



Richmond Secondary School Grade 8 Program

Every Grade 8 student will enroll in the following 8 courses:

- English 8
- Social Studies 8
- Mathematics 8
- Science 8
- French 8
- Physical and Health Education 8
- Applied Design, Skills & Technologies 8 (Foods, Textiles, Woodwork, Digital Literacy)
- Arts Education 8 (Art and Drama) **OR** Band 8 (Intro or Intermediate)

This Grade 8 program will be adapted for students requiring English Language Learning (ELL) or Learning Resource support classes.

Course Descriptions

<https://rhs.sd38.bc.ca/> > Students > Program Planning & Course Selection

ENGLISH 08

This course focuses on the connection of seven big ideas to language and communication skills (writing, reading, speaking, listening, storytelling, analysis) through the exposure to, and appreciation of a variety of literary genres: the novel, poetry, short stories, and plays. Using the integrated approach to the teaching of the curriculum, students will be encouraged to explore the connections between what they are learning in English and their other subjects. For more information, check out: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/english-language-arts/8>

SOCIAL STUDIES 08

Social Studies 8 examines the development of our world from the 7th Century to 1750 through the main concepts and "Big Ideas" of contact and conflict; human and environmental factors; exploration, expansion and colonization; and changing ideas about the world creating tension. Asian, European, Middle Eastern, North American exploration will be examined alongside the effect that first contact had with indigenous communities. The geography portion of this course will emphasize the use of maps, map skills, interpretation of charts, graphs and tables and the understanding of geographic terminology. For more information, please check out: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/social-studies/8>

MATHEMATICS 08

Math 8 is now using a new B.C. curriculum. Students will be learning some big ideas of mathematics which include numbers, numeracy, patterns, computational fluency, geometry, data analysis and problem solving. Details can be found at: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/mathematics/8>

SCIENCE 08

Science 8 builds on the core competencies of communication, thinking and personal and social skills through a focus on scientific curricular competencies. This course will be organized around several big ideas that provide the content for inquiry-based learning of essential science skills. For more information, check out: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/science/8>

FRENCH 08

Bonjour! This is an introductory level program. French language and culture will be explored through the following big ideas: reciprocal communication, stories and creative works that allow students to experience authentic Francophone cultures. All four areas of language learning will be included: speaking/responding, listening, writing and reading, with a focus on communicating in a meaningful context.

PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION 08

Physical and Health Education 8 is designed to develop physical fitness and physical literacy through a variety of prescribed physical activities. All grade 8 classes are co-educational with students participating in activities drawn from the following categories: individual and dual activities, team games, fitness concepts and dance. Emphasis is placed on physical literacy, physical fitness, skill development and an introduction to healthy relationships and an active lifestyle. For more information on all of the learning standards in this course, check out: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/physical-health-education/8>

ADST 8: Digital Literacy and Computational Thinking

Students will rotate between Digital Literacy, Woodwork and Sewing/Cooking during the semester. In this course students will learn how to navigate, discover, regulate, and utilize technology in a digitally responsible way. Students will be introduced to software applications that will be used in other courses throughout their high school years, have an opportunity to grow their presentation skills, and enhance their computational skills, critical thinking, problem-solving and creativity with the introduction of code development.

ADST 8: CARPENTRY, FOODS AND NUTRITION and TEXTILES

This rotating Grade 8 course introduces our youngest students to the basic concepts and skills through a rotation system comprised of Foods, Textiles and Carpentry. Carpentry 8 will introduce students to our professional wood shop and the important safety procedures as well as basic carpentry tools and skills they will use to plan and create several simple projects with wood and other materials. Foods and Nutrition 8 introduces students to basic food preparation and food handling skills. Safety and lab procedures will be emphasized along with the planning and skills involved in creating a variety of easy-to-prepare, nutritious foods. Textiles 8 introduces students to the use of a sewing machine and related sewing equipment and supplies. Students will develop their creative and critical thinking competencies while planning and learning the skills involved in producing several simple, useful and personalized textiles projects. These introductory courses will allow students to try different courses, learn new skills and help them make informed decisions in their course selections in future years.

VISUAL ARTS 8 and DRAMA 8

Grade 8 students will complete a course that rotates half-way through the year from Visual Arts to Drama as this course introduces students to the basic concepts and skills of both Fine Arts areas. In Art, Grade 8 students will work in a variety of 2 and 3-dimensional media (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpting, etc.) while exploring a number of contemporary and traditional themes in art. An 8.5" x 11" sketchbook is required for the course. In Drama 8, students will learn and explore their personal identities as well as a number of themes in society and in our school. Students will play roles, learn to collaborate and work with others, develop their public speaking skills and learn how to communicate through body language and expression. In both art and drama, students will develop their creative thinking, communication and personal and social awareness competencies and have fun! These introductory courses will allow Grade 8 students to try different courses, learn new skills and help them make informed decisions about their course selections in future years.

INTRODUCTORY BAND LEVEL 1 - GRADE 8

This course is designed for new students in their first year of playing a band instrument or experienced students seeking a stronger foundation in performance skills like sight reading, building range, tone, articulation and dynamics. Students choose from a variety of instruments including flute, oboe, saxophone clarinet, trumpet, French horn, tuba, percussion and electric bass. Students will explore a wide variety of musical styles from classical, Latin and jazz to pop music. The band will take part in numerous performance opportunities.

INTERMEDIATE BAND LEVEL 2 - GRADE 8

This course is for students who have played a band instrument for at least one year and show a mastery over performance skills covered in Level I method books (e.g. Essential Elements Book I (yellow) or Standard of Excellence Book I (red)). Music of various styles will be rehearsed and there will be opportunities to perform at concerts. Home practice and regular attendance are important.