



2024

2025

School

Year

Fraser Heights Secondary

Grade 8 Course Selection Book

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Grade 8 Courses at Fraser Heights

The courses offered at Fraser Heights follow the guidelines set out by the Ministry of Education and the Surrey School Board. The Grade 8 program consists of a combination of Core Courses, Explorations Courses along with Band 8. The Exploration courses have been developed to provide Grade 8 students with an opportunity to experience the wide range of elective courses that are available to students.

Please review this booklet carefully. If you have any questions, please speak to a school counsellor.

My Grade 8 Plan

Grade 8 Required Courses

Humanities 8
(English & Social Studies 8)

or

Humanities 8 Inquiry
(English & Social Studies 8)

Science 8

Science 8 Inquiry

Physical Health Education 8

French 8

or

French 8 Enhanced
(Must have been enrolled in Intensive French in Elementary School)

Math 8

or

Math 8 Expanded

Career Education 8

(Included in other courses and will be added later)

Elective or Exploration Courses

Grade 8 students will have an opportunity to choose two electives:

Band 8

Concert Choir 8

Home Economics (Foods/Textiles) and Industrial Technology (Wood/Metal) Rotation

Art/Drama/Computers Rotation

English & Social Studies (Humanities 8)

HUMANITIES 8 -XHU—08 (English & Social Studies)

Humanities 8 is designed to provide opportunities for students to improve their ability to communicate and to better understand the world around them. The course encourages students to see the connections between Social Studies and English. Humanities integrates the common skills involved in both English and Social Studies curriculum (reading, writing, listening and speaking, evaluating and interpreting) through a survey of the varied content of each subject. This allows skills for both subjects to be developed and enhanced throughout the year. This course is taught year-long, one block each semester with the same teacher to provide continuity and to ease the transition for Grade 8 students.

Content and Skills:

Literature	Language	Oral Communication	History	Geography	Current Events
Novel Study Short Stories Non-Fiction Media Poetry Drama	Writing: emphasis on paragraph & multi-paragraph compositions Grammar: in context of student writing/editing Vocabulary: development in the context of literary works & historical content reading Research Skills: finding information from varied sources, note-taking, & reporting	Informal: class & group discussion Formal: planning, preparing & presenting ideas	Middle Ages Renaissance Reformation Age of Exploration World Religions	Atlas Skills: reading, creating & interpreting information from maps, globes, charts and graphs	Local, national & international issues

HUMANITIES INQUIRY 8 -XHU--08--F-INQ (English & Social Studies)

This is a fun and engaging course for the creative mind! Inquiry 8 provides an opportunity for motivated students to think deeply about their learning by combining the curriculums of social studies, English and Science 8 to help students understand the world around them. This course introduces students to inquiry-based learning and helps them gain skills for learning, including digital literacy, critical thinking, leadership, creativity, global awareness, self-direction, presentation, and collaboration skills.

Science

SCIENCE 8 -MSC--08

The goal of Science 8 is to provide all students the opportunity to explore the grade specific big ideas in the major branches of science while further developing their communication, thinking, personal and social skills. The big ideas begin with our biology unit and a study of cells as the basic unit of life as well as the relationship of microorganisms with living things; the second unit examines how the kinetic molecular theory and the theory of the atom explain the behavior of matter, in our third unit, we explore energy with a focus on light and optics the fourth unit focuses on the theory of plate tectonics as the unifying theory to further study Earth's geological processes. Students will be able to demonstrate their learning of the big ideas as they develop their own inquiries using the scientific method. Students will make connections with their new learning, personal curiosities and passions and their community (place of learning). An inquiry-based learning model fosters the skills of the scientific method as well as enables students to apply their learning to real life situations, be innovative and reflect on their learning.

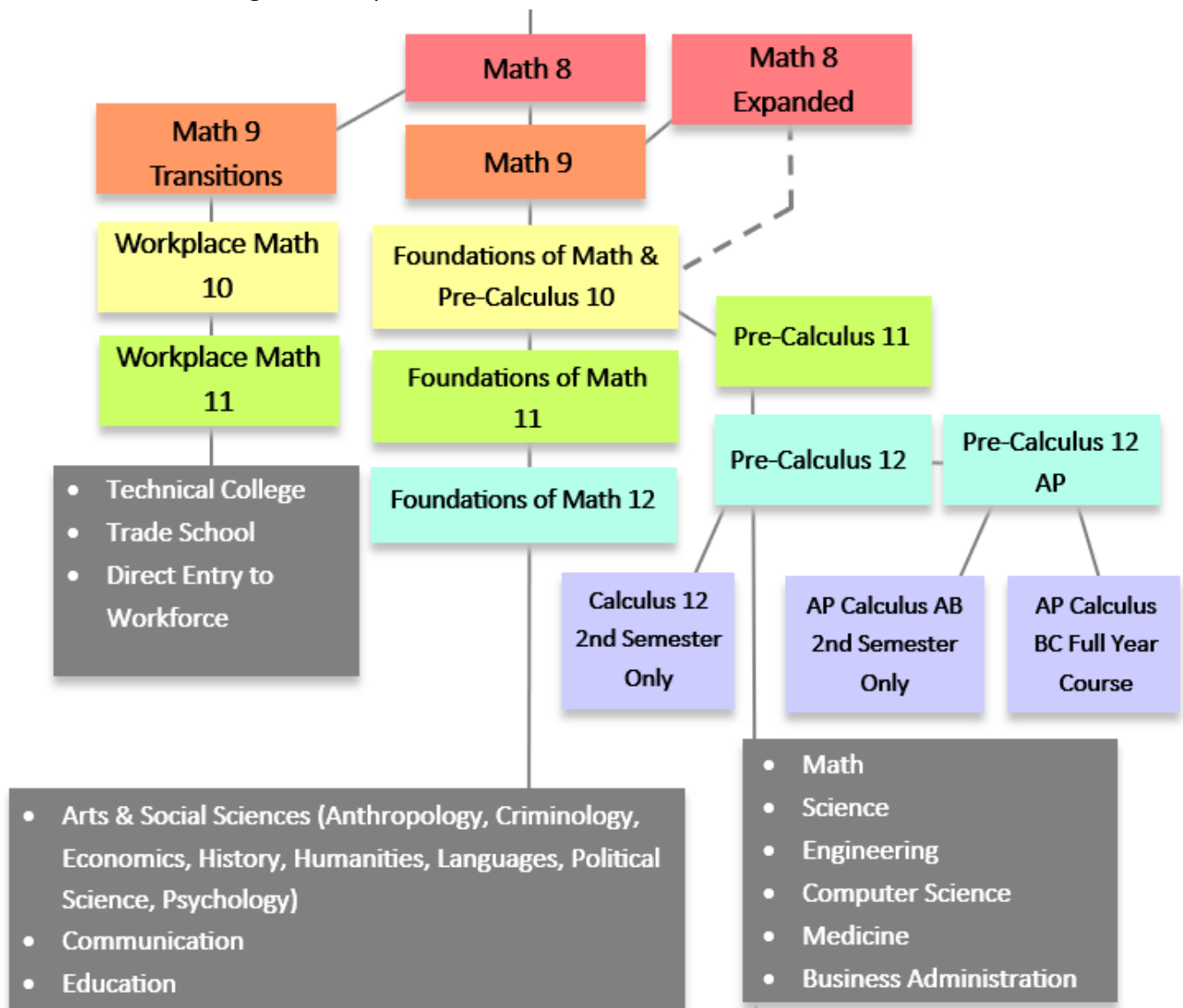
Assessment: Based on laboratory activities, projects, assignments, quizzes and tests.



Mathematics

The BC Math curriculum aims to ensure that our citizens are numerate and embody mathematical habits of mind. This is achieved by developing deep mathematical understanding and fluency, logical reasoning, analytical thought, and creative thinking. At Fraser Heights we believe that the development of these skills requires a complex and comprehensive program that gives students the opportunity to experience and appreciate the elegance and beauty of math. Our classes are designed to be inclusive thinking classrooms where students can take risks, experiment, reflect on their learning and develop a growth mindset. This growth mindset is fundamental in developing perseverance and confidence in all students.

Furthermore, it is our belief that learning of math should not be a race. Research has shown that learning concepts earlier does not guarantee a better math student. Often, we have found that self-accelerated students miss important learning opportunities and develop skills that undermine a growth mind set and good math habits of mind. However, we are also aware that students need to be challenged and enter our school with different degrees of experience and abilities.



MATH 8 -MMA--08

Topics of study include: percents, perfect squares and cubes, Pythagorean Theorem, ratios, rates and proportional reasoning, operations with fractions, linear relationship, expressions and equations, surface area and volume of regular solids, financial literacy.

MATH 8 EXPANDED-MMA--08

Math 8 Expanded is designed for motivated students who consistently demonstrate a high level of personal awareness and responsibility, contributing positively to a collaborative learning environment. This course covers the same topics as Math 8, however there will be a focus on problem solving and opportunities to demonstrate the “Extending proficiencies” in reasoning, understanding, communicating and connecting ideas in math. Upon completion of this course, students will be asked to show evidence that they have met the “Extended Proficiencies” in both core and curricular competencies. With suitable evidence and consult with their teacher, students will be considered for acceleration into Foundations and Pre-Calculus 10 ** Please note that students may be expected to learn some topics on their own. **



Physical & Health Education

Physical and Health Education (PHE) is designed to develop students who have the knowledge, skills, and understandings to be safe, active, and healthy citizens throughout their lives. The PHE curriculum emerges from two areas of learning, physical education and health education, that are brought together in order to promote and develop all aspects of well-being.

PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION 8 – MPHE-08

The physical education component of PHE8 focuses on the development of physical literacy through participation in individual and team sports, dance, and individual fitness activities. The health education component of PHE8 focuses on the development of knowledge, skills, and attitudes related to health literacy and encompasses health and safety topics including nutrition, healthy sexual decision making, social and emotional health, and mental well-being.

An underlying principle of the PHE8 curriculum is that students must be active in creating, assessing, and applying what they learn to their daily lives. **Daily active participation**, to the best of one's ability, is a mandatory component of the PHE8 curriculum.

Career Education

CAREER EDUCATION 8 – MCE--08

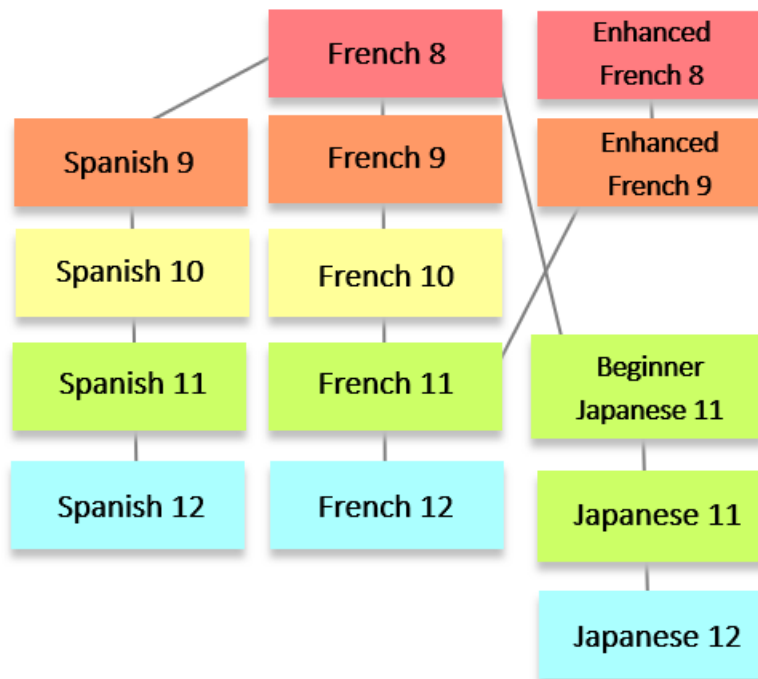
Career Education 8 will help to build a foundation of learning for Career Education 9 and Career Life Education 10. Students will continue to develop knowledge, skills, and attitudes which will assist them in making informed decisions as they plan future education and career paths. Career Education 8 course topics are offered as activities using a MyBlueprint account during a student's Grade 8 year.

Goals for Career Education 8:

- Self-assessment and reflection of strengths, preferences, and skills related to career goals
- Recognition of the importance of public identity in communities and the world of work
- Use of research skills in the exploration of career clusters
- Goal setting in relation to curricular choices and extra-curricular activities
- Demonstration of safety skills and recognition of the importance of workplace safety

International Languages

The principal goal of our language program is to develop communications skills so that students will have the desire and ability to express themselves in real-life situations. Students should be aware that a grade 11 language course is a prerequisite for most universities. A few universities may allow a Beginner Language 11 or require a Grade 12 language course. Most college programs do not require a second language.



FRENCH 8 – MFR--08

Students will build a wide range of language skills. Emphasis is placed on listening comprehension and oral participation, such as short conversations and sharing information. Basic reading and writing skills are also learned. Grammar points are introduced as a tool to help students communicate in an effective manner. Cultural elements are explored to develop a better understanding of the French speaking world, Canadian cultures, and first people's cultures. The lessons in each unit will build toward, and are directly linked to, the final project for each unit. Social responsibility is explored through the context of culture, as well as through the language itself.

ENHANCED FRENCH 8 – MFR--08

Enhanced French 8 is the follow-up of the Intensive French program which is in designated elementary schools. Students will continue to learn French through an enriched curriculum that supports the more advanced speaking, reading and writing skills the students have already acquired. The course will have interesting, authentic, and motivating themes as well as a high level of interaction. Cultural elements are explored to develop a better understanding of the French speaking world, Canadian cultures, and first people's cultures. Social responsibility is also explored through the context of culture, as well as language itself. This course is conducted exclusively in French.

Explorations 8

The Grade 8 Explorations course allow Grade 8 students to explore a wide range of courses that are typically offered as “elective courses” to students in secondary school. In the Exploration or elective courses, students will have the opportunity to study:

- Industrial Technology 8
- Home Economics 8 (Foods & Textiles)
- Information Technology 8
- Art 8
- Drama 8

(Please note that the actual courses offered will be subject to availability)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 8 – MADGE08

This hands-on course introduces students to computers. Students learn the necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed for a lifetime of using information technology. Students will learn to select, organize, and modify information to solve problems and then communicate this information using a variety of methods.

Areas covered include:

1. Keyboarding and Ergonomics
2. Word Processing, Spreadsheets and PowerPoint
3. Digital Media
4. Internet Searching and Security Skills
5. Social Issues (ethics, copyright, etc.)

HOME ECONOMICS 8 – MADFS08

In Home Economics 8, students will begin exploring food and textiles as media for developing skills in design thinking for life. Students will practice essential life skills by exploring various methods of cookery, baking, and textile construction. Students will create novel designs to develop the basics of recipe and pattern development and modification. Course themes will include identity, social awareness, and empathy. Students will communicate their learning through portfolios, tracking progress and goal setting, and develop a final capstone project in either or both foods and textiles.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY 8 – MADM-08

This course is an early introduction to future shop courses offered at Fraser Heights. No experience required... Only a positive attitude! Students will experience “hands-on” learning, using basic hand and machine tools during the construction of many small, teacher selected projects. Shop safety is top priority. Areas of focus may include drafting, electronics, metalwork, stained glass, and woodwork. By the end of the course, students will be able to make wise decisions concerning Grade 9 Industrial Technology electives. Pursue a hobby, open the doors to an apprenticeship, “Careers in Trades”, it all starts here!

ART 8 – MAE—08

This course introduces students to drawing and painting, colour theory, design and art history. You don't know how to draw because you will be learning how in the class. We have lots of fun and learn some basics of Art!

DRAMA 8 – MDR—08

This is a fun introduction to Drama and Theatre. Through music scenes, short plays, improvisation, story building and movement games you will learn to be more confident in front of an audience. Hands-on experience with staging and costuming will be offered. At the same time, you will develop your speech, observation, imagination and teamwork skills. Drama 8 also introduces students to theatre tech such as stage lighting using the lighting board.



Additional Electives

In addition to the above courses, students may choose Concert Band 8 as one of their electives.

CONCERT BAND 8 – MMU—08CBS

Prerequisite: One year experience or director's permission.

Band 8 is designed to introduce the student to the Secondary Music program. Emphasis will be on correct technique and individual responsibility to the group. Students will receive instruction on their instrument, ensemble skills, notation, ear training and counting. Students will listen to and perform music in a wide variety of styles. There will be many performance opportunities at school, at District festivals, and on extra-curricular band tours. Students are expected to attend all performances.

CONCERT CHOIR 8 – MMU—08CC

Students will have the opportunity to develop their vocal skills and music theory through studying and performing a wide variety of music from classical to pop. Students will be expected to be committed to the class which includes attending all performances and a conscientious desire to contribute to regular classroom rehearsals. Evaluation will be based on the students' vocal skills and participating in rehearsals.

X Blocks – Outside the Timetable Electives

THEATRE COMPANY 8 – MDR—08 (X Block)

Theatre Company is a theatre production course. Students learn the process of acting and technical theatre through participation in various schools' productions. Students are introduced to a variety of set and theatre styles. **Runs at lunch and after school from September to June.**

THEATRE MANAGEMENT 8 – MDR—08 (X Block)

Theatre Management is an intensive technical theatre course. Students will act as School Technical Directors. They will learn technical and management skills by designing and running, various school and community events. **Runs at lunch and after school from September to June.**

School Based Services

Counselling

Counselling services are a personal resource service for students and a resource for teachers and families. Counsellors act as advocates for students and their families. To book an appointment, please email your alpha counsellor, emails and alphas can be found on the Fraser Heights website. The counsellors provide the following services:

Personal Counselling

- Confidential discussion of personal concerns.

Educational Counselling

- Selection of courses, program planning, graduation requirements, post-secondary entrance requirements and reference materials, students concerns regarding courses and study skills.

Career Counselling

- Exploration of values, interests, abilities, and needs.
- Establishing career goals and exploration of related occupations.

Referrals

- After consultation, counsellors may provide appropriate referrals to other school system services or non-school agencies.

Learning Support Team

The Learning Support Team (LST) located in Room 210 supports the diverse learners at Fraser Heights. Students who would benefit from the additional support of LST are determined through consultation with elementary school teachers, LST teachers, counsellors, and administration. The LST department offers many levels of support for you throughout your educational career at Fraser Heights.

The types of support available include:

- **Peer Tutors:** Peer Tutors are typically students in Grades 11-12 who want to help students in the younger grades find success. Peer tutors are trained by the LST department and the placed in classes to work with any students who are struggling. This course offers students a chance to give back to the Fraser Heights community and step beyond their usual role as students to take on more responsibility as mentors in the classroom.
- **In Class Support:** Teachers and Education Assistants provide in-class support for students in academic classes. In classes where these kinds of support exist teachers and EAs are available to

help any students in the class who are struggling. The LST department members are also a great resource for test taking strategies, organizational skills, and adapted materials.

- **Pull Out Support:** Students who are needing additional support or one on one help can come to the LST room for pull out support. This can be done in small groups or one on one. All that is needed is permission from your classroom teacher.
- **Support Blocks:** Support blocks are available to students who need extra help and support to be successful. Students needing this level of support need to speak to the LST staff to have their support block put in place.
- **Homework Club:** Homework Club is run by a group of Fraser Heights Students who are eager to help students in various subjects. This is great for students who would like extra help on assignments from a knowledgeable peer in a welcoming and warm environment.

Library Learning Commons

Working Together for Student Success!

The Fraser Heights Library Learning Commons is open to students from 7:45am-3:15pm most days. Flex time and lunch are a great time to come in and work on assignments. Our collection of non-fiction and reference books, supports, and enriches the curriculum and provides a wide reading level. We also have a great collection of fiction books, and we subscribe to many magazines.

Students can access the internet, the SD36 on-line databases, and word processing programs using several computers, The teacher-librarian is available to assist students with research projects, study skills, information technology skills and make suggestions for recreational reading.

School Resource Officers (SRO)

The school resource group is comprised of seven RCMP members. These officers aid in giving lectures to the elementary grades and problem solving for the secondary students.

B.A.S.E.S. Program

B.A.S.E.S. stands for **B**asic **A**cademic **S**ocial and **E**mployment **S**kills program. Students are placed in the **B.A.S.E.S.** program by the school district. Students in the program are generally on a modified school program and will receive a School Completion Certificate rather than a Dogwood High School Diploma upon graduation.

The goal of the **B.A.S.E.S.** program is to prepare students for the working world and independent living within the community.

Functional academics, life skills, social skills, community skills and employment skills are the main focus of the **B.A.S.E.S.** program.

Indigenous Program

At Fraser Heights we have an enthusiastic and committed Indigenous Team working for the success of all Indigenous Youth. Indigenous Youth includes First Nations (Status and Non-Status), Metis and Inuit. All staff work to support the vision and goals of the Surrey Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement (2013-2018):

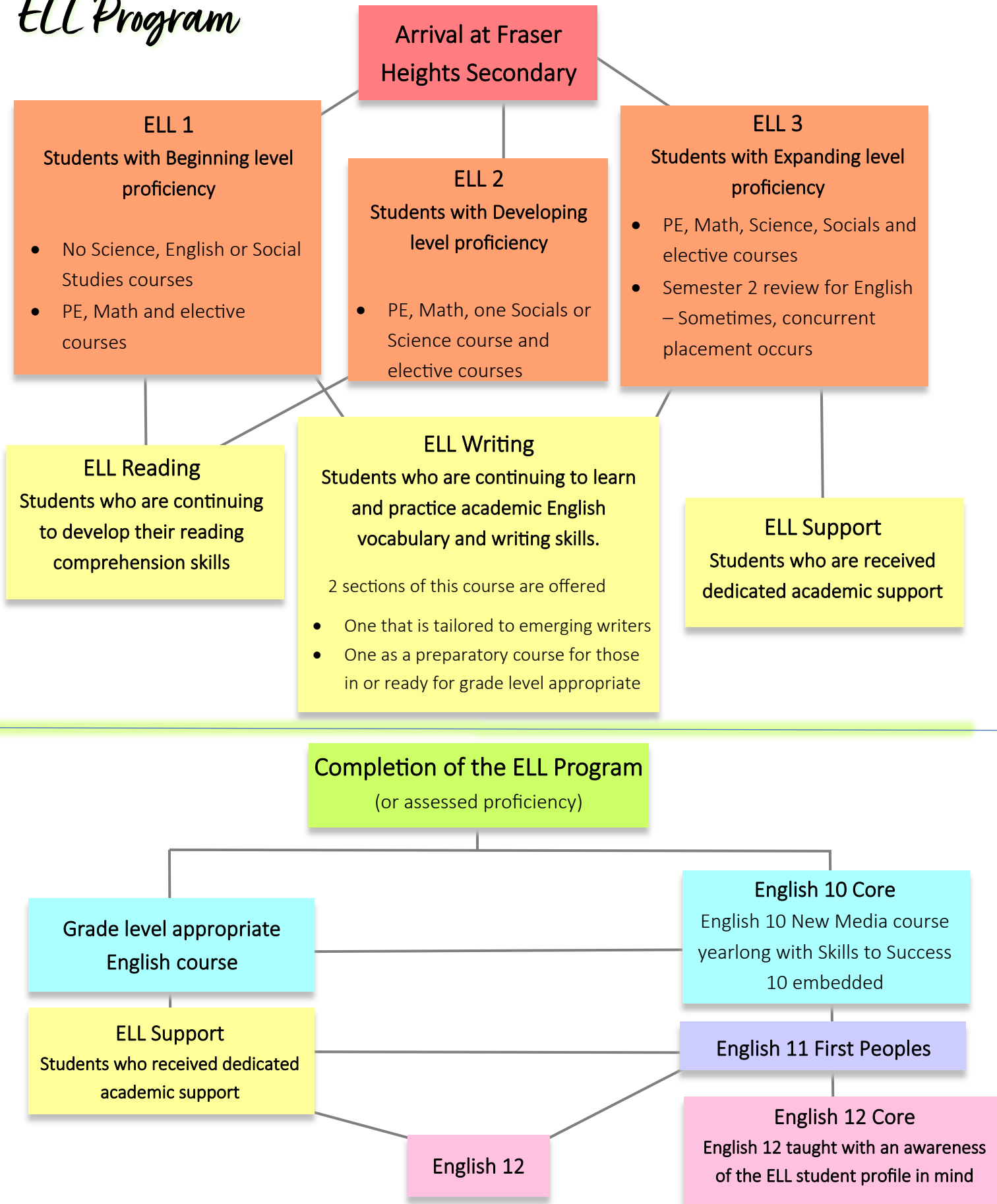
To have every Indigenous learner graduate with dignity, purpose and options.

- Increase positive identity and sense of belonging for all Indigenous learners
- Increase knowledge and understanding of Indigenous History, Traditions, and cultures for all learners
- Increase achievement for Indigenous learners.

At Fraser Heights we have special events, luncheons, in class support, as well as flex time and after school support. The District Aboriginal Department sponsors events such as the District Aboriginal Grad Ceremony. Throughout the year we receive email notices about scholarships, special programs and job opportunities. To be a part of our Indigenous program, contact your counsellor.



ELL Program



District Based Services

Youth Care Workers: Itinerant and School Based

Youth Care Workers provide for students in connection programs. As well, Itinerant Youth Care Workers are a district resource used to provide short-term strategic intervention for students in regular classroom settings who require behavioural support. They may also provide support for students referred to or transitioning from connection programs.

District Resource Counsellors

- Counsel students/families as requested.
- Consult with counsellors, administration, and School Based Teams regarding high-risk students.
- Consultation, negotiation and coordination with students/parents, district/school personnel for placement of students who are suspended over five days.
- Participate in or represent our school district on specific community committees.
- Act as an advocate for students and families.
- Act as a resource for school-based Crisis Response Teams.
- Assign and supervise itinerant childcare worker placements.
- Liaison for Ministry programs.

Hospital Homebound

This service provides direct instruction to students who are unable to attend school due to a non-contagious medical situation. The Hospital Homebound Service can be accessed via the school counsellors.

Integration Support Teachers

This is a School and/or District based service supporting low incidence students and their classroom teachers.

School Psychologists

Provide district based, educational assessment services designed to support students, school personnel, and parents in enhancing academic, adaptive, and social skills for students.

Speech/Language Pathologists

Provide support to those students who's educational and/or social progress is adversely affected by communication difficulties.

Visiting Teacher Program

Teachers are assigned to teach students at home or at Student Services who are unable, for a period of given time, to fit into an appropriate classroom facility in our district. The students who may be on waiting lists for rehabilitative and behavior disorder classes have school phobias or other problems.

Other special support services that are available include:

- Multicultural Workers
- Career Preparation, Work Experience, and Secondary School Apprenticeship
- Educational Evaluation
- Adolescent Day Treatment Program
- First Nations Education
- Hearing and Vision Services

