



Welcome to our NEW students and Welcome Back to our Returning Students!

We hope you enjoyed your summer and that you are ready for the school year. For September, we have over 472 brand NEW students from 25 different countries.

School / Schedules/ Lockers/ Miscellaneous Items

The first few weeks of school can be busy with so many things to organize. If you have any questions, please talk to your International School Coordinator at your school – they are more than willing to guide you.

District Homestay Students

Many new and returning students live with Langley School District Homestay families – please speak with or email your Homestay Coordinator if you need any assistance or guidance with Homestay related items.

Study Permits & Passports -> Student Medical

Please ensure that you give a copy of your study permit and passport to your International Student School Coordinator. They will need a copy to ensure you are enrolled in your medical coverage.

Your Student Handbook

Please read the **Student Handbook** to familiarize yourself with new and updated information.

The handbook can be located on our website:

<http://www.studyinlangley.com/wp-content/uploads/Student-Handbook-September-2019.pdf>

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

September 20: School Improvement Day (students not in session)

September 30: Orange Shirt Day (check with schools for more info)

October 14: Thanksgiving Day

October 25: Provincial Professional Development Day (students not in session)

November 1 - 3: Victoria District Trip (2 Nights)

November 8 - 11: Remembrance Day Weekend

December 7: Vancouver District Day Trip (Ice Hockey Game and Christmas Shopping)

December 21 – January 5: Winter Break

January 12 -14: Sun Peaks Ski Resort District Trip (2 nights)

February 13 -16: Quebec City & Montreal District Trip (4 nights)

April: WildPlay & Canoeing District Day Trip

May 22 - 25: Rocky Mountain Tour District Trip (3 nights)



District Homestay Students -please ensure the following:

- Student's bedroom must include a bed, bedding, dresser, closet (wardrobe), nightstand, lamp, desk, chair, opening window, hangers, and laundry basket. Mattress covers are also advised to protect your mattress
- Student's bedroom and closet must be clear of homestay's belongings
- Ask your Homestay family about an Emergency Escape Plan(s) (e.g. fire, flood, earthquake etc.)
- Students must be provided with either a house key or entry code to their home.
- Students must have a list or an understanding of their house rules and emergency number list (e.g. 911, family member phone numbers and addresses etc.).
- Students are to become familiar with their Student Handbook.
- Students must be aware of their transportation to and from school route(s) and the timing of their schedules. Plan for the time necessary to make any connections (walking, school bus or public bus)

Student Safety - Cell Phones

- For safety reasons, please ensure you have a working cell phone at all times. It must be operational with minutes, text, data, and have a charged battery
- Students must have a working cell phone. If students do not have a working cell phone, they are not permitted to go out (after school and or on weekends).
- Students must have a local phone number (Canadian SIM card). Your homestay is expected to take you to get a cell phone with a Canadian SIM card within one week of arrival
- Students must pay all of their own mobile phone costs
- Students can select a pay as you go option or a month to month plan
- Homestay's will not sign a long-term contract on behalf of the student
- Students cannot use their iPad, WhatsApp or WeChat as the only method of communication with their homestay family

Homestay Fees – District Paid or Student Pay

- You may be a student whose Homestay fees are paid to their Homestay automatically, or you may be a student who is required to pay Homestay fees to your Homestay each month – please talk to your Homestay or Homestay Coordinator if you are not aware
- Homestay fees are \$900 per month and are due to your Homestay on the first of the month.
- Speak with your Homestay if you have any questions about how to pay your Homestay fees. Your Homestay will help you set up a bank account and an automatic payment transfer of funds. You may want to pay by e-transfer.
- Do not pay more than one month's homestay fees at a time.



Public Transit & SkyTrain

- You may need to use public transportation to school and for your leisure activities
- For bus information refer to the Translink website (www.translink.ca)
- If you are required to take public transportation to school, the homestay will pay \$25 per month toward your Compass Card, you are required to pay the rest
- It is recommended that you not travel alone, and are in contact with your homestay throughout the day
- Compass Cards can be purchased at the following locations:

Compass

- Online (<https://www.compasscard.ca/ordercard>)
- Compass Vending Machine (CVMs) (Concession cards not available through CVMs)
- Select London Drugs locations
- By calling 604.398.2042
- Compass Customer Service Centre: Stadium-Chinatown Station



Monthly Photo Contest – Student Memories!



We would love to **share your pictures, stories and memories!** A random draw will be held monthly, and the winner will receive a \$10 surprise gift card.

Please email your picture/story to your Homestay Coordinator.

International Student Support and Counselling Program (ISSP)

- Confidential and voluntary support services to assist YOU with resolving everyday challenges, complex issues, and everything in between (ie. counselling)
- Short-term Professional Counselling for personal and emotional issues
- International Student Support Advisors can help anytime, anywhere by downloading the free **MY SSP APP**
- Students can call 1-844-451-9700 or visit www.workhealthlife.com and sign up using “Langley School District #35 International ISSP as the organization name in to order access the ISSP services and resources
- Students can choose E-Counselling, First Chat (instant online chat with a counsellor), Video and Text-based self-paced
- Available in many languages





Tips to Have a Great School / Homestay Experience!

- Get involved! Each school has many activities for you. Please listen for school announcements about ways to join new clubs, sports team opportunities or other school opportunities. Some students choose to create and lead new clubs as well. Please talk to your International Student School Coordinator for assistance and support.
- Attend school events and activities – this will help you build relationships with school staff, make new friends and become more comfortable in your new school.
- Ongoing communication and working together with your classroom teachers and International Student School Coordinators to solve problems will help you to feel involved and connected to your school.
- Join extra-curricular activities – talk to your Homestay about joining things in the community (i.e. dance classes, community soccer, ice skating, swimming)
- Sign up for Langley School District Trips – this is a great way to meet other international students from another Langley high school! These trips offer students many memories, and a way to experience travel and sights they may not necessarily have a chance to do otherwise. Watch the newsletter and listen for announcements regarding sign up and payment deadlines!



EXPLORE **VICTORIA!**

NOV. 1ST – 3RD

Enjoy the beautiful sights of
Victoria City! (2 nights!)

- Parliament Buildings (Lit up at Night)
- University of Victoria Tour
- Shopping Opportunities
- Dinner out with new Friends

Watch for more Information and a Signup Sheet – please see your International Student School Coordinator!



VANCOUVER DAY **TRIP!**

DEC. 7th

- watch *Flyover* Canada at Vancouver's Canada Place
- lunch with friends
- enjoy a **Vancouver Canucks** Ice Hockey Game vs **Buffalo Sabres**
- Free time to shop or explore Robson Street or Pacific Centre.