

# West Point Grey Academy

Vancouver, Canada



*On an 18-acre Jericho Lands campus above English Bay, a compulsory third language meets a student-run Model UN conference.*

## RANKING DIMENSIONS

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Overall              | 63/100 |
| Academic outcomes    | 75/100 |
| University placement | 73/100 |
| Prestige & heritage  | 72/100 |
| Alumni network       | 0/100  |
| Facilities           | 73/100 |
| Transparency         | 68/100 |

## EDITOR'S VERDICT

An **18-acre** Jericho Lands campus above English Bay gives West Point Grey Academy a physical presence that few Vancouver day schools can match, but the more telling point is how the school uses it. This is a JK-12 co-educational day school, founded in 1996, with an academic offer the school frames across Canadian, IB and American strands rather than a single-track identity. That breadth matters. Parents looking for a rigid, tradition-bound model will find a school that puts equal weight on design and engineering, outdoor education, athletics, visual and performing arts, global learning and student wellbeing. The compulsory third language and student-run Model UN conference sharpen that picture: this is a place for students who want their education to extend beyond the timetable and into *outward-*

facing\*, organised, articulate activity.

The school’s market position sits in the premium Vancouver independent bracket. At an average annual day fee of \*\*CAD 31,710\*\*, it is expensive, and it knows the families it is serving. The value proposition rests less on raw exclusivity than on range: junior kindergarten to Grade 12 on one campus, university and career counselling, academic support services, personal counselling, Indigenous education, climate and sustainability work, and a first responders programme that gives the school a point of difference from standard university-preparatory rivals. Accreditation from the IBO and CIS adds external credibility. Recent destinations listed here — Bishop’s University, the British Columbia Institute of Technology and Brock University — are modest and sparse, so parents hunting for a published conveyor belt to ultra-selective universities will not get that reassurance from the school’s public record. Outcome transparency is \*thin\*.

What puts WPGA on a shortlist is the combination of scale, programme breadth and a culture that reads as \*deliberately modern\* rather than merely fashionable. The school talks about character, social justice, environmental sustainability and emotional wellbeing, and those themes are backed by named structures rather than vague rhetoric. This suits students who are bright, busy and comfortable moving between academics, service, arts, sport and leadership. It also suits families who want a \*full-spectrum\* independent school without boarding and without a religious frame. It is less well suited to children who thrive in a narrowly exam-drilled environment or who want a school with a publicly documented record of elite admissions outcomes. West Point Grey Academy is strongest for engaged, socially confident students who will use the campus, the co-curricular menu and the school’s global outlook hard.

STRENGTHS

- Independent, coeducational JK-12 day school founded in 1996 on an 18-acre campus on Vancouver's Jericho Lands, offering a full continuum from early years to graduation.
- Delivers the British Columbia curriculum enriched with 20 Advanced Placement courses, with 95 percent of AP exam scores at 3 or higher.
- Maintains a relatively low average class size of around 22 students, supported by 4 personal counsellors and 3 dedicated university/career counsellors on staff.
- Broad co-curricular offering including 10 competitive sports and more than 60 clubs and service initiatives, from Model UN to robotics and community outreach.
- Notable historical link to public life: Justin Trudeau taught French and math at the school before entering politics, a fact documented in national media coverage.

TRADE - OFFS

- Tuition is substantial at CAD 33,300 for 2026-27, with a further CAD 4,500 annual surcharge for non-BC residents plus a one-time CAD 3,500 entrance fee.
- Day school only, with no boarding option, which can complicate logistics for relocating expat families without an existing local base or guardian arrangement.
- Single campus confined to Vancouver's west side means families must live locally; the school does not offer a residential or multi-city footprint.
- Admissions run to firm annual deadlines and popular entry grades close early, requiring families to plan applications well in advance rather than enrolling on short notice.

## ADMISSIONS

WPGA admits students from Junior Kindergarten through Grade 12, with entry available at multiple grade levels. The process requires an online application (CAD 350 fee, CAD 250 for reapplication), submission of report cards, a grade-specific assessment of numeracy, literacy and social skills, and a family interview for shortlisted candidates. A non-refundable CAD 3,500 entrance fee applies on offer, with a CAD 4,500 annual surcharge for non-BC residents. Application windows for popular entry years can close well before the school year begins, so early planning is advised; the school does not publish acceptance rates.

WTS RATING 

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