

Proposed International Student Exchange Programme to Crofton House School, Vancouver, Canada

The main objective of the International Study Programme is to provide students in Year 9 with the opportunity to experience a culture and an education system that are quite different from CLSG. The experience will broaden their perspective on education, increase their awareness of international issues and build on the foundations laid through the delivery of the Global Perspective Course in PSCHE lessons.

It is also an opportunity to expand global connections, develop life-long friendships and to become a member of another community. Participation in the Programme will enable students to build their self-esteem, adapt to new situations and to challenge their way of thinking.

Background on Crofton House

Before Ms Harrop left CLSG to take up her new position as Head of Crofton House, she suggested that we plan on establishing another international exchange as soon as possible. We already have a popular exchange with Canada, with a school in Toronto, but this is often oversubscribed. We believe that by extending our offering to another school in Canada, we will be able to ensure that all pupils who are interested in taking part are able to do so.

It is clear that Crofton house would be an excellent match for an international exchange.

Just like CLSG, Crofton House is a high achieving girl's school with a very similar ethos to our own. A clear emphasis is placed on developing girls as courageous, creative and engaged global citizens.

Teachers and students value the all-girls environment and the impact that this has on learning and achievement. Girls are encouraged to be themselves, but also to take risks.

Crofton House has a 'Global Citizenship' programme that mirrors our own Global Perspectives course. This equips students to be critical and enterprising thinkers and to have the self-belief and strategies to solve global problems. Students are set up with a deep understanding of issues to do with human rights, diversity, wealth distribution and social inclusiveness. When they leave school they go on to facilitate lasting changes amongst their communities

In addition, just as at CLSG, girls participate in a range of activities that ensure life-balance including artistic, dramatic, musical, debating and community service pursuits.

We are confident that this school and the host family will provide an excellent environment from which our students can experience another culture.

Further information about the school is available on the school website <https://www.croftonhouse.ca/>

Other schools in the Crofton House International Student Exchange programme

Crofton house has four international exchanges with schools in Australia and New Zealand. We would be their first partner school in the UK

Proposed Dates for the Exchange:

CLSG to Crofton House College: October 2020

Crofton House to CLSG: March 2021

Selection Process

All Year 8 students will be eligible to apply for up to four places on the Programme (which will happen at the start of year 9). Not all applicants may be accepted, and the school reserves the right to refuse a student's participation.

We will be looking for positive, independent, flexible and confident students who will act as school Ambassadors and who will contribute to and participate in all aspects of the Programme. The ideal candidate will have a sound academic background, strong organisational skills, and will have already made a positive contribution to a wide range of activities at CLSG.

Candidates will be asked to write a letter explaining why a place on the Programme would be a valuable experience and what they can offer the host school and family. A panel of staff members will assess each application, taking into consideration previous knowledge of the student and information provided in the letter of application.

What is involved in the exchange?

In addition to the students accessing the prevailing Year 9 curriculum and co-curricular programmes at the exchange school, part of the exchange programme is offering hospitality to those students who come to CLSG/go to Crofton House. The hosting family in each School will need to agree to:

- bear the costs involved in hosting a foreign student
- communicate with foreign family and the visiting student before her arrival
- provide exchange student with the transfer from and to the airport on the day of their arrival and their return
- provide suitable accommodation for the visiting exchange student
- host parents are in loco parentis and as such follow all normal school procedures and protocols of CLSG/Crofton House
- provide transfers to and from school during the stay of visiting students
- take visiting student sightseeing in and around London/Auckland

Once a student has been on exchange, she will be asked to write a report on her experiences and she is expected to continue to demonstrate her interest in the exchange program; this includes meeting and greeting any exchange student who comes to CLSG. Such students will also be in a position to offer their experience to subsequent students who are selected to go on the programme.

Cost Implications

CLSG parents will continue to pay their daughter's school fees and the host school will not charge any fees. Parents will be responsible for arranging transport (passports, visas and insurance), paying for flights, and pocket money and travel money for any extensive excursions. Whilst no fees will be exchanged between the two schools there may be extras. The host school will alert parents to this.