

David and Mary Thomson Collegiate Institute

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GRADE RANGE: 9 to 12

Interesting Feature

Specialist High Skills Majors

Thomson offers Specialist High Skills Majors in Information and Communication Technology and also in Health and Wellness. SHSM enable senior students to enrich their studies and gives opportunity to expand their learning experiences and certifications. Each student who completes the SHSM will be given special accreditation on their OSSD diploma when they graduate. Thomson also has Dual Credit opportunities with colleges that allow students to receive a college credit while still in high school.

Sine Magno Nil Labore (Nothing worthwhile is accomplished without hard work)

David and Mary Thomson Collegiate Institute welcomed its first students in September, 1958. Since then, Thomson has maintained a reputation for academic excellence. The programs for Grades 9 to 12 are semestered to accommodate the program needs of all students. The school's population of approximately 1250 is ideal for teacher/student mentoring. In Grade 9, students receive special attention throughout the year in order to ensure a smooth transition to high school. Extensive use is made of peer leaders in Grade 9 classes, as well as PASS (Peer Assisted Student Success), and peer tutors.

Information and Communication Technology

Access to information and communication/computer technology is available in all areas through subject-specific and cross-curricular labs and is an essential component across the curriculum. Thomson innovatively uses Moodle, Wikis, Blogs, e-learning courses, Promethian Boards and Smart

Boards to enhance the learning environment. To further promote student success and different learning styles, teachers utilize technology to provide a blended learning environment for students, including: live events, self-paced learning, collaboration, online assessment and performance support materials. Thomson is also one of eight TDSB e-Learning centres.





Athletics

Our athletics department is extremely active and enthusiastic with the focus on student participation. Each year there are over 40 varsity teams that compete in a variety of team and individual sports as well as intramural sports activities available to Thomson students.



Student Leadership

Students can choose from a wide range of leadership opportunities and can earn a Leadership certificate. One example is PASS (Peers Assisted Student Success). PASS is both a grade 9 transition program and a senior leadership course. Senior students enhance their leadership skills by "linking" with grade 9 students, providing them with a smooth transition to Thomson.



Professional Learning Teams

Thomson staff is actively working as a Professional Learning Team to improve curriculum delivery and student success. Thomson's PLTs work towards achieving our school's vision: "Thomson is a student-centred, collaborative learning community that embodies equity and mutual respect in the pursuit of personal excellence".



The Thomson Experience

Thomson offers students the opportunity to experience a rich variety of program choices. Our goal is to encourage students to become successful productive citizens through experiences in all facets of the curriculum. Students are encouraged to develop leadership skills through participation in clubs, activities, and school-wide committees and initiatives.



Additional Features

- Specialist High Skills Major
- Athletics
- Professional Learning Teams
- Information & Communication Tech
- Student Leadership
- The Thomson Experience



Student Life - Where You Belong

Thomson is a very active place . There is something for each and every student, from athletics, to clubs, student leadership and school wide initiatives, including:

- SAC - Thomson Student Activity Council;
- Future Aces - a school wide initiative;
- Volunteer Ambassadors;
- a Homework Club facilitated by a group of dedicated senior students and teachers;
- Peer Mediation;
- Thomson Prefects;
- GSA - Gay Straight Alliance - a group that provides positive, safe and inclusive environment for all at Thomson;
- START - Students@ Thomson Assisting in Research and Technology assisting students and teachers with research using the school library;
- TAC - Thomson Athletic Council; Muslim Students Association;
- STATIS- Students Taking Action in Society, a student run organization that focuses on social justice and making changes around the world and in our community;
- ACE - African Caribbean Empowerment;
- SISTA - Sisters Assisting Sisters To Achieve both focusing on student leadership and engagement.

Our school is home to more than 90 nationalities, which gives students the opportunity to interact with people of different cultures and backgrounds on a daily basis.



What Sets Us Apart

Thomson is an innovative school with staff that are willing to take on pilot projects and initiatives for the TDSB as well as developing our own programs in response to the interest and needs of our students and community.

- **e-Learning:** Thomson was the first school in the TDSB to offer Ministry e-Learning courses. These on-line courses give students learning opportunities and flexibility.

- **Partnership with Community Colleges** to offer **Dual Credit programs:** Thomson has partnered with Centennial, George Brown, and Humber Colleges to enable students to take a college level course while still in secondary school and to give students exposure to post-secondary life.

- **Specialist High Skills Majors:** Thomson offers a Health and Wellness SHSM and an Information Communication Technology SHSM. These programs allow students to explore career opportunities and give additional certification and a special notation on their graduation diploma, the OSSD.

- **TREC Thomson Respect, Empathy and Courtesy:** Developed to create a caring and supportive environment.





Parent and Community Engagement

Thomson strives to reach out to our parents and community members. Here is a list of our most recent involvements and initiatives:



- Centennial College First Generation Program;
- Scarborough Basketball Association;
- SEPT (Settlement and Education Partnerships in Toronto);
- Newcomer Services for Youth;
- Future Aces;
- Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interview Evenings;
- Parents are encouraged to become active members of Thomson's School Council;
- Parent/Guardian Information Evenings designed to encourage a partnership between school and home for student success;
- ESL Newcomer Parent Evenings, hosted by our Community Outreach Professional Learning Community to foster an understanding of the Ontario educational system and to facilitate student success.



TDSB - Better Schools. Brighter Futures

Imagine a TDSB where all schools share a common core set of characteristics. They are community-driven and focused on teaching and learning. Students and parents have a wide variety of opportunities and there are enough students in every school to increase program choices.

Imagine there is a clear focus on achieving student success and every student is engaged, has a voice, access to a caring adult and the opportunity to develop their full potential.

Here at the TDSB our focus is on student achievement, parent and community engagement and financial stability.



Contact Information

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