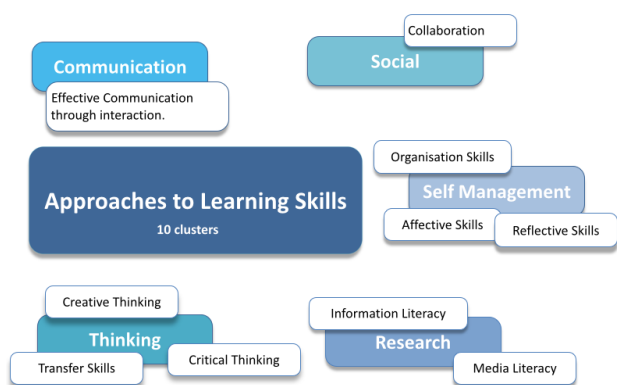


## Approaches to Learning

In order to meet with success, regardless of educational experience, students must “learn how to learn.” Approaches to Learning (ATL) skill categories are designed to offer this opportunity.

Defined in five categories and ten clusters:



The ATL's support students in developing the skills needed to be life-long learners. ATL's are not expected to be mastered immediately, rather to be developed over time through authentic engagement, peer and teacher feedback, self-reflection, and multiple opportunities for exposure. ATL's provide St. James C.G.L.C. with knowledge on how they learn best. This allows pupils to make wiser decisions regarding academia and to understand areas of challenge. Goal setting stems from this knowledge, with authentic conversation about self-improvement, and the necessary actions required to achieve such.

## Learner Profile

The cornerstone of the IB Programmes at all levels is the **Learner Profile**. These traits were carefully selected to encourage the development of internationally minded people who, recognize their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet to create a better and more peaceful world.



St. James Catholic Global Learning Centre strives to offer opportunities for students to be authentic **inquirers, thinkers, communicators** and **risk-takers**. Students are excited to grow in and share **knowledge**, to act in a **principled** manner, and to show a sense of **care** and **open-mindedness** in all interactions. A plethora of intra- and extra-curricular activities are available, encouraging a **balanced** lifestyle for both staff and students. **Reflective** practices occur in the classroom, on the court, and through consistent dialogue of the importance of reflecting and refining.

## St. James Catholic Global Learning Centre



98 Wanita Road  
Mississauga, ON  
L5G 1B8

[www.dpcdsb.org/IAMEE](http://www.dpcdsb.org/IAMEE)

T: (905) 891-7619

F: (905) 278-6539

Kindergarten to Grade 5  
(Primary Years)  
Year 1 to Year 3 (Middle Years)



We, the inclusive Catholic Community of St. James, are called and committed to cultivate an environment where all are inspired to grow spiritually, intellectually, emotionally and culturally. We encourage all to become compassionate life-long learners and active citizens of a diverse global community.



***Motto: Creative, Collaborative, Curious and Compassionate***

**Creative:**

*Being a divergent thinker, to demonstrate their learning.*

**Collaboration:**

*Being happy to cooperate and collaborate, lead and follow depending on the situation.*

**Curious:**

*Being curious about learning, the world, its people and cultures.*

**Compassion:**

*Being understanding and empathetic to others around you. Demonstrating Christ's message of love and open-mindedness about the opinions of others around.*

## **Primary Years Programme**

The Primary Years Programme (PYP) is the first stage of the International Baccalaureate programme. It is for students aged 3 to 11 and focuses on the development of the whole child, not only in the classroom but also in the world outside through other environments where children learn. It offers a framework that meets children's several needs: academic, social, physical, emotional and cultural.

The PYP curriculum is centered around six Units of Inquiry at each grade level. In order to offer a balanced programme of units at each grade level, the PYP has identified six transdisciplinary themes representing significant knowledge areas.

The themes are: **Who We Are**, **Where We Are in Place and Time**, **How We Organize Ourselves**, **How the World Works**, **How We Express Ourselves**, **Sharing the Planet**.

## **Middle Years Programme**

The Middle Years Programme (MYP) is the second stage of the International Baccalaureate continuum. It can be as short as two years in duration or as long as five years. St. James C.G.L.C. offers a three-year program beginning in Grade 6, named Year 1, and ending in Grade 8/Year 3.

The MYP is guided by the principle of creating an international mindedness in each of its pupils. Students are challenged to take risks in their learning and to develop and refine their higher-level thinking skills through

collaborative and independent initiatives. There are many facets to the MYP, with some similarities and differences to a traditional school. One notable difference for MYP Year 1 -3 is the full rotary system. Students interact with four to six teachers per day, who are specially trained in their subject discipline.



While specialization may differ, what remains consistent is the rigorous program offered in each classroom. Regardless of the facilitator, rich learning experiences commence, meaningful and self-directed and/or teacher guided inquiries unfold.

MYP classrooms at St. James C.G.L.C. hold the students at their center. In this environment, students are not the recipients of knowledge, they are the researchers and the meaning makers. They have a voice in the learning and choice in how they attain, display and share findings. Students are empowered to solve their own problems, to challenge singular solutions and to become comfortable working independently and collaboratively. Twenty-first century skill attainment is at the forefront of all work – ensuring students have transferable skills to face any challenge to come hereafter.