



The Southeast Kootenay School District
invites international high school students to have the “best time of their life” studying in one of the most beautiful parts of Canada!



Program Description – Our family-style program features high quality student care, great education programs and exciting, free activities including ski/snowboard, river rafting, dog-sledding and overnight trips to Calgary and to world-famous Banff National Park. Our small cities are safe, almost 100% English-speaking and are located only minutes away from excellent ski resorts.



Location – The Southeast Kootenay School District is located in the spectacular Canadian Rocky Mountains in the

Province of British Columbia and includes the cities of Cranbrook, Fernie and Sparwood. Our students fly into the Cranbrook International Airport from either Calgary or Vancouver. Calgary is our closest big city and is about a four hour drive from Cranbrook.

November, 2014

International Education Program



Each year, the Southeast Kootenay International Education Program hosts about 100 students aged 13 to 18, mainly from Mexico, Germany, Brazil and Japan.

Most students study with us for one semester (5 months) or one school year (10 months), but we also accept students for short term stays less than five months (usually 3 months). Most students who plan to graduate from high school here stay for at least two school years.

Our first semester runs from early September to late January and our second semester runs from early February to late June. We strongly encourage students to begin their studies in either September or February.

High School Courses

Canadian high school students start grades 10, 11 or 12 in September of the calendar year they turn 15, 16 or 17.

International high school students who are studying for one school year or less are not assigned to a grade level and may take any courses they need or would enjoy, as long as the courses are appropriate for their English ability and their academic background. However, we recommend that all international students include Mathematics and English in their course selection.

Students usually take four courses in one semester and a different four courses in their next semester, but if necessary, a fifth course can be arranged.

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Beginner ESL students are encouraged to take 3 hours of ESL classes each week. ESL classes cost \$600 per semester and are only available in Cranbrook and not in Fernie or Sparwood.

Twice each year, international students visit elementary schools to share their country and culture with grade 4 students.



City of Cranbrook



The City of Cranbrook (population 25,000) is the most important city in our region, servicing a surrounding population of about 45,000. It offers most of the services found in much larger cities including: an international airport, shopping malls, block stores, city buses, movie theatres, a performing arts theatre, a new 4,500 seat ice hockey arena and excellent recreation facilities.



Ski and Snowboard Bus

Students in Cranbrook ski and snowboard at the excellent Kimberley Alpine Resort, www.skikimberley.com, which is a 25 minute drive from the city. To make the trip as easy as possible, we run a special ski bus from Cranbrook to and from the ski hill on most weekend and vacation days during the ski season.



Cranbrook is located at the foot of the Canadian Rocky Mountains. Residents of the city enjoy outstanding outdoor recreation opportunities such as ski and snowboard, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, hiking, camping, fishing and boating.



I'll miss Cranbrook forever, it's one of the best places I've ever been. I have a special place for it in my heart, the people I met, the places I've been... So beautiful! – Leticia from Brazil



Mount Baker Secondary School, Cranbrook

Mount Baker Secondary School in Cranbrook has a population of 900 students and includes Grades 10 to 12. About 40 international students attend Mount Baker. The school is large enough to provide a wide variety of academic and elective courses, plus excellent sports, music and performing arts opportunities.

School sports include: soccer, American football, rugby, basketball, volleyball, ski and snowboard, baseball, badminton, mountain biking and golf.

Fine arts courses include: Music Composition and Technology, Concert and Jazz Band, Concert and Vocal Jazz Choir, Theatre Production, Theatre Performance, Drama Film & Television and Visual Arts & Media Technology.

The school day starts at 8:30 am and ends at 3:20 pm. Lunch time is a one hour break from 11:30 to 12:30.



I liked Cranbrook so much that I extended my stay for a second year! It was a great experience that made me who I am today. Thanks for everything!
– Tobi from Switzerland

Cranbrook Middle Schools

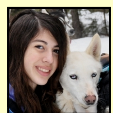


In Cranbrook, international students in Grades 7, 8, and 9 attend either Laurie Middle School (top left) or Parkland Middle School (bottom left). Which school a student attends depends on where their host family lives.

In our middle schools, the school year is linear and not broken into two semesters. This means that students take English, math, social studies, science and physical education for the full year, plus a variety of electives. Elective courses may include food studies, textiles, woodworking, metalwork, band, drama, computers and French.

A variety of school sports are offered including volleyball, basketball and soccer.

The school day starts at about 8:30 am and ends at about 3:10 pm. Lunch time is a 50 minute break from about 12:40 to 1:30.



I studied in Cranbrook at Parkland School and met some incredible people! I had the best year of my life and all I have to say is...Thank you for everything!
– Adriana from Mexico

Mount Baker Secondary School

Summary of Courses

Automotive Technology

Automotive Technology Level 1 & 2
Engine and Drive Train Level 3 & 4

Business Education

Business Computer Applications 11
Accounting 11/12
Marketing 12

Computer Studies

Modular Survey Course 11/12
Computer Information Systems 11/12

Drafting and Design

Drafting and Design Level 1 & 2
Drafting & Design - Advanced Design
Engineering Graphics

Electronics

Electronics Level 1, 2 & 3
Robotics Level 1 & 2

English

English Dynamics 10
English 10/11/12
Communications 11/12
Writing 12
English Literature and Composition 12
Philosophy 12

Fine Arts

Visual Arts Level 1, 2 & 3
Studio Arts 12: Advanced
Photography 11/12
Visual Arts: Media Arts 11/12

Foods and Family Studies

Food Studies 11/12
Family Studies 12

French Immersion

Science Humaines Immersion 10/11
Francais Langue Seconde Immersion
10/11/12

Mathematics

Apprenticeship & Workplace Math 10
Foundations of Math and
Pre-Calculus 10
Apprenticeship & Workplace Math 11
Foundations of Math 11
Pre-Calculus 11
Apprenticeship & Workplace Math 12
Pre-Calculus 12
Pre-Calculus 12 and
Calculus 12 (combined)

Metalwork

Metal Fabrication 10/11/12
Metal Art Level 1

Music

Concert Band 10/11/12
Jazz Band 11/12
Concert Choir 10/11/12
Vocal Jazz 11/12
Music Composition & Tech. 11/12

Physical Education

Physical Education 10/11/12
Girls in Motion 11/12
Strength & Conditioning 11/12
Human Performance/Coaching 11
Outdoor Skills 11/12

Science

Science 10
Science and Technology 11
Biology 11/12
Sustainable Resources 11
Sustainable Resources: Forestry 12
Chemistry 11/12
Physics 11/12
Astronomy 11

Second Languages

French 10/11/12
Introductory Spanish 11
Spanish 11/12

Social Sciences

Social Studies 10/11
BC First Nations Studies 12
Comparative Civilizations 12
History 12
Geography 12
Law 12
Psychology 11/12



Theatre

Drama 10
Theatre Performance 11/12: Acting
Theatre Performance 11/12:
Directing and Script Development
Theatre Production 11
Theatre Production 12: Technical Thtr
Theatre Production 12: Theatre Mgmt
Drama, Film and Television 11/12

Woodworking

Woodworking Level 1, 2 & 3
Girls Extreme Makeover 11



City of Fernie

The City of Fernie (population 5,500) is located in the heart of the Canadian Rocky Mountains and is famous for its Fernie Alpine Resort, www.skifernie.com, which is rated by Outdoor Magazine as the second best ski resort in Canada.

Fernie has a beautiful, historic downtown area, a modern swimming pool, an ice hockey arena and trendy restaurants, coffee shops and stores.

Fernie is a popular destination for international students because of its outstanding ski and snowboard opportunities. Before applying, prospective students should first contact the international program to ensure that space is still available.



I stayed in Fernie for 10 months and seriously it seemed like 10 weeks! I miss everything sooo much!!! All the good friends, the snow, skiing, my host family. Everything! – Laura from Brazil



Downtown Fernie with the Fernie Alpine Resort in the background.

Fernie Secondary School



Fernie Secondary School has a population of 400 students in Grades 7 to 12. About 12 international students attend Fernie Secondary.

School sports include: soccer, basketball, volleyball, ski/snowboard, golf, cross-country running and track.

Fine arts courses include: Band, Guitar, Theatre Performance, Studio Arts, Media Arts and Photography.

Electives include: Calculus, French, Information Technology, Accounting, Business Education, Law, Earth Science, Geology, Food Studies, Textile Studies, Cook Training and more.



City of Sparwood



The City of Sparwood has a population of 4,500. It's mining heritage is showcased through mural displays and by the famous Terex Titan, the world's largest dump truck.

Sparwood is only a 25 minute drive from Fernie and the Fernie Alpine Resort. The city boasts a first class leisure centre which includes a swimming pool, curling rink, racquetball court and hockey rink. In the mountains around Sparwood, there are excellent outdoor recreation opportunities.



It's been 3 years now that I went to Sparwood. Those months have been the best of my life so far! I just fell in love with Canada! - Alina from Germany

Sparwood Secondary School

Sparwood Secondary School is a brand new school opened in September, 2008. It's population is 350 students in grades 7 to 12. Each year, the school hosts between 2 and 5 international students. The school features state-of-the-art information technology systems, fully equipped science labs, metal and woodworking shops, and a modern library and gymnasium.

The school offers all the core academic subjects plus a variety of electives such as drafting & design, carpentry, information technology, food studies, concert band and many more. School sports include basketball, volleyball, ski/snowboard, track, cross-country running, golf and badminton.

International students who choose Sparwood are looking for a school that doesn't have many other international students.



Great Activities!

A highlight of our international education program is our exciting activities that are included in our tuition fees. Students enjoy river rafting, dog sledding, hot spring visits, winter sleigh rides, canoeing, hiking, and overnight trips to Calgary and world-famous Banff National Park, Canada's number one tourist attraction.

We invite you to check out our Facebook page for photos of the latest activities our students have enjoyed!

www.facebook.com/Southeast.Kootenay





Mexican students in the snow at Fairmont Hot Springs.



Lake Louise, Banff National Park

Ski and Snowboard



German student at Polar Peak, Fernie Alpine Resort

Ski and snowboard are very popular sports with our international students! There are two excellent ski resorts in our area. The most famous is the Fernie Alpine Resort, www.skifernie.com, which is located only 5 minutes from Fernie, and is rated as the second best ski resort in Canada. However, the Kimberley Alpine Resort, www.skikimberley.com, located about 25 minutes from Cranbrook, is also outstanding! We offer special ski buses on most weekend and holiday days during the ski season to make it very easy for our Cranbrook students to get to the Kimberley ski hill.

The ski season runs from early December to mid April. Most students who plan to ski more than 11 or 12 times purchase a youth season ski pass in early June to get the cheapest price. A ski pass for the Kimberley Alpine Resort costs about \$450 and for Fernie costs about \$600.



Homestays

We are very proud of the high level of care that our host families provide for our students! We love to see the many life-long friendships that develop and the amazing number of students who return “home” for visits!

Most of our staff host students in their own homes, which helps them to better understand the needs of students and to provide helpful advice to other host families.

Each of our three small cities has its own homestay coordinator who develops a close relationship with their group of students and host families. We manage our own homestay program and ensure that all host families undergo a criminal record check, attend an annual orientation session, and sign a host family agreement.



Cranbrook homestay coordinator, Ulli (right), with her own family and their two host students (centre), Alba from Germany and Constanza from Mexico.



Cranbrook homestay home.



Tamires from Brazil with her little Canadian host sister.

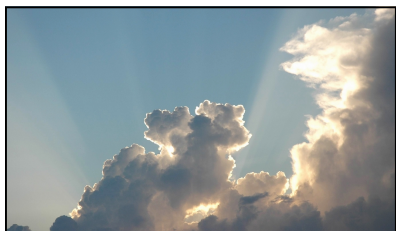


I had an amazing time in Canada. I learned sooo much, not just English, but things about life. My host parents were the best! I have no words to describe and thank them! – Camila from Brazil

Climate

Cranbrook is the sunniest city in the province of British Columbia! Our summers are dry, with an average temperature in July of 28°C.

Our winters are perfect for ski and snowboard! We are located on the warmer side of the Canadian Rocky Mountains, away from the very cold winters found in central Canada. In the winter months, our average high temperature is -1°C and our average low temperature is -6°C.



Student Comments



I can truly say that my semester in Canada was the best five months of my life so far and I feel as if there's a part of me still left in Cranbrook! – Alba from Germany



Best year of my life yet and forever! – Marvin from Germany



I actually can't believe how much my stay in Cranbrook changed my life and I miss my host family and all my friends so much!! If I could, I would live the whole year all over again! – Laura from Italy



For sure, my exchange in Cranbrook was the best experience ever had in my life! I'm not exaggerating! It's so true, I brought my Canadian host brother to Brazil to stay for a month. – Bernardo from Brazil

“The value of international education is measured in hugs and tears when it's time to say good bye!”

– Scott Holt, Principal, Parkland Middle school



Agent Contact Information:



**SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY
INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION**