

# MERRICK PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Prospectus



MERRICK  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL



**WINNER**

SECONDARY LEARNING  
INTERNATIONAL  
IMPACT AWARD

The PIEoneer  
Awards



## Welcome to MPS

Merrick Preparatory School (MPS) is a private co-educational day, boarding and synchronous learning high school offering the world recognized Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), grades 9 through 12, and a University Qualification Year (UQY). With a maximum capacity of 20 Day students, 60 Boarding students and 30 Synchronous students, MPS is strategically positioned to offer a unique brand of education which ensures student success both academically and socially.

Since its opening in 2012, students from more than 42 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. Synchronous students join MPS for the convenience of learning from home while waiting for travel documents. Our Day, Boarding and Synchronous 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

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. Since our founding in 2012 we have maintained a 100% university acceptance rate, with over 50% of our graduates earning significant scholarships averaging \$12,000 each.

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 world’s 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, compassionate, community minded global citizens.

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

*Kevin Farrell*

Kevin Farrell  
**Headmaster**



**WINNER**

**Secondary Learning  
International Impact  
Award.**

***Recognized as the  
BEST HIGH SCHOOL  
IN THE WORLD.***

**PIONEER Awards**





## The Merrick Preparatory School Advantage

### #1 Ranked High School in the World

PIEoneer Award – Secondary Learning International Impact Award.

### 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.

### Structured Schedule

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

### Enhanced Academic Program

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

### Contact Time

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

### Over \$650,000 in University Scholarships

Awarded to 119 graduates since 2012.

\* As of 2021

### 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.

### Small Class Sizes

Average class size of 10 students.

### Certified and Specialized Teachers

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

### 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.

### #1 Ranked High School Education System in the World

Conference Board of Canada.

### Small By Design

We limit enrolment to 60 boarding students, ensuring individualized attention and guaranteeing success.

### Above Industry-Standard Accommodations

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

### English Only Policy

Maximizing English language acquisition and proficiency.

### ESL Support

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

### 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.



# 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 student's 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 Boarding students and 20 Day 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

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## Day Trips

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.

# Co-Curriculars

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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

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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 Residential Life Staff. 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. 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 (UQY)

Our UQY program is designed for students who have a high school diploma from their home country and 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 preparation 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, giving them a significant advantage over their peers.

Course Offerings	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



*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 🇴🇲



*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 🇨🇳



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



*I'm so thankful to you [Headmaster Kevin Farrell], 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 🇹🇷



*MPS has proven to have one of the best Online Learning protocols and systems that I have been exposed to. I have seen systems deployed by my daughter's school, and others provided to my nieces and nephews, in Jordan, UAE and Canada; MPS is miles ahead and has succeeded in offering a system second to none, and one that diminishes the gaps provided by the inherent values of face-to-face in-class learning.*

**Mr. Mustapha Tabba**

father of Zeid from Jordan 



*Our son joined MPS a year ago and we are amazed by their efforts to support him! They have an amazing online synchronous learning program with small classes, teachers in their classrooms on campus, 360 degree tracking cameras and highly sensitive microphones and speakers. Furthermore, the school offers excellent pastoral care and college advisory. The teachers are amazing! And the school fees are reasonable.*

**Ms. Daniela Swientek**

mother of Konstantin from Germany 



*I like everything about Merrick Preparatory School - the teachers, students and school staff; all of us, we are like family. We help each other, hang out, play sports and study together. We take the time to learn about different countries, and every day the kitchen staff prepare all kinds of food for us - we eat food from all around the world! Sometimes students might be homesick, I was one of them, but I was comforted by the food that they made and by the staff.*

**Miyuki** from Japan 



*I love MPS because of the love, spirit, and pride I feel when I'm in the building; it feels very "homey." The staff treat the students like we're family and they always strive to improve our critical thinking skills, enhance our creativity and make sure no one is left out. When I'm in the classroom, it always feels very supportive. The teachers make sure to engage us and that no one is left out on classroom activities. I feel very comfortable here and that has made my confidence grow, which has helped me in multiple aspects of life.*

**Helen** from Merrickville, Canada 



*MPS set me up for success by offering continual feedback on every assignment and providing suggestions on further research to expand my knowledge beyond what we have learned in the classroom. The teachers are always available to assist me. As for the residence, the rooms are extremely comfortable and spacious, with your own bathroom, lots of storage and your own climate control. The residential life staff are fun, helpful and really nice. MPS is more than a school; it is an extremely friendly environment, with teachers and staff who are truly respectful, you have lots of freedom and the food is great!*

**Hung Mao (Marvin)** from Taiwan 



*Whilst working with a diverse group of classmates, Elisa was able to develop an understanding of different viewpoints and perspectives as well as being able to benefit from the attention and support that small class sizes offer. Beyond the classroom the school allows for plentiful growth opportunities through a range of clubs, sporting activities, excursions, and social activities, all centered around the beautiful canal side village of Merrickville, which deservedly is known as one of Canada's prettiest towns. The school pays close individual attention to the academic and pastoral needs of all students, and it is very supportive of individual initiatives launched by them. The overall experience is undoubtedly enriching; one could not hope to study in a happier place.*

**Mr. John Hopkins**

father of Elisa from Kemptville, Canada 



*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 



**Core Values**

**Courage**

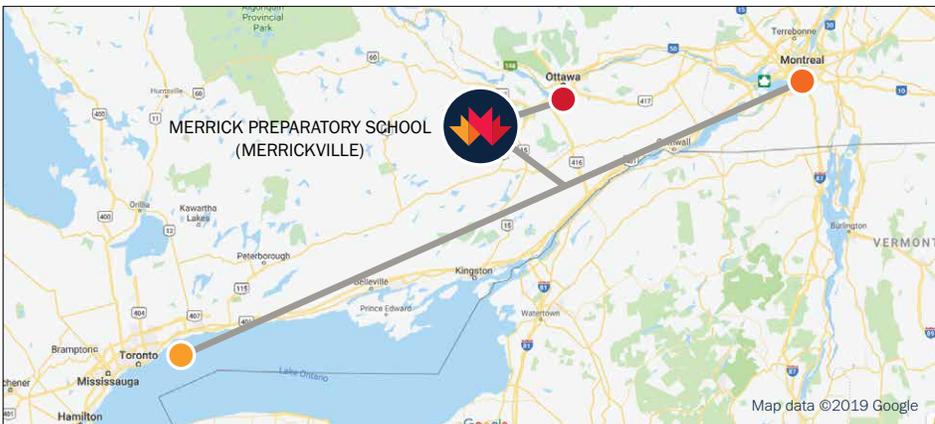
Through challenge, adversity and in overcoming, our students develop self-confidence, resilience and independence; and from this the courage to venture into the unknown.

**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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