

EXPLORE GRADE 9 CURRICULUM

English Language Arts

In the last year of junior high English Language Arts, Grade 9 students examine ideas, experiences and information from points of view that differ from their own. Students will discuss how different people take away different meanings from the same material, understanding that each individual's knowledge and experience affect their way of interpreting information. Using different sources of information, students will continue to develop their own opinions and impressions on various topics.

Knowledge and Employability Language Arts

Students will be shown additional strategies for success. They will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to comprehend and respond to different oral, print and visual/media texts and to create their own texts. They will develop language, comprehension and communication skills by responding to oral, print and media texts/materials (e.g., stories, newspapers, magazines, advertisements, diagrams, media/films, websites) that have practical and everyday home, community and workplace applications.

Health and Life Skills

Students will take charge in encouraging their friends, their community and their family to live a healthy lifestyle. They will look at laws in place about health and safety and whether they think changes should be made. Addictions and unhealthy relationships are studied more deeply. Students will look at career goals, learning that working as a volunteer could lead to a great job in the future.

Human Sexuality Education

Schools are required to offer human sexuality education in Grade 4 to Grade 9. Parents have the right to exempt their child from this instruction. Schools will provide alternative learning experiences for those students who have been exempted from human sexuality instruction.

Mathematics

Students will:

- » Understand powers with integral based and whole number exponents;
- » Compare and order fractions and decimals;

- » Add, subtract, multiply and divide positive and negative fractions and decimals;
- » Determine square roots of positive rational numbers that are perfect squares;
- » Estimate square roots of positive numbers that are non-perfect squares;
- » Interpolate or extrapolate from the graph of a linear relation to solve problems;
- » Add and subtract polynomials;
- » Multiply and divide a polynomial by a monomial;
- » Solve problems involving surface area of composite 3-D objects;
- » Understand similarity of polygons;
- » Understand line and rotation symmetry; and,
- » Understand data collection techniques and biases.



Knowledge and Employability Mathematics

Students will:

- » Connect number concepts and operations to career and workplace situations;
- » Round numbers to the nearest unit (tenth and hundredth);
- » Describe multiples, factors, composites and prime factorizations;
- » Represent numbers in expanded form, using powers of 10 and in scientific notation;
- » Perform operations with 2-digit whole number multipliers and divisor, decimals, and fractions and mixed numbers with like denominators;
- » Solve problems that involve adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators;
- » Estimate and calculate percents and rates to solve problems;
- » Estimate and calculate average to solve problems;
- » Compare and order positive and negative numbers;
- » Understand and solve problems, using algebra;
- » Solve measurement problems related to perimeter, area, surface area, mass, volume and angle measurements;
- » Measure, classify and draw angles and triangles and use scale to reproduce a 2-D shape;
- » Identify first and second quadrants of a coordinate grid ; and,
- » Collect, interpret and display data in a variety of ways.

Physical Education

Students will participate in dance, games, gymnastics, individual physical activities and activities outside of school, such as aquatics and outdoor pursuits. Through active and safe participation, they will understand what an active lifestyle involves and how their physical and emotional health will benefit from physical activity. Students will also discover how positive interactions, through fair play, leadership and teamwork, make physical activity more fun and productive

Science

Students will begin to unravel the significance of DNA in genetics, including its role in determining traits like hair colour. Technological advancements that led to human exploration of the moon and beyond will also be explored. They will be energized as they problem solve and experiment with electricity and evaluate the benefits and impacts of energy use. Students will continue to develop as a scientist as they conduct and analyze chemical reactions and apply their understanding of chemistry to the world around them.

Knowledge and Employability Science

Students will discover how chemicals interact with one another and the environment. They will explore transformations of energy in mechanical devices, such as flashlights, and create their own electrical circuits. Students will also gain an understanding of the diversity of living things and environments, and the impacts of human activity on this diversity. They will consider the challenges of space exploration and ways that technologies used to study space, like telescopes and GPS, impact our lives on Earth.

Social Studies

Students will discover the important influences that government and economics have on our lives. They will focus on the rights, roles and responsibilities of citizens in decision-making processes and in the Canadian Justice System. Students will also explore issues related to immigration and consider the impact of economic decisions on the quality of life experienced in Canada and in the United States.

Knowledge and Employability Social Studies

Grade 9 Knowledge and Employability Social Studies focuses on citizenship, identity and quality of life. Students will discover the important influences that government and economics have on their lives. They will focus on the rights, roles and responsibilities of citizens in decision-making processes and in the Canadian Justice System. Students will also explore issues related to immigration and will consider the impact of economic decisions on the quality of life experienced in Canada and in the United States.

Options

Grade 9 students will have access to the many specialized areas and/or programs offered at WCHS. Early in the new year, students will be asked to choose which topics interest them as option courses to include in their timetable. Depending on student interest, the following is a list of what might be offered to Grade 9 in September:

- » Archery
- » Art
- » Basketball
- » Choral Music
- » Construction (woodworking)
- » Computer Studies
- » Cosmetology

- » Drama
- » Drones
- » Fabrication (welding)
- » Foods
- » Hockey
- » Instrumental Music (band)
- » Mechanics
- » Volleyball

Student decisions will help us build courses that will be interesting for our grade 9 students. *Please be aware that program offerings will depend on the number of students requesting a course. Also, our Student Services staff will do their best to ensure students get the option courses they request; however, scheduling conflicts may not guarantee all option courses chosen are timetabled for each student.

