless of their in-school Integrated Studies choice.



Interest-based Integrated Studies.

Academy and Collegiate students in the same grade are combined for physical education, integrated studies, lunchtime and breaks. This gives students a larger community to build friendships within and ensures our students can connect with students across grades and programs.

High School

In High School (Grades 10–12), students select two options that run for the full year. In Grade 10, one of these options must be Physical Education or Outdoor Education. All students also complete the Alberta Education-mandated Career and Life Management (CALM) course, as well as our comprehensive three-year career preparation program.

*Kindergarten - Grade 9
students participate in
daily physical activity and
Physical Education classes
every other day.*



KNIGHTS ATHLETICS

All students are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular sports. We believe that athletics are a natural complement to classroom achievement, and that belief is proven every day as we watch our students transform into athletes, team players and leaders from the moment they step onto their playing field or court. It doesn't matter if they're diving for a spiked ball or jumping up for a rebound, every sport gives our students the opportunity to learn self-awareness, dedication and camaraderie. Knights Athletics provides an exciting environment that fosters life skills and character development, while deepening connections within the Calgary Academy community.

We are part of the Calgary Independent School's Athletics Association (CISAA). Though we strive to build competitive teams, the true measures of success are the skillsets and confidence our students develop, and the number of athletes who continue their involvement in sports after they leave our school.

Our School chooses which tier we compete in each year within the league, which allows us to compete against teams that will challenge our students while still keeping the games fun.

Every student is encouraged to try out for a Knights team. Whether they make the team or not, all students will be given the opportunity to play and can build their skills on the practice roster.

ALL STUDENTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING SPORTS:

Fall Sports

EARLY SEPTEMBER TO MID-NOVEMBER



Golf



Cross-country running



Volleyball



Football



Winter Sports

EARLY NOVEMBER TO MID-MARCH



Basketball



Curling

Spring Sports

MID-MARCH TO EARLY JUNE



Badminton



Floor Hockey



Ultimate Frisbee



Soccer



Track and Field





ENRICHMENT & CONNECTIONS

A small school, with big opportunities!

Drama productions

Students in Grades 6-12 have the opportunity to be involved in our extra-curricular drama productions each year, regardless of their in-school Integrated Studies selection. Our winter production features students in Grades 9-12 and our spring production features students in Grades 6-8.

International Travel Studies

Students in Grades 10-12 have the opportunity to participate in the International Travel Studies program. Whether it's building schools in Laos or helping with sustainable agriculture at a Chinese orphanage, these experiences empower students to put the REACH principles into action on a global level.

CA Ski and Snowboard Club (CASSC)

There's a lot to be said about learning from experience. We are proud to have a ski and snowboard club where students in Grades 6-9 receive coaching in big mountain skiing and snowboarding. At Lake Louise, students learn freestyle tricks in the terrain parks while experiencing world-class resort powder and moguls. Senior High students (Grades 10-12) are given the opportunity to shadow the coaches for a season in our mentorship program. At the conclusion of our program, students are eligible for certification as Level 1 coaches.

Students in the International Travel Studies program have traveled to Asia, Africa, Europe and South America.



School Council of Calgary Academy

Composed of parents and staff representatives, the School Council serves as an advisory and consultative body to the school Principal, focusing on the views of the school community at large. All parents are automatically granted membership and are welcome at the meetings. Elections for the executive occur every spring.

To learn more, visit calgaryacademy.com/school-council.

Student leadership

Leadership is best learned through experience. For students, the opportunity to share their voice and have ownership in their school is a crucial component of their development into young leaders. Our elementary students' leadership opportunities focus on culture-building events and activities. Junior High students build on that initial foundation and develop their organizational skills around event planning. In High School, students organize multiple fundraisers and events, and there are opportunities for student leaders to share in the direction of the school. All students are encouraged to participate in a council to shape school decisions, bring about change, and build stronger connections within our community.

TUITION & FEES

Detailed information can be found at calgaryacademy.com/payments.

	Academy	Collegiate	Kindergarten
Application Fee \$150 non-refundable (Kindergarten) 250 non-refundable (Grades 1-12)	\$950	\$950	\$950
Assessment Fee Non-refundable, included in Admissions Deposit.	\$250	\$250	N/A
New Family Initiation Fee One-time, non-refundable fee required from each new family, commencing in Grade 1.	\$1,500	\$1,500	N/A
Tuition	\$18,885	\$13,240	\$13,240
Supply Fee Kindergarten – Grade 6 This fee includes a school provided device, technology support, school supplies, yearbook, standard class field trips, awards and recognition nights, gym strip (Grades 5 and 6 only), and some retreats.	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$850
Supply Fee Grade 7 – Grade 12 This fee includes technology support, school supplies, yearbook, field trips, awards and recognition nights, gym strip, and some retreats (excluding Graduation).	\$550	\$550	N/A
School Provided Device Grade 7 – Grade 12 Covers the use of a school provided device for the duration of the school year.	\$550	\$550	N/A



Bussing (Optional)

1st Child	\$2,500
Additional Sibling	\$2,000
Additional Stop	\$500

Other Fees

Additional fees apply for some clubs, teams, offsite activities, athletics, and curriculum specific activities. Fees vary and are established at the beginning of the activity, are due upfront, and are non-refundable.

Financial aid

The Calgary Academy Parents Association (CAPA) strives to provide as many opportunities as possible to students with a demonstrated need to attend CA. Since 1986, CAPA has provided over \$5 million in student bursaries.

There are a limited number of bursaries available to assist students with a demonstrated need to attend Calgary Academy. If you require bursary support, please submit the CAPA bursary application forms directly to CAPA after you have submitted an admissions application to the school.

For access to the bursary application and for more information, please visit the CAPA website at capa-calgary.com.

SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE TRANSITION

Changing schools is a big step, and we've designed a variety of events and connection points to support your family throughout the transition. Choosing Calgary Academy is more than just joining a new school; it's joining our community. We want you and your child to feel at home before you even walk through our doors.



New Family Orientation

Each spring we host a new student orientation event, where students and their families are welcomed to campus to make new connections, tour integrated studies, and have fun.

Summer connection

In August, families receive an introductory phone call from their teacher and an invitation to come see their new classroom in September. In the first week of school parents are invited to meet their child's teachers and the school leadership team.





Fall Welcome

In early September, students and their families are invited to an evening of fun, friendship, and games! A mix of community-building activities and parent orientation information, this whole-school event welcomes more than 600 people for one very exciting evening.



Bonding trips

We want our students to build strong relationships with their peers and their teachers. Each grade participates in a bonding retreat off campus during the year. During the first couple of weeks of school, we will provide your child with all the information you need about the retreat.



THE NEXT STEPS

1

LEARN MORE ABOUT US.

You can schedule a parent tour online before or after submitting the online application form. This tour is a required part of the admissions process, where we will provide an overview of our programs and show you our facility. You'll get a sneak peek into our classrooms while students are learning and have the opportunity to speak with a variety of our staff.

2

COMPLETE AND SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION ONLINE.

Visit calgaryacademy.com to complete your online application. Candidates for the Academy program must submit the results of a Psychological-Educational Assessment that is no more than 18 months old. A non-refundable admissions deposit must also be made to secure your child's spot on the placement list. The deposit does not guarantee placement at the school.

Please note before applying that a new applicant may be considered a candidate if he or she has average to above-average intelligence, and no primary social/emotional, behavioral issues, and/or medical conditions that require additional support.



3

LET US GET TO KNOW YOUR CHILD.

Following the completion of the online application and receipt of the admissions deposit, the Admissions Team will review your child's educational history and other relevant documents to determine eligibility for the Academy or Collegiate program. If we believe our school is the best option for your child's success, a student-needs assessment is conducted in person. This informal interview occurs between your child and a member of the Admissions Team, so we can get to know your child and gain a deeper understanding of his or her learning needs. At the end of the interview, your child will be given a personalized tour of our facilities by a peer.

4

WE'LL BE IN TOUCH.

Following the file review and student-needs assessment, the Admissions Committee will take all of your child's learning needs and history into consideration to decide on an appropriate program placement. You will receive a notification from us, regardless of the outcome, at the conclusion of the admissions process.

Visit calgaryacademy.com to inquire about a tour, apply online, and check the status of your child's application.

To learn more and apply: calgaryacademy.com



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