

FAQs Grade 8 into 9 Transition

What will my schedule look like?

You will have your own schedule, which may look different from your friends. You will no longer be organized into a "SOURCE" class. If you have enriched or accelerated classes, they will continue. All grade 9 students will take 1 course in Math, Science, Social & Language Arts (Humanities 9), Physical Education and 4-6 complementary classes in a semestered schedule.

When will I find out my schedule and when can I change it?

Schedules will be released via wcs-g emails in mid-june during the highschool exam break. Grade 8 students will get called to do schedule changes once we have completed the schedule changes for Grades 10 - 12 students. We encourage students to ensure their schedule reflects a balanced schedule, with core classes spread throughout the year, rather than stacked in one term. If students need help selecting courses for Grade 9, they are welcome to drop-in to Student Services during lunch in March.

When is SOURCE and will my Source teacher be the same as my grade 8 SOURCE teacher?

You are likely to have a new SOURCE teacher, who may not teach you in another class. In the highschool, SOURCE or SDS (self directed studies) happens every day (except Friday) between period 1 & 2.

What are semestered classes and how do they work?

From ECS to grade 8 you've been in year long classes. This means you've likely taken LA & Social Studies (Humanities), Math, Science, and PE all year (unless you were at Westmount in grade 9). Moving forward you will now be in semestered classes. For example, you will have Math every day for half the year from September to January; you will then be done math for the year and not take it from February to June.

Will I have exams?

Grade 9 Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT's) are written at the end of the semester in which the course was taken. For example, if you complete Math 9 in term 1, you will write your PAT in January. These are written during the exam break, as determined by Alberta Education. You will not attend classes during the exam break as teachers and classrooms are used for the sitting of exams.

Can I begin earning credits?

Grade 9 courses are non-credit classes. Students in the Province of Alberta may receive credits for high school core courses ONLY (if they are accelerated). Grade 9 students cannot receive credits for complementary courses in the Province of Alberta.

I am a student who currently receives TLA support - what does that look like in Grade 9?

For students who are dual coded and received TLA support in grade 8, that support remains for Grade 9 and beyond. Typically, students are connected to the same TLA throughout their high school years to maintain the relationship, understanding and support for the student.

Sample Schedule:

TERM 1	Grade 9 Student	
Block	Day 1	Day 2
MH1	PE 9	PE 9
MH2	Science 9	Science 9
MH3	Option 1	Option 2
MH4	Humanities 9-1	Humanities 9-1

TERM 2	Grade 9 Student	
Block	Day 1	Day 2
MH1	Math 9	Math 9
MH2	Option 3	Option 4
MH3	Option 5	Option 6
MH4	Humanities 9-1	Humanities 9-1