



Dear Parent/Guardian of Current Grade 8 Students

Grade 8 students have settled into the routine of high school and are now starting a new semester. It is at this point in the year when we start Grade 9 course planning. It is important that you understand the Grade 9 course planning process and that our students make informed and well thought out selections for the following year.

Below you will find a timeline and a description of what you can expect at each step along the way.

Grade 9 Explorations Year

In the Exploration Years (Grade 8 & 9), students are immersed in Arts Learning and Design Learning

The **Arts Learning** courses are:

- Humanities (English and Social Studies)
- Languages (Spanish, French or Intensive French)
- Arts Learning 9 (students choose one):
 - Art 9
 - Band/PHE 9
 - Choir 9
 - Vocal Jazz
 - Dance 9
 - Drama 9
 - Musical Theatre
 - Stagecraft 9

The **Design Learning** courses are:

- Science
- Math
- Physical Health Education
- Design Learning 9 (students choose one):
 - Business Ed 9
 - Info Tech 9
 - Media Arts 9
 - Robotics 9
 - Power Tech 9
 - Drafting 9
 - Wood 9
 - Metal 9
 - Foods 9
 - Textiles 9



NORTH SURREY

S e c o n d a r y S c h o o l

February 1, 2022

- Information emailed to Grade 8 students and their families.
- Visit our [North Surrey Learning Guide 2022](#) for additional information and course descriptions
- Go to our [school website](#) for more information about Course Planning

February 7-8, 2022

- Information to all grade 8 students in class
 - Review Grade 8 going into Grade 9 PowerPoint presentation with your child
 - Review Grade 9 Exploration Years Planning Tool below
 - Students go to our [school website](#) to complete their course selection online by **February 22, 2022**
 - Students must have logged into the student portal of MyEdBC on a computer before completing their course selection online. Forgot your password? Use the “Forgot Password” feature on the MyEdBC main page.

February 22, 2022

- Course selection completed in MyEdBC using the instruction booklet on our website

We want to thank you in advance for taking the time to review this information with your child. Course selection is a multi-step process and as a parent you play a very important role.

North Surrey Administration and Counselling



NORTH SURREY

Secondary School



North Surrey Secondary

Exploration Years

2022-2023

The Exploration Years (Grades 8 & 9) provide students an opportunity to explore a variety of learning areas to help prepare them for different pathways, interests and passions as they approach the Graduation Years (Grades 10-12).

Courses are grouped into Learning Areas, as they share many of the same curricular competencies described in the [Ministry of Education Curriculum](#); however, students will be scheduled into courses across learning areas in a semester system.

Humanities 8 and 9 is a yearlong course and provides an opportunity for students to build positive relationships and a strong foundation in the Exploration Years. Check [Learning Guide 2022](#) for descriptions of courses in all Learning Areas. Students will receive the following courses (checks) and choose from the circles.

Grade 8	Grade 9
<p>Arts Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Humanities 8 (<i>Yearlong course</i>) ✓ Language 8 (<i>choose one</i>): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ French 8 <i>or</i> ○ Intensive French 8 ✓ Arts Learning 8 (<i>choose one</i>): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Band 8/PHE <i>or</i> ○ Arts Learning 8 (4 modules) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Art 8 ✓ Choir 8 ✓ Dance 8 ✓ Drama 8 	<p>Arts Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Humanities 9 (<i>Yearlong course</i>) ✓ Language 9 (<i>choose one</i>): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ French 9 <i>or</i> ○ Intensive French 9 <i>or</i> ○ Spanish 9 ✓ Arts Learning 9 (<i>choose one</i>): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Art 9 ○ Band/PHE 9 ○ Choir 9 ○ Vocal Jazz 9 ○ Dance 9 ○ Drama 9 ○ Musical Theatre 9 ○ Stagecraft 9
<p>Design Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Math 8 ✓ Science 8 ✓ PHE 8 ✓ Design Learning 8 – (3 modules) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Intro to Tech Education ✓ Intro to Home Economics ✓ IT/Web 8 & Careers 8 	<p>Design Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Math 9 ✓ Science 9 ✓ PHE 9 ✓ Design Learning 9 (<i>choose one</i>): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Info Tech 9 ○ Business Ed 9 ○ Media Arts 9 ○ Robotics 9 ○ Power Tech 9 ○ Drafting 9 ○ Wood 9 ○ Metal 9 ○ Foods 9 ○ Textiles 9

Grade 9

Students in grade 9 who wish to participate in more in-depth study of the arts can also audition for an afterschool X-block as a 9th course:

Dance Company 9

Theatre Company 9

Polaris 9

Jazz Band 9