DELTA
SCHOOL DISTRICT INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Delta Summer Programs 2023! REVISED 03/03/23

Thank you for your interest in summer programs in Delta! We are making plans so that students find their time with us both educational and enjoyable. This handout should answer some of the main questions you might have – but if it does not please feel free to email us at study@GoDelta.ca.

Last year we experimented with a new summer program format that proved to be highly popular with our students and also created a much better learning, social and homestay environment for them. Therefore, we will continue with this new format. This format also allows us to better meet any healt/COVID recommendations which may be instituted before or during the program.

We recommend that students who are fully COVID vaccinated (2 doses of Pfizer, Moderna, Astra-Zeneca, Sinopharm, Sinovac, Covaxin or one dose of Johnson & Johnson).

Program #1 – July 3rd (Arrival at YVR) to July 22nd (Departure from YVR) 2023

Week 1 and 2: All day English classes (9am – 3pm)
Week 3: Morning English classes and afternoon sightseeing activities (9am – 4:30pm)

Classes run from July 4th to July 21st inclusive. July 3rd is a statutory holiday. No classes will be held that day.

Program #2 – August 6th or 7th (Arrival at YVR) to August 26th (Departure from YVR – unless staying for an academic program in September)

Week 1 and 2: All day English classes (9am – 3pm)
Week 3 : Morning English classes and afternoon sightseeing activities (9am – 4:30pm)

Classes run from August 8th to August 25th. August 7th is a statutory holiday. No classes will be held that day.

Updated April 25, 2023

Age of Participation

Again, due to current and potential travel restrictions, quarantine protocols and vaccination requirements, students must be completely vaccinated for COVID-19 with one of the vaccines listed above.

We can currently only offer this program to those age 10 and older. There are some program options for students under the age of 10 coming with parents for the July program.

Please contact study@GoDelta.ca for summer options for students younger than 10 (July only).

When should my child arrive in Canada?

The dates on the application form INCLUDES arrival and departure dates. For example, the application indicates that Program #1 starts on July 3rd, 2023. This means that students should **ARRIVE** on July 3rd (not before). Unless students are with their parents or with a private custodian and in private homestay, these arrival and departure times are firm and set. The first day of classes is always the day AFTER the arrival date. Classes for Program #1 would start on July 4th, 2023. We cannot accommodate exceptions to these arrival and departure dates.

Who will pick them up at the airport?

For students staying in homestay, students are picked up by the homestay at the airport.

For some groups (20 or more) students MAY be picked up at the airport and brought to a central location for an orientation and pick up by homestay. This can be arranged. Cost will depend on number of students, etc. Please contact ksymonds@GoDelta.ca for group arrangements.

Students in a private homestay situation should be picked up at the airport by their private homestay or private custodian. For students arriving and staying with parents, parents are responsible for their transportation and living arrangements while in Canada. We do not offer homestay for parents.

How do they get to school?

Homestays will typically take students to school and pick them up.

In some cases, if it is appropriate for the age, confidence level, and language level of the student, students may walk if their homestay is close to the school and once the homestay is confident they know where they are going. Elementary aged students will either be driven or will have an adult or older teenager walk with them.

Some students with homestays in Tsawwassen, if attending Delta Seconary or Delta Manor, may take the bus, again only if age and language appropriate.

What is provided at school?

Students are provided with all the necessary school supplies as part of the program. Students will bring a lunch that is provided by their homestay family if in a Delta homestay. Hot water and microwaves are provided. Students need to bring their own cutlery for lunch.

Students are NOT allowed to leave the school grounds at lunch time or breaks to buy food or for any other reason.

What happens on the first day of classes?

On the first day of classes, students will be escorted to a central location for a welcome, English assessment and orientation by the site Vice Principal. They will be versed on COVID health and safety protocols that are in existence at the time of arrival. Students are placed in the appropriate class by age and ability. First day of classes is July 4th for the July program and August 8th for the August program.

Remember – the program dates as outlined in the application form and page one of this document INCLUDE the arrival date and departure date. Please arrange arrivals for July 3rd or August 6th or 7th and departures for July 22nd or August 26th.

Who are the teachers?

All of the teachers are BC certified teachers, most of whom work in the Delta School District at our elementary and high schools.

Activity supervisors are experienced teachers, school support staff from Delta and neighbouring districts. Whenever possible, the sightseeing activities will be supervised by Delta International Programs' Staff.

What do they learn?

The emphasis is English language learning – a combination of reading, writing, speaking and listening. But don't worry! It isn't going to be boring! With a variety of activities and lots of interaction, students will be kept engaged daily. Teaching will centre around a theme that will provide students with an anchor for meaningful English learning and deep thought. Although this is 'summer camp' we do have high expectations of our teachers regarding the quality of what they provide.

Who are the students?

This is ESL programming. For students, English is a second (or third or fourth language). There may be some Canadian ESL students, as well as students from other countries – typically China, Japan, Korea, Germany, Mexico, Thailand, Brazil, Vietnam, Italy and others. The exact mix varies from year to year and program to program. We do our best to ensure a diverse and inclusive program.

What are the sightseeing activities?

Sightseeing activities will be determined closer to program start time based on number of students and availability. Last year activities included a visit to Stanley Park and the Aquarium, going to Granville Island and Lynn Canyon Park, Laser Tag, boating on Deer Lake and a visit to the iconic Tim Horton's donut shop to experience 'Canadian Culture'. Guest speakers may also be invited to schools during the first two weeks to enhance students learning, understanding and enjoyment of a topic.

What supports do students receive?

Students are supported in a variety of ways.

- District homestay and custodial support (if they have district homestay and custodian)
- Site Vice-Principals and/or Lead Teachers on site through class time
- Multicultural staff – Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish and Vietnamese
- District administration and administrative staff
- Amazing, caring teachers and activity supervisors

What do students receive at the end of the program?

All students receive a report card reflecting their progress during the program as well as a certificate.

What do students do after school time and on weekends?

Some of the best learning there is! Students spend time with their host family doing what Canadian families would typically do on weekends. Please note that although we expect host families to actively engage students, they are not tour guides. Students will get to experience real Canadian life – they may see some sites, go to the beach, have a BBQ in the backyard, go for a hike or whatever else their homestay may have happening. This past year, many students enjoyed heading to downtown Vancouver, going to the Beach in Tsawwassen and going to Tsawwassen Mills Mall among other activities.

What should they pack?

Summers in the Vancouver area are mild, but it can rain; it is a coastal climate and evenings can be chilly. Students should be prepared for a variety of temperatures and activities and should bring shorts, t-shirts, pants, and sweatshirts in case of a chilly evening. Students should have practical and comfortable footwear as well as activewear like bathing suits. Canadian schools and sites tend to be very casual, but students might want to have one item of 'nicer' clothes in case they go out with a homestay to a restaurant or a family event. In terms of personal hygiene, students should pack toiletries such as shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrush and sunscreen.

Please note that students may have to wear masks in school, on the school bus to activities and at activity sites that are not outdoors. Students are responsible for bringing their own masks. Students should also bring their vaccination records as they will be asked to produce them in many public places in Canada.

How much spending money should they bring?

Spending habits depend on the age and preference of the student. That being said, no more than $100 per week should be necessary.

When should students plan to depart?

The last day of the program is the day that students need to return home. Program #1 ends on July 22nd so that is the day that flights home should be arranged. Flights home should be arranged for Program #2 on August 26th. That being said, Program #2 is an excellent "soft landing" option for students starting school in Delta in September or a great option for returning students in Grade 8 through 10 who need to improve their English skills.

Students who are joining a regular school program in September are welcome to join Program #2. We will do our best to place students in the same host family as they will be in for the school year.

What is the cancellation policy?

Students whose visa is rejected will receive a full refund (except for the application fee and homestay placement fee).

Students may withdraw before they attend and receive a 66% refund.

Once students have arrived in the country they cannot receive a refund, even for future weeks.

If the program needs to be cancelled by the School District, all funds will be reimbursed.

Who do I contact if I have any questions or concerns?

Please contact the director of International Student Program, Karen Symonds, with any questions or concerns.

KSymonds@GoDelta.ca

1-604-396-6862