



Arbutus

Welcome to our amazing global middle school for students in Grades 6 - 8!

Greater Victoria School District (#61)

Academic Excellence
Ecole Arbutus Global Middle School is a dual track school of choice for global education, one of the first schools in the province to offer global education, environmental awareness, and social responsibility as enrichment opportunities for all students. Our school strives to empower students with 21st century skills in order to prepare them to be responsible global citizens for the future.

Fine Arts Programs
All students participate in music and art exploratory classes. More than 67% of our students participate in one or more of our fine arts programs. Many outstanding middle school musicians in our community chose to come to Arbutus due to the high quality of our fine arts programs.



Athletic Programs
Since NBA star Steve Nash is a former Arbutus student, you can imagine the high focus on athletics in our middle school! Students have the chance to join cross country, soccer, basketball, swimming, volleyball, field hockey and track. We also offer workout times in our weight room along with intramural programs at lunch. Students have regular PE programs throughout the week. Every student has the opportunity to participate in daily physical activity.

Enrichment Programs
Every student participates in curricular enrichment activities through our school-wide focus on global education and environmental awareness. Enrichment programs are also offered to students who have been designated as gifted; these students participate in mathematics competitions, marketing and entrepreneurship, public speaking, and climate change analysis.

Learning Support
We offer two formats for supporting our students who require additional academic support. Students may come to a drop-in resource room support program to give them additional help with studies. Students can also receive additional instruction in reading comprehension, writing and math with our Learning Support teacher.

English as a Second Language Support
12% of our students are eligible for English as a Second Language Support. We also have International students who have moved here from Brazil, Korea, Mexico and China to attend Arbutus. We offer our students who are learning English extra support to improve their oral language skills, reading comprehension and written output in English.

Connecting with students...

As with all Greater Victoria School District schools, Arbutus Global Middle School follows the exemplary middle school model. This model means that each student has an **advisory teacher**. The advisory teacher sees your child at the beginning of each day during the Advisory Block. The advisory teacher also teaches your child in key subject areas, coordinates support for your child if necessary and oversees the writing of your child's report card. The connection between students and their advisory teacher forms the foundation for our middle school model. If parents ever have questions about their child's progress, they would contact their child's advisory teacher. If the advisory teacher sees a problem arising, the teacher will contact the parents immediately. Communication between home and school is an important strength of our school. As well as an advisory teacher, your child will also have subject area teachers, depending on your child's grade and needs. The advisory teacher and the subject area teachers form your child's learning team to give your child a strong academic program. Teachers meet together in weekly blocks to plan programs and activities for the team, discuss any concerns about specific students and address issues that may arise.

Exploring...

Every Arbutus student participates in **Exploratory Programs**. At Arbutus, these programs are offered through six week rotating blocks focusing on Art (global art drawing and painting), Music Exploration, Technology Education (wood working), Home Economics (international cooking and sewing) and Drama. In some grades, students also participate in an Outdoor Education Program. Middle school students have the opportunity to explore different areas of focus so that they have a clearer idea of what they want to choose as electives when they progress to secondary school.

Imagining...

'Ecole Arbutus Global Middle School gives students the chance to try a variety of programs, teams and clubs to find out what strengths and interests they have during the year. Every student who comes out for the team plays on the team; there are no try-outs at the middle school level. This is the time to try playing on a school team, check out different clubs, take part in a school fund-raising project or participate in our monthly school-wide assemblies. Check out our different teams and clubs:

Teams	Clubs	Lunch Time Activities
Cross Country	Global Leadership	Library
Soccer	Environmental Leadership	Games Room in Cafeteria
Basketball	Athletic Leadership	Intramural games
Swimming	Media Team	Computer Lab
Volleyball	Clay Club	Outside Play
Field Hockey	Lego Robotics Club	Air Band Competitions
Track and Field	Dance Club	Rock Band Competitions

Playing...

Our Fine Arts Program is amazing at Arbutus! We have a wide-range of programs that students can join at the beginning of the school year:

Band:	Strings:	Jazz Band	Choir
Grade 6 Band	Junior Strings	Avalanche Jazz Band	Gr. 6 - 8 Choir
Grade 7 Band	Intermediate Strings	Summit Jazz Band	
Grade 8 Band	Summit Strings		

French Immersion Programs

'Ecole Arbutus Global Middle School has two French Immersion programs. We have **Late French Immersion** for those students who have been in an English program for K - 5 and wish to begin a Late French Immersion program starting in Grade 6. We also have **Early French Immersion** for students who have participated in French Immersion since Kindergarten. We have a French Immersion library and classroom resources to support our French Immersion students.