

Welcome to Elora Road Christian School!

ERCS is a Christian Elementary School for children in Junior Kindergarten through Grade 8. The vision of ERCS is that each student will reach their full God-given potential. This vision is enacted through our mission to Educate, Equip, and Empower our students.

EDUCATE:

We provide an excellent God-centered education that strives to meet the individual academic needs of our students so they are prepared to succeed when they graduate.

EQUIP:

We focus on cultivating Christ-like character in each of our students so they can reach their full potential. We also provide many opportunities for personal growth and development through involvement in our extra-curricular arts and athletic programs.

EMPOWER:

We want our students to make a positive impact on the world, whatever their sphere of influence may be. Our students are empowered to use the unique gifts God has given them to respond with love to the world around them, and to serve others as taught by Christ.

There are 4 steps to our admission process:

1. School tour & Information Session (school tours are currently unavailable. Information session will take place during meeting with principal)
2. Meeting with the Principal (can occur by phone or Zoom)
3. Entrance test to determine academic level
4. Registration package & \$100 Registration fee (increases to \$150 after May 1st)

We look forward to welcoming your family to Elora Road Christian School. If you have any questions about ERCS and our application procedure, please feel free to contact us and we would be happy to assist you.

Elora Road Christian School Core Values

*Imitate God therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children.
Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ.
Ephesians 5:1-2*

1. ACT RESPECTFULLY

Be respectful toward all people and property. Choose kind words and actions that honour others.

*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you,
so you must love one another.
John 13:34*

2. ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY

Take ownership of your responsibilities. Work hard and complete tasks with a good attitude.

*And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the
Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
Colossians 3:17*

3. PURSUE GROWTH

Consistently strive to be the best version of yourself in all areas of life.

*As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow,
so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.
Ephesians 4:16*

4. SERVE OTHERS

Look for opportunities to help and serve others.

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's
grace in its various forms.
1 Peter 4:10*

Life at Elora Road Christian School

This document reflects the activities that occurred at ERCS prior to the pandemic. Our intention is to return to as many of these activities as we can when COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

OUR SCHOOL

- ERCS is a member of Edvance Christian School Association, along with more than 80 Christian Elementary Schools and High Schools in Ontario.
- ERCS is the largest ministry of Elora Road Christian Fellowship and is therefore under the guidance and leadership of the church.
- Our student population is approximately 100 students. There are more than 50 families attending ERCS from 14 different local churches.
- JK and SK are available on a part-time (3 days/week) or full time basis. Days for part-time kindergartens are determined over the summer. New kindergarten students will be invited for a 2 hour school visit in June.
- We currently have 5 split-grade classes (JK/SK, 1/2, 3/4, 5/6, 7/8).
- We follow the Responsive Classroom educational approach which focuses on creating engaging academics, positive community, developmentally responsive teaching, and effective classroom management.
- Each grade has Bible classes and/or a devotional time every day where children learn Bible facts, scripture and life lessons. We pray and talk about God as it pertains to what is happening in our classes.
- Church attendance and Bible knowledge are not required to attend our school. Everyone is welcome.

- We have a single bus route that runs in Fergus and Elora. Extra fees apply.
- We welcome parent involvement in school life.
 - Our Parent Council meets monthly and plans fundraising and school community events such as the Fall BBQ and Free Family Swim.
 - All volunteers working with children complete our SOS Screening Program for the safety of our students.
- All ERCS students wear school uniforms. There are also Phys-ed uniforms for Grades 3-8. Uniforms are purchased from Premium Sportswear in Fergus.
- Our school runs on the balanced day schedule as shown below.

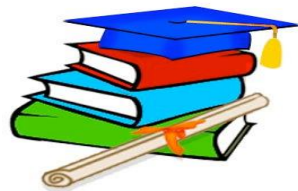
SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULE	
Time	Activity
8:50 am	Entry
9:00 am – 9:20 am	Morning Meeting
9:20 am – 10:50 am	Class Time
10:50 am – 11:30 am	Nutrition Break #1
11:35 am – 1:05 pm	Class Time
1:05 pm – 1:45 pm	Nutrition Break #2
1:50 pm – 3:20 pm	Class Time
3:20 pm – 3:30 pm	Closing Meeting
3:30 pm	Dismissal

STAFF

- Our staff includes 4 full-time teachers, 5 part-time teachers, 2 educational assistants, 1 part-time secretary and a full-time principal.
- All of our teachers have received their teaching certification from recognized educational institutions and participate in ongoing professional development.

ACADEMICS

- Ontario Ministry of Education Guidelines are met or exceeded at ERCS. We ensure our students are academically prepared for high school.
- Ontario Student Records (OSRs) are maintained, easing transitions between public and private schools.
- We use the Ontario curriculum as a guideline and supplement it with Christian curriculum (Abeka, Jump Math, Positive Action) and other teaching resources.
- French is taught beginning in Grade 1. Typing is taught beginning in Grade 3.
- We have a class set of Chromebooks that are used in every classroom to enhance our curriculum.
- Students in Grades 3-8 write a standardized test every other year and routinely score above average.
- We have IEPs in place for our special education students.
- We have an Individual Education Program for students that require regular one-on-one EA support. Extra fees apply.
- Parent volunteers run our library and students have the opportunity to visit it weekly.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

CAASO: We are part of the Christian Athletic Association of Southern Ontario (CAASO) and compete in different tournaments



throughout the year which may include: soccer, cross-country, volleyball, basketball, floor hockey, track & field, 3-pitch baseball.

SKATING DAYS: There are 4 skating days a year at the Fergus Sportsplex or Elora Arena. The students in Grades 4-8 have the opportunity to play hockey or ringette during their ice time.

PRIMARY PLAY DAY: Our primary grades have a play-day each spring. This usually involves spending time at an indoor play centre.

DOWNHILL SKI DAY: Students in Grades 5-8 participate in the Snow Education Program at Hockley Valley Resort.

STAFF VS. STUDENT VOLLEYBALL GAME: The ERCS Volleyball team plays a small volleyball tournament against the teachers following the CAASO tournament each year.

THE ARTS

ARTS ELECTIVE PERIOD: Students in Grades 1-4 participate in Choir each week. Students in Grades 5-8 have the opportunity to select an arts elective that may include Instrumental music, Drama and Guitar.



TALENT SHOW/ MUSICAL:

Each spring we have a talent show or a musical production that involves the entire student body.

ART DISPLAYS: Our student's artwork is displayed during our Information Sessions and Spring Performance.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: Each Christmas we produce a program that showcases our band, choir and art elective classes. This program also includes other musical performances.

PIANO LESSONS: Private piano lessons are available and happen during class time. Extra fees apply.

WORSHIP BAND: Students in Grades 4-8 can participate in a worship band that plays at our weekly Friday assemblies.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

THANKSGIVING LUNCH: The entire school dresses up as pioneers and farmers and enjoys a thanksgiving lunch together.

HOT DOG/PIZZA DAYS: 2 times a month our students are served pre-ordered hot lunches.



FRIDAY ASSEMBLIES: Every Friday the whole school meets together for a time of worship, prayer, and teaching. Parents and families are welcome to join us.

SPEECHES & POETRY: Our Grade JK-4 students recite a poem and Grade 5-8 students prepare and recite speeches to their classes.

MAD SCIENCE PROGRAM: Offered twice a year to Grade 1-6 students for an additional fee.

SCHOOL FAMILY BBQ: ERCS Parent Council hosts a BBQ for school families the second week of September. Parents have a chance to connect with teachers and meet other ERCS families. Fun activities make this a great time for kids too!

FREE FAMILY SWIM: Each February ERCS rents the Fergus Sportsplex pool so that our school families can have some fun together and swim for free.

GUELPH STORM GAME: Every year our students sing the national anthem at a Guelph Storm hockey game. Guelph Storm players also visit the school and lead a program for our students.

GRAD TRIP TO QUEBEC: Each spring the Grade 8's take a 5 day trip to Quebec City where they spend time exploring the city and surrounding area.



GRAD BANQUET: Our Grade 7 class, with help from their parents, host a sit-down meal and graduation ceremony for our graduating class.