



Centennial School

570 Poirier St., Coquitlam, BC

GRADE 9 WELCOME PACKAGE

Course Selection Guide 2024-2025

Hello Future Centaur!

Introduction:

It's still a few months away, but we at Centennial are already hard at work getting next year organized. You are focusing on finishing Grade 8 well. We are going to ask you to pause and think about what you might want to do next year, and even beyond that. You don't need to know your whole career plan: just one year at a time. But, it's also good to know everything that your future high school can offer over the four years you are there. We prepare students for many different colleges, universities, trades, and of course...careers!

Things that happen during your Grade 8 to 9 transition:

- ✓ You are invited on **January 26th to a Centennial grade 8 Walkabout with your school!**
- ✓ Please visit our [Course Planning website](#) for all the information you need to select your courses via the MyEducation portal when our counsellors visit your school during the week of February 1-5.
- ✓ Your parent/guardian can access our virtual **Parent Information PowerPoint** on the course planning website.
- ✓ Any questions that you may have can be directed to your future counsellor via email.
- ✓ You will use this handout as a working document to make your course selection requests for next year.
- ✓ Course requests will be confirmed by the end of June.
- ✓ Our beginning of school year operations including orientation, photo day, homeroom etc. will be communicated home by the end of August.

Did you know?

- ❖ Grade 9 students usually take 8 courses, but some students take a 9th or 10th course as well.
- ❖ Grade 10,11,12 courses count for credit toward graduation. If you are involved in high-level sports or arts certifications (like ballet class), you might be eligible for course credits that count. If you take a Grade 10 course during grade 9, it also counts towards graduation. Keep in mind that from grade 10 to grade 12, you will probably take 24 courses, and earn at least 96 credits, even though you require only 80 credits to graduate.
- ❖ There's no school supply list for Grade 9. Instead, each teacher will let you know if you need something, but usually they say: a binder, section dividers and some filler paper, for starters and many students use devices.
- ❖ Our mascot is the Centaur – half person half horse. You'll see a "real" one at our spirit assemblies.

There's a lot to know about how things work at Centennial.

- ❖ Visit the online PDF version of our student guide on the school website.
- ❖ Install our free app on your devices called: **MySchoolDay**



Choosing Your Grade 9 Courses

- ❖ Grade 9 students take English, Social Studies, Science, Math, and Physical & Health Education, plus a selection of three elective courses (for many one of these is a Modern Language). If a Grade 9 student takes an off-timetable course, it is in addition to the 8 main courses.
- ❖ Students who are following an English Language Learning (ELL) or Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) in Middle School may need to take certain courses in their list of eight (often in lieu of a Modern Language). These choices are made by the counsellors at both Middle and Centennial Schools, in consultation with parents.
- ❖ Before you pick your electives, visit our [website](#), and view our elective videos to see what you will be most interested in. Pick more than three electives in case your top three choices are full and we have to go with your alternate selections.
- ❖ The Grade 9 program of studies consists of a combination of required and elective courses (eight courses in total). All students must take English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and Physical Education. In addition, students must choose three elective courses. When choosing courses, students should start considering longer term educational goals with respect to high school graduation, post-secondary institution requirements, and the world of work. Grade 9's should choose one Fine Arts and one Applied Skill elective, if possible.

Off-Timetable Classes

Most Grade 9 students have 4 classes every day, along with a lunch block. If you choose to take an extra class such as Band, Choir, Jazz Band or Vocal Jazz you might have a class before school (7:45am start time). By the time you pick your courses, you might not know for sure when these 'off-timetable' courses are scheduled.

- Junior Grade 9/10 **CONCERT BAND**
- Fitness & Conditioning grades 9-11: **Football** (AM)
- Fitness & Conditioning grades 9-11: **Soccer** (AM)
- Fitness & Conditioning grades 9-11: **Basketball** (AM)
- **CONCERT CHOIR** grades 9-12
- Junior grades 9/10 **JAZZ BAND**
- **VOCAL JAZZ** Ensemble grades 9-12
- **Musical Theatre** (Grades 10+ usually) (After School)

List of Classes you can Choose:

See the next page for a list of our courses so you can begin the selection process.

Course Descriptions for Grade 9's

--- REQUIRED COURSES ---

English 9

English 9 students pick up where middle school left off, as they develop skills in six areas, which are further grouped in two areas of competence: 1. comprehend and connect (reading, listening, and viewing skills), and 2. create and communicate (writing, speaking, representing skills). This course introduces students to the formal study of various literary genres: poetry, short stories, the novel, and drama. Students will develop skills and strategies that enable them to anticipate and confirm meaning while reading and listening. They will also study and apply the conventions of language to writing—with particular emphasis on coherent paragraph development. Student choice is important in English 9, as are the First Peoples Principles of Learning, which are based on the concepts of community, shared learning, and trust; therefore, both choice and the principles of learning are embedded in English 9.

Social Studies 9

Social Studies 9 integrates the skills, knowledge and attributes that have been developed in earlier Social Studies courses and consolidates the competency of students in areas of critical thinking, research and referencing, the development of evidence-based arguments and effective communication. Students will focus on events, developments and changes in European governments through the development of early Canada concluding with the Riel Rebellions. These events, developments and changes will occur in political, geographical, economic and social areas.

More specifically the students will examine the concepts of revolution and its effects on government, exploration, colonization and settlement in Canada. The knowledge and skills that students develop will prepare them to undertake further studies in Social Studies 10.

Science 9

The Science 9 course introduces students to individual and group discovery in a laboratory setting. This course is activity based with an emphasis on four areas of scientific discovery. In Chemistry, the major concepts of ionic compounds and patterns within the periodic table are explored. In Physics, the major emphasis is on static and current electricity. Students will explore topics in Biology related to sexual and asexual reproduction as well as cell division. Topics in Environmental Science will also be explored particularly related to the carbon cycle, energy flows, and human impacts on the environment. The course goals are to introduce students to scientific discovery and a wide range of scientific knowledge, and to teach them to work effectively in a group setting. Note: Students with a C- in Science 8 are recommended to have an LEC support block concurrently when taking Science 9.

Math 9

This course is designed to consolidate and extend topics introduced in the middle school years. Topics include operations with rational numbers, square roots and exponents, algebra, linear relations, financial planning, and statistics. At the end of this course, students will be prepared for Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10 OR Workplace Mathematics 10. A Math 9 called "Numeracy 9" exists in our school. This is Math for students who have been identified by their teachers as needing support with middle school mathematics and are not yet prepared to begin regular Math 9. From Numeracy 9 a student can continue to Workplace Math 10 OR choose to work through Math 9 to become ready for Math 10 Foundations and Pre-Calculus.

Numeracy 9

Numeracy 9 is a mathematics option for students who have had significant challenges with middle school level math. The course works to develop basic skills with whole numbers, integers, fractions, and associated concepts in the context of thematic units based on real-world problems. Upon completion of Numeracy 9, students are prepared to enter directly into Math 10 Workplace. Students who need extra support with basic math skills but would like to complete a university prep mathematics sequence (Foundations or Precalculus) should register for Numeracy/Math 9 course.

Physical and Health Education 9

The aim of Physical Health Education 9 is to enable all students to develop knowledge, movement skills, and positive attitudes and behaviors that contribute to a healthy, active lifestyle. The students will have the opportunity to:

- Participate in, and experience, a variety of performance and leisure-oriented activities.
- Develop positive attitudes towards physical activities.
- Be able to develop positive personal and social health-related behaviors, and work cooperatively in group activities.
- Acquire skills and knowledge necessary to develop an active and healthy lifestyle.
- Activities will include a selection of team games, individual and dual activities, dance, and minor games.

--- OPTIONAL ACADEMIC COURSES ---

Math 9/10 Honours

This is a course designed for academically strong and motivated middle school students who have demonstrated the ability and desire to participate in an accelerated program of studies in Mathematics. This is a single course that covers both the Grade 9 and 10 curriculum.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE FEB. 7 @ 4pm.

The application link can also be found on our website or use the QR code to access. Please note that this is a separate application form from the Science 9/10 Honours course.



Science 9 and 10 Honours

This program allows academically strong grade 9 students to accelerate, thereby providing some additional preparation time for the Advanced Placement Science courses in grades 11 and 12. Grade 9 students in this program work with a science teacher on Science 9 in semester one and Science 10 Honours in semester two. In grade 10, students will take one or more grade 11 level science courses followed by grade 12 level courses in grade 11. In their grade 12 year, students are eligible to choose from a variety of AP Seminar science courses (see AP courses below). Please complete the application found in the QR code below.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE FEB. 7 @ 4pm.

The application form link can also be found on our course planning website or use the QR code below to access.



--- ELECTIVES ---

Arts Education 9

Art 9 is an introductory art course which offers a range of media exploration for students interested in developing their visual art skills. The main focus is on learning to see, visual literacy, and expanding students' vocabulary of art concepts. Students are taught the basic elements and principles of design, which are reinforced with class projects and discussions. Projects primarily include drawing, painting, ceramics and sculpture. Students should finish Art 9 with a good idea of their own creative potential and feel ready to approach more specialized senior level art courses.

Business Education 9

This course introduces many of the basic concepts needed to understand how the business world works. Topics include marketing, accounting, business law, finance, and entrepreneurship. This is an introductory course to Marketing and Promotion 11, Accounting 11, and Entrepreneurship 12. This course utilizes computer software such as PowerPoint, Excel, Word, and Movie Maker.

Business Computer Applications 12

Based on the old course Keyboarding 11, this beginner's course open to all grades will help students develop keyboarding proficiency both as a personal life skill and as a foundation for career development. Students will learn to touch key type to industry acceptable standards as well as create personal, school and business documents using word processing software.

This course is designed for the beginner as well as for those who wish to improve their speed and accuracy and learn more advanced word processing skills.

Chess 10

Chess 10 is designed to introduce students to the grand world of chess, including a brief history of chess, chess in culture, rules & etiquette of chess, and how to read & record chess games. Basic strategy, tactics, opening, middle and endgame theory will also be introduced. To develop skills, students will play class tournaments and play remotely through an on-line chess community. By the end, students will be knowledgeable in playing chess and will benefit from the logical, critical, analytical & creative thinking skills that chess provides — skills that transfer to all subject areas and all facets of life. No experience is necessary and no prerequisite for this course. Open to all grade levels.

Music Performance Combo (Contemporary Music)

This course is designed to provide the skills and prepare you for pursuing music either professionally or as a musician arranging music within a group context. This innovative course provides instruction on how to play in a range of groups: jazz combos, modern pop, rock, etc. It is for ALL MUSICIANS who already know how to play or sing but need help in putting it all together. The course covers rehearsal techniques, professional behaviours, and how to develop repertoire as a group. It includes how to organize and perform at concerts and dances, as well as how to work and prepare for recording digital audio formats. There will be extensive instruction on marketing yourself in the real world of music and/or related fields: i.e., promotion; making contacts; understanding contracts, royalties and dealing with agents; professionalism; how to create a 'gig' as well as professional networking. This is a 'must-take' course should you want to pursue music as a professional or amateur musician.

Drafting, Design & Animation 9

This entry-level exploratory course will introduce students to a variety of drafting, design, animation and graphic communication techniques. Areas that will be covered include sketching, instrument drawing, 2D CAD, 3D modeling, 2D and 3D animation, computer graphics and architectural design, using both instruments and a variety of available up-to-date computer software. Students will acquire a useful set of skills that can be applied to many career and life choices.

Drama 9

This introductory course helps students develop theatre and communication skills, creativity, and get them comfortable performing on stage. Students explore activities/topics including movement, improvisation, theatre games, short skits, scene acting and scene building. The course will help boost confidence and people skills and introduce students to performing for a film or theatre audience.

Fitness and Conditioning 10

Fitness and Conditioning 10 is an introductory athletic training class. Students will focus on learning functional movement sequences and proper training techniques. Emphasis is placed on safety and progressively increasing strength safely through a variety of training methods.

Plyometrics, interval training, running, and weight training will all be utilized. All students welcome!

Fitness & Conditioning: Football

This course is designed for athletes who wish to develop sport specific fitness and skills. Students will focus on a wide variety of advanced conditioning programs such as plyometrics, interval training, running and weight training. This course is open to grades 9-11 and will run in the AM block during the months of November-June.

Fitness & Conditioning: Soccer

To become an elite soccer player, athletes need to not only be technically gifted, but they also need to have a certain amount of sport specific knowledge and education that doesn't always develop strictly on the field. This course combines the technical and tactical development of on the field soccer with fitness/strength conditioning, game principles/philosophies, film analysis, nutrition, leadership enhancement as well as coaching philosophies. Classroom instruction and functional strength training will accompany the on-field player development in this course. The course will run in the AM block from September-November and April-June.

Food Studies 10

LEARN THE BASICS! In this course you will learn to cook for yourself and your family. Food Studies 9/10 focuses on building confidence and creativity, basic food preparation skills and safe food practices. Main units will include: baking, breakfast, lunch and dinner. You will leave this class able to cook foods from all four food groups. Come prepared to tempt your taste buds with your creations!

French 9

French 9 encourages students' active participation in acquiring a basic functional level of both spoken and written French. By the end of French 9, students should be able to begin to identify tenses and to use appropriate French expressions for a variety of oral and written tasks. [Must have completed French 8 in middle school.]

Hockey Academy – Hockey Skills 10

This introductory course is open to all first-time Hockey Academy students in grades 9-12. The Centennial Hockey Academy provides the opportunity for male and female hockey players to supplement their minor hockey experience by improving their hockey skills and fitness levels. Course content includes the development of technical skills (power skating included), individual tactics, team tactics, team play, systems, strategy, off-ice training specific to hockey, health, and wellness. Other Academy components include sport psychology, fundraising, volunteering opportunities, as well as group activities such as rock climbing, hiking, yoga, and on-ice tournaments. Please note there is an additional course fee for the Hockey Academy. For more information visit: <https://www.rpmhockey.com/>. Parent meeting is on zoom on Jan. 25 @7pm. See Centennial website for the link.

Information & Communications Technology 9

This "hands-on" course provides an opportunity to develop digital communication skills in data processing, graphic design, photo editing, presentation software, 2D digital animation, and coding. This course will help prepare students for a career in the digital world and provide them with newfound skills which they can use to enhance projects for coursework in other curricular areas. Assignments will include working with Microsoft Office Tools; graphics editing and presentation with Photoshop, Illustrator, and Adobe Animate; coding and website design with HTML, CSS, and scripting languages.

Instrumental Music: Guitar 10

If you are new to guitar or you have some experience with guitar, this course will give you the basics and more. Beginner guitar will teach you to play open position chords, strumming patterns, finger style guitar, barre chords, riffs and notation reading (chord boxes, tablature and music notation). The course would cover a wide variety of songs with the emphasis on collecting a repertoire of songs that students can play.

Japanese 9

Japanese 9 is an introductory communications course, which will allow students to function in a variety of situations.

Students will learn to read and write Hiragana as well as to converse in simple Japanese. A multimedia approach (songs, games, video and audio tapes) will be used to bring Japanese culture into the classroom.

Metal/Wood 9

Students enrolled in this course will learn about metalworking for one half of the semester and woodworking for the other half. The Metal section of the course (9 weeks) will introduce students to various cutting, forming, and welding techniques. Students will develop their designing and creative abilities in a fun, hands-on environment with two mini-competitions. The woodworking section of the course will allow students to gain experience with many of the tools and techniques used by a woodworker. A strong emphasis is placed on safe work habits as students learn to use power tools to saw, plane, shape, and assemble projects made of wood. As a project-based course students can expect to build two wood projects while working hands-on in an environment that is safe, productive, and encouraging.

Music 9: Concert Band

Whether you are new to band or already play an instrument, this course is a great choice. Develop your instrumental skills and have fun by being part of a strong group. Band 9 students work to become better musicians by performing and touring. Some of the events and activities music students will participate in throughout the school year will include performances at school and in the community, a music camp and a spring performance tour. Band 9 is an alternate day course running all year. Students are expected to attend all Band activities as part of the requirements of this course. Please contact the music director if you have questions.

Music 9: Concert Choir

Whether you are new to choir or have sung in choirs before, this course is a great choice. Develop your vocal skills and have fun by being part of a strong group. Choir 9 students become better musicians by performing and touring. Some of the events and activities music student will participate in throughout the year will include performances at school and in the community, a music camp and a spring performance tour. Choir 9 is an alternate day course running all year. Students are expected to attend all Choir activities as part of the requirements of this course. Please contact the music directors if you have questions.

Music 9: Jazz Band

If you like swing, funk, Latin and rock, this is the place for you! This course will run in conjunction with Band, fitting easily into your timetable as an extra course in the same block. Students who wish to be included must also register for Music 9: Concert Band. Jazz Band is an opportunity to take your skills to the next level. Those who take Jazz Band also have the opportunity to learn trumpet, trombone, saxophone or any of the rhythm section instruments.

Music 9: Vocal Jazz

This course will provide experience in the exciting field of vocal jazz! Develop style, microphone technique, and staging awareness while performing exciting and fun music. This course is open by audition only and will run in conjunction with Choir 9, fitting easily into your timetable as an extra course in the same block. Auditions will take place in September, for information on auditions head over to the choir room for the audition package. Interested students must be enrolled in the corresponding level of Concert Choir.

Music Composition & Technology 9/10

No previous training in music is required although some basic knowledge of recording software OR music theory is beneficial. This course starts with any skills students already have with computers or with music (including voice) and develops their ability to compose music and improve their knowledge of computers and audio recording equipment. Using both traditional methods and contemporary audio/digital equipment, students will have opportunities to design, create and record music. In addition, students will learn about song form and basic music theory elements to assist in composition. A variety of genres will be covered (folk, pop, rock etc.)

Photography 10

This course will provide students with opportunities to explore two-dimensional graphic art and photographic processes. This is an introductory course that is designed to meet the needs of students who have little or no art background. Students will gain an understanding of how the elements and principles of design can be used to communicate moods, feelings and attitudes through a medium of photography. The course will focus on personal image development through a variety of photographic techniques. Students will use the camera as an artistic tool for recording images and expressing their ideas and emotions. Students will develop an understanding of the evolution of the camera and the history of photography as an art form.

Photography 10: Yearbook (Block 0 – 7:45am)

This is a "hands-on" course for students interested in learning a bit about graphics, photography, and publishing. This is an introductory course designed to meet the needs of students with little to no art background. Students will gain an understanding of how the elements and principles of design can be used to communicate moods, feelings, and attitudes through a medium of photography and graphic design, but will also include photo editing, design, and layout for yearbook. Students will be a part of the team that produces the yearbook and can continue to Photo 11, Yearbook 11 or Graphic Arts 11 from this beginner course. They will also document the people and events of the school year. This course needs creative, committed, reliable students capable of working both independently and in small teams, with print deadlines always in mind.

Power Technology 9

Power Technology 9 will provide students with an introduction to energy, mechanical devices, and motion. An emphasis on practical hands-on experience will prepare students to move on to more advanced technical or mechanical courses. Students will be instructed on safe procedures to be employed in a shop situation and will gain valuable experience with a variety of tools and equipment. Power Tech students will have the opportunity to work on a wide range of projects involving working models, small engines, and transportation devices.

Spanish 9

Spanish 9 is an introductory course that aims to develop speaking, reading, listening and writing skills needed to understand and communicate at a basic level. This course is also designed to make students aware of and appreciate various Hispanic cultures and customs.

September to December and April to June.

Technology 9: Electronics/Power and Energy Electronics -

Students enrolled in this course will learn about electronics for one half of a semester and power and energy technology for the other half. The electronics section introduces the fundamentals of electricity and the tools, parts, and processes used to design and fabricate basic electronics projects. Technology - In the power and energy section, students will investigate many different physics principles in fun and interesting ways. A variety of wood, metal, and plastic fabrication skills will be utilized to produce individual and group projects, which will be tested and completed.

Dungeons & Dragons Adventures & Teamwork 11

Formally known as Social Dynamics in Tabletop Role Playing Games focuses on friendship, leadership, and mental well-being as students engage in games like Dungeons and Dragons, Pathfinder, Polaris, Starfinder and more. Although the main focus of the course is on peer interaction, participants will also design adventures, characters, monsters, encounters as well as learn the basics of 3D printing, painting, map production and other design elements. There are no prerequisites for this course. Open to all grade levels.

Leadership 9/10/11/12

Leadership 9/10/11/12 is a course for students that are interested in making a difference in their school and community. It cannot be taken as one of your 8 main courses and runs off-timetable (Usually once or twice a week in the mornings). Students who are interested in taking part in leadership need to be in good academic standing, be highly motivated to make a difference in their school and/or community and be able/willing to volunteer their time to school and community events/activities. To be considered for the program, interested students must complete an application form.



Fitness & Conditioning 11: Basketball

If you are interested in developing your fitness and conditioning, basketball skills, understanding of the game and goal setting then this is the class for you! This class is designed for basketball lovers and students with a strong interest in playing basketball to improve their individual skill level. Student-athletes will participate in 90+ hours of on court basketball instruction, fitness & conditioning sessions and classroom goal setting with film review to augment their training to help them achieve their individual goals. The period 0 class happens before school and runs on a full year schedule starting at 7:45am five days a week from

Textile Arts & Crafts 9

TAC 9 is a hands-on course where you can learn to make decorative items for yourself or to give as gifts. Students will learn about many crafting techniques and supplies. Projects include hand – sewing/embroidery, polymer clay, beading, scrapbooking, soap making, and holiday projects and decorations. Evaluation is based on completed project work, as well as project management.

Textiles 9 (Sewing)

Learn to Sew! In Textiles 9/10 you will design and sew your own clothing! Projects include a pair of pants or a skirt, a sweatshirt or a shirt, and a sewing project of your choice. Learn how to use and alter sewing patterns. Learn a variety of sewing techniques using the sewing machine and serger. Learn about and work with different types of fabrics. You will explore and learn about a variety of textiles related topics. This is a perfect course for beginners, no experience needed.

Optimizing Athletic Performance 11 (Block 0 – 7:45am)

Elite athletes have specific needs and requirements in order to achieve their desired goals. This course is designed for athletes that want to learn about and partake in the latest training techniques available that will be relevant to their specific sport. This course will incorporate Functional Movement Screening, performance testing, and video analysis to determine the best strategies to maximize the individual benefits for each athlete. Themes around rehabilitation of injuries, coaching, sport psychology, analytics, and university recruitment will also be covered. In class instruction, class participation, guest speakers and field trips will be utilized to explore these areas.

Course Fee: This course will have field trips and guest speakers/coaches and therefore will cost an additional fee of approximately \$855



