

# Grade 8

2026-  
2027



QUEEN ELIZABETH  
SECONDARY SCHOOL

# Course Handbook

Queen Elizabeth Secondary School

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# Grade 8 Plan

## Course Descriptions

### English 8

English 8 is integrated with Social Studies 8 and offered as a year-long course. Throughout the year, students will strengthen their literacy skills through reading, writing, listening, and speaking activities. They will build a foundation in academic writing, explore literary analysis, and engage in creative expression. Students will work with a diverse range of texts and reflect on their independent reading habits to foster a deeper appreciation for literature.

### Social Studies 8

In this class, students will develop historical thinking skills by examining cause and consequence, identifying historical significance, and exploring multiple perspectives. These skills will be applied as students investigate key events and societies in world history from the 7th century to 1750, fostering a deeper understanding of how the past shapes the present.

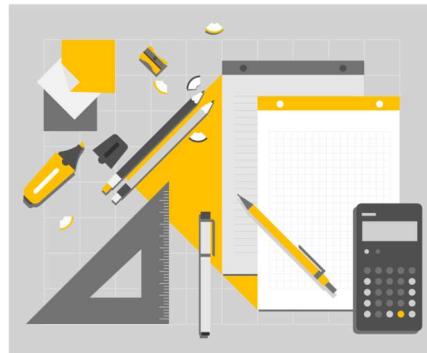


### Mathematics 8

In Math 8, students learn to express mathematical ideas through speaking, writing, and visual tools. They solve problems using different strategies, make connections between concepts, and use logic to reach conclusions.

Topics include:

- Perfect squares and cubes
- Square and cube roots
- Decimals, fractions, and percents
- Operations with fractions
- Two-step equations
- Surface area and volume
- Probability, statistics, and spatial reasoning
- Financial literacy



### Science 8

Students explore key topics in biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science, including:

- Cells and the immune system
- Matter, atomic theory, and the kinetic molecular theory (KMT)
- Waves and optics
- Plate tectonics, volcanoes, and earthquakes

Through hands-on activities and labs, students build scientific skills and habits, learn to observe the world more closely, and deepen their understanding of the scientific method.

### Physical Education 8

Students will take part in a variety of physical activities to build a positive attitude toward active living and lifelong health. Activities will include different movement types and sports, with a focus on developing personal and social skills, teamwork, decision-making, and understanding health and nutrition.

# Grade 8 Plan

## Course Descriptions cont.

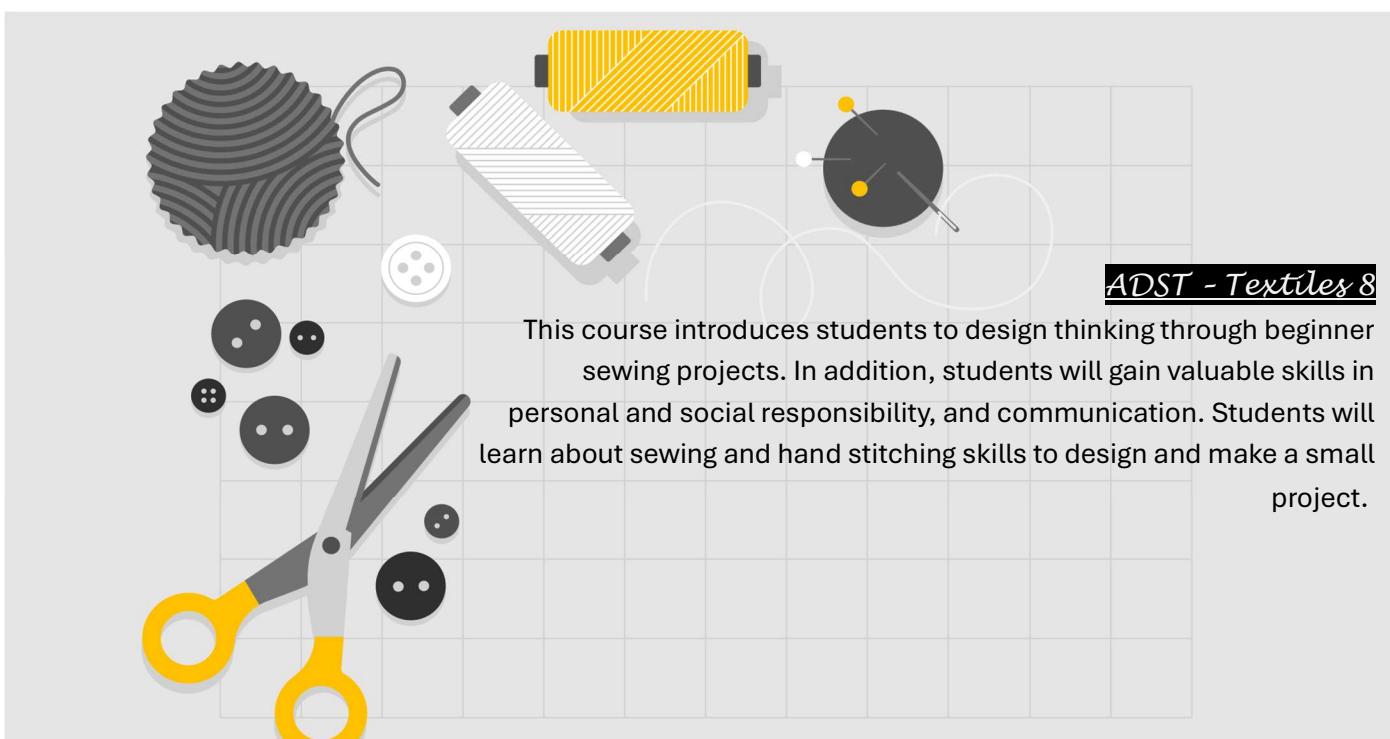
## French 8

Bienvenue à Français 8! Students will learn basic French through simple conversations, reading and writing, and exploring Francophone culture. Activities may include a field trip to Fort Langley and QE's own Quebec winter carnival. Learning French is fun and opens doors to future education, careers, and travel opportunities.



## Fine Arts 8

The Fine Arts Rotation introduces Grade 8 students (not enrolled in Band 8) to Dance, Drama, and Visual Art. Each student will rotate through all three areas, spending about six weeks in each. Students will learn basic principles and apply them through creative projects in each discipline.



Applied Design Skills and Technology (ADST) 8

This beginner course teaches students basic safety, tool use, and materials. Over several weeks, students will complete hands-on projects in one or more areas such as Woodwork, Electronics, Drafting/Animation, or Metalwork—and take their creations home.

# Special Programs at Queen Elizabeth Secondary

## Learning Support and English Language Learners

The Learning Support Program is available for students who need support and assistance in their academics. The program consists of enrolled tutorial/skill building classes for designated students and non-enrolled drop-in opportunities for all other learners. Placement in LST tutorials, and ELL courses will be based on the individual learning needs of the student. Students will not choose these courses themselves—placement will be determined by a student's counsellor based on teacher recommendations and identified need.

### LST Tutorials-Non-Credit (Grades 8-12)

The Learning Support program provides students with a tutorial block to support them in their education. In a tutorial block, students receive assistance and support in areas of need and build fundamental academic skills in a supportive environment.

*Please note that LST courses are zero credits unless otherwise stated.*

### ELL 1/2 (Beginner/Developing)

Students who are new to English or who are experiencing difficulty with any aspect of English (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) will be registered in this course by counsellor based on language assessment.

*This is a non-credit course.*

### ELL 2/3 (Developing/Expanding)

Students will continue to receive English language instruction (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) to build upon the skills learned in beginning/developing class.

*This is a non-credit course.*

### Board Approved ELL Courses

#### English Language Development 10

This course is designed for English Language Learners who have made some progress in developing their Basic Interpersonal Communication Skills already and are ready to more intently and explicitly begin developing academic English (Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency).

In this course, students grow their knowledge and skills for academic communication in English through explicit vocabulary, reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing instruction in a sheltered environment. This course builds a bridge between students' previous learning, their personal and social identities and relationships, and the new cultural setting within which they are now interacting.

*This course is worth 4 credits*

### The Language of Math and Science

This course is designed for students who have difficulties with math facts and understanding common terminology associated with numeracy and science. It builds on what students already know and allow them to gain confidence in their math skills. Topics may include negative and positive integers, fractions, percentages and decimals, money and finances, measurement, and general strategies on solving word problems and understanding scientific terminology.

Students will engage in project-based learning to express their knowledge and learn how to work collaboratively with their peers. Entry to the course is determined by the LST department head in consultation with classroom teachers and is intended to support students in Grades 8 to 10 with an ELL background or other learning needs. Students who take this course would later be enrolled in Workplace Math 10.

*This is a non-credit course.*