



CSS EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM

BUILDING CHARACTER, SKILLS, AND LEADERSHIP – ONE RIDE AT A TIME

APPLICATION PACKAGE

- Please complete the following pages in full.
- Return to Mrs. Broekhuizen (room 3169) or the CSS office, before the end of course selection, in order to be considered for the program.

**Would you like to
earn graduation
credit while also
learning to ride?**

**Do you want to
spend course time
outside?
(...rain or shine!)**

**Do you prefer to
learn in a hands-on,
and personalized
manner?**

**Are you considering
a career with
horses or in
environmental
sciences?**

**CHILLIWACK
SECONDARY SCHOOL**

46363 Yale Rd. East
Chilliwack, BC V2P 2P8

css.sd33.bc.ca/equestrian-program
604-795-7295 (ext.3169)



Dear Applicant,

This program is for students entering grades 10, 11, or 12 and consists of 3 courses: **Equine Studies 10**, **Environmental Science 11**, and **Physical and Health Education 10 (or Active Living 11 or 12, for older students)**. We provide students with the opportunity to:

1. Connect to our community's important agricultural roots, by gaining competence and confidence within the complex and rewarding relationship that exists between a rider and a working horse. This will be facilitated by skilled & certified professionals from both the school and the barn.
2. Connect more closely with the local environment, by doing applied environmental science fieldwork.
3. Get your PHE 10 (or AL 11/12) credit by counting your horseback riding time, along with the other physical activities you are already doing in your week (dance, sports teams, hiking, walking your dog, etc.)
4. Students, if ready, may be offered the opportunity for Equine Canada Rider Level Testing at the end of the program. This testing may earn them up to 2 external graduation credits, depending on the level earned.
5. Provide students with the opportunity to earn between 12-14 credits towards graduation!

Students will also benefit from learning in an applied and decidedly low-tech and low-stress outdoor environment during class time. We encourage personal wellness, practice goal setting, gain exposure/experience to equestrian sports, and reflect on our learning in meaningful ways. *(We also spend time on campus at CSS, where students will have access to technology for various assignments, including online course work for this program.)*

Note that **Equine Studies 10** will allow students to gain (or further) their knowledge in all areas of horsemanship, in a personalized way, depending on their initial level when entering the course. Along with covering the basics of riding, students will further develop their skills under the instruction of professional horse trainers/coaches. Students will be expected to demonstrate correct safety procedures while working with and around horses at all times, while acquiring & extending their knowledge of the following units of study:

- Barn Safety & Horse Handling
- Horse Psychology & Vision
- Horse Breeds, Colours Markings, & Anatomy
- Horse Grooming, Health, Care, & Nutrition
- Parts, Types, and Uses of Tack
- Saddling, Bridling, Lunging, Riding
- Maintaining a Detailed Riding Journal
- Equine Disciplines (sports)
- Equine Careers/Trades (farrier/leather worker/body work/massage/etc.)
- Special Project Portfolio (equine-related topic of choice).

If you would enjoy learning about horses & environmental science, are motivated, and have a strong work ethic, then the CSS Equestrian Program is for you! As well, you must demonstrate initiative (be a self-starter), have passed all of your current & pre-requisite courses, have demonstrated excellent regular daily attendance, and be capable of safe & independent work around the horses and barn. *(Note this is not a therapeutic riding program.)*

In order to be considered for the Equestrian Program, **you must complete this application package by the due date** (posted on our website css.sd33.bc.ca) **and submit it either in-person or by email to the teacher** (contact info below.) **Priority is given to CSS students**, then international students attending CSS, then all others after that. Note that *non-CSS students must be prepared to become full-time CSS students for semester 2 in order to make this program work with course scheduling*. It doesn't work with the mid-day "One Campus" busing from GWG, SSS, KSS, or IHSS (feel free to email for more information.)

Important Notes: There is a **\$500 program fee**, but it can be broken up and paid in monthly installments throughout the school year. It contributes toward the cost of all of our lesson fees and busing costs, which are significant and highly subsidized by CSS. Each rider is also responsible for acquiring a Horse Council BC youth membership (approx.\$55), and needs to have a pair of boots with at least a ¾ inch heel (for safety in the stirrups.) *If cost is a concern/hardship, please don't let that prevent you from applying, we can often help.*

If you have any further questions regarding the program, please visit our website at css.sd33.bc.ca/equestrian-program or contact the CSS Equestrian Program teacher, Avril Broekhuizen, at avril_broekhuizen@sd33.bc.ca or 604-795-7295 (ext. 3169).

Please return this application package, completed IN FULL, to Mrs. Broekhuizen (room 3169), to the Chilliwack Secondary School Office, or by email to avril_broekhuizen@sd33.bc.ca by the application deadline, in order to be considered for the program.

Student Application Form - CSS Equestrian Program

Name: _____ Application Submission Date: _____

Address: _____
(Unit#) (House #) (Street) (City) (Province) (Postal Code)

Current Grade Level in School: _____ Current School (*circle one*): CSS GWG SSS Other

Student's email (*one you check!*): _____ (*please print clearly!*)

If you are an International Student:

Agent's name: _____ Agent's email: _____

Describe WHY you are applying for this program:

Describe some of your strengths:

Describe your future plans (post-secondary, and/or career goals):

Describe an example of a time when you had to work in a self-directed (independent) way, and were successful in achieving your task/goal:

**Feel free to attach a page if you need more space.*

Parent Reference Form – CSS Equestrian Program

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian email address: _____

Please reply to the following regarding your child.

Question	YES - explain	NO - explain
- Would your child find this program motivating? - Are they very interested in horses and riding?		
- Will your child cope well with being outside 3 afternoons per week rain or shine ? <i>Note there is an indoor riding arena and meeting room, but it can be very cold/wet some days (esp. in February!)</i>		
- Will your child attend every day ? - Have they demonstrated this in their regular classes?		
- Is your child an independent worker ? <i>Some course components are off-timetable and done online. Students must also work independently at the barn.</i>		
- Does your child have any physical or learning challenges? - Do they have a CB-IEP (individualized learning plan) or a Safety Plan on file? - Do they have challenges that would prevent them from being safe and/or academically successful, in this program?		
- Is there anything else you would like us to know?		

**Feel free to attach a page if you need more space.*

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Counselor Reference Form – CSS Equestrian Program

I am sending all of my comments by email: avril_broekhuizen@sd33.bc.ca

Student Name: _____

Counsellor's Name: _____

Please consider the following before providing your reference:

- *Does this student have a **CB-IEP**? If so, does it identify challenges that may not make this program a good fit for the student's academic success and/or physical safety/well-being?*
- *Does this student have a Safety Plan on file?*
- *Would this student find this program motivating?*
- *Have they demonstrated reliable attendance in their other classes (**missing less than 10% of classes**)?*
- *Is he/she very interested in horses and riding? Do they have prior experience?*
- *Will he/she cope well with being outside 3 days/week - rain or shine?*
- *Is this student **capable of independent study & task completion** (some course components are delivered off-timetable & online, these are to be completed in a self-directed way. Barn tasks are assigned & must be completed without constant reminders/direction.)*
- *Do you have any other concerns regarding this student's suitability for the program?*

Counselor Comments:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Teacher Reference Form – CSS Equestrian Program

I am sending my ratings/comments by email to: avril_broekhuizen@sd33.bc.ca

Student Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____ Subject/Grade Taught: _____

Please rate this student's academic performance in comparison to his/her peers:

___superior ___good ___average ___poor

Please rate this student's overall work ethic in comparison to his/her peers.

___superior ___good ___average ___poor

On a scale of 1(lowest) to 5(highest), rate the student on the following:

_____self-discipline	_____cooperation	_____trustworthiness
_____ability to follow instruction	_____reliability	_____perseverance
_____initiative	_____academic ability	_____integrity

In this program students get credit for:

- **Environmental Science 11** (academically rigorous, on-timetable)
- **Equine Studies 10** (elective credit, on-timetable, physical work, must work safely, take direction well)
- **PHE 10 or Active Living 11** (physical literacy, off-timetable & contains numerous components that are completed independently online)

Keeping the rigor of these courses in mind, please add any information you would like us to consider when evaluating this student's application for the CSS Equestrian Program. (Or send by email avril_broekhuizen@sd33.bc.ca)

Signature: _____

Date: _____