

Course Selection

2023 / 2024



Required Courses

All students in grades 8 & 9 are required to take the following courses:

- Mathematics
- Science
- English Language Arts
- Social Studies
- Physical and Health Education (PHE)
- Career Education
- Languages (Grade 8 only)
- Boost (academic support and enrichment)

Course Request Sheets

Please see the individual course request sheets for more details and to begin your elective selection process. These sheets are available from your homeroom teacher or on the [school website](#).

Course Changes

Students will have an opportunity to change courses up until the end of the first week of each semester. Course changes will be limited by availability and not all requests will be accommodated.

It is very important to understand that course offerings are determined by the course selection process. Changes to your choices may not be possible once elective selection is complete. Some courses may not run due to low enrollment. Please make course selections that fit your educational plans and personal interest areas.

Our office staff are available to answer your questions.

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Languages

(All students in Grade 8 must take Languages 8)

(Grade 9 students may take French 9 with parent and teacher permission)

Modern Languages 8+ (Full Year)

Learn the skills necessary for language acquisition and practice them while learning a language of your choice in a self-paced blended classroom environment. This past year students studied Spanish, French, Mandarin, and more. **All grade 8 students must take this course.**

Modern Languages 9+ (Single Semester)

Build on previously acquired skills while learning a language of your choice in a self-paced blended classroom environment. In this course, students will have the opportunity to complete not only grade 9 languages, but also work toward completing grade 10 languages as well. Language options include: French, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, German, Korean and more.

French 9 (Single Semester)

Physical and Health Education (PHE)

(All students must select at least 1 choice from this category)

Athletics

Athletics is designed to teach students the skills needed to participate in competitive team, partner, and individual sports such as volleyball, soccer, cross country, and basketball, as well as some fun games of low organization. Students learn fitness training principles, physical literacy skills, sport specific skills, and sportsmanship. Various health concepts will be covered such as relationships, sexual health, first aid, and healthy living. Students are expected to change into gym appropriate gear for each class (shorts/sweat pants/tights, t-shirt, hoody, running shoes) - time will be given to change.

Recreation

Recreation is designed to teach students fundamental movement skills to allow them to be active for life in a non-competitive environment. Activities such as low organized games, forest walks, disc golf, and yoga will be covered, and daily movement and engagement is a basic expectation. Various health concepts will be covered such as relationships, sexual health, first aid, and healthy living. Students must come to class in gym appropriate gear (shorts/sweat pants/tights, t-shirt, hoody, sneakers). Time will be given to those who want/need to change.

ELECTIVES

Applied Design, Skills and Technology (ADST)

(All students must select at least 1 choice from this category)

Business for FOOD

Students will have the opportunity to build a business model that allows them to market and sell their creation. Components of this course include creating a business plan, understanding finances, and marketing a product.

Coding, Electronics and Computer Design

This is a hands-on course where students will design, build, and program their projects. Students will learn design software, develop construction skill, and explore programing and coding in the completion of a project.

Creative Collective

Creative Collective is an explorative and collaborative combination of Art, Media, Technology, Shop and Makerspace programs. Students begin the year with a safety orientation and training with the tools and machine of the woodshop. Then, they explore various sketching, paint layering, and woodworking techniques that resulted in the creation of their own art frame and landscape painting. Students will also participate in a fairy forest installation community project. For the remainder of the semester, students were able to choose between a variety of projects including DIY miniature skateparks/skateboards, jewelry making, wood art, and cardboard games, and collaborative colouring projects. The limit is your imagination!

Food Studies

Explore foods from the around the world as well as traditional meals and baking. Foods will explore desserts, breads, pastries as well as soups, sauces, pastas, salads, stir-fries. Dishes include sushi, spaghetti, muffins, cookies, chicken noodle soup, pizza, curry, and many more.

Makerspace

Discover, create, and make. Makerspace allows students with shared interests in “Making” to gather and work creatively on projects while sharing ideas, equipment, and knowledge. Explore 3D printing, learn design skills, and pursue your interests.

Robotics

Students in Robotics begin with a quick safety orientation in the shop setting teaching them behaviour expectations. Then, students begin building Vex IQ robots to a Base Bot stage. From here they learned coding to make their robot move and to calibrate their coding inputs to get

accurate results. These calibration challenges also included coding their bot around an octagon shape and a maze designed by students. Students that complete this portion go on to build their robot into one with a working arm and claw attachment. This Claw Bot goes through similar calibration and challenges designed for its new abilities. Student can also learn to code a controller to their robot for real-time movement control, as well as an electronics and robotics combined challenge. Let's build robots!

Woodworking

Woodshop students begin with an intensive safety orientation and training with basic woodshop hand and power tools. After this, they spend the semester doing a combination of mandatory and choice projects that teach joinery, wood art, and simple construction. A joinery box project teaches them the safe and precise use of most large machines in the woodshop. Small choice projects allow students to pick projects in areas and use machines in which they are interested. Small projects also gave them a chance to learn creative design. Other projects may also include carving, timber-framing, garden structures, miniature skateparks, model vehicles, bat and bird houses, shop-improvement projects, and design competitions.

Introduction to Construction

Students in Intro to Construction start with a safety orientation and training with basic woodshop and construction hand and power tools. Through the year, student will learn about reading construction plans, sustainable materials, design concepts, building theory, measurement, and small business. Projects can include, but are not limited to, toolboxes, sawhorses, worktables, shop-improvement projects, outdoor furniture, garden boxes, doghouses, bat and bird houses, tool organizers, and competition projects. Part of our curriculum will include building projects to donate to community organizations.

Technology Education

Technology Education students begin with an intensive safety orientation and booklet. After this, they spend the semester doing a combination of mandatory and choice projects that teach joinery, wood art, and simple construction. Curriculum will combine science, engineering, and inquiry projects, repurposing materials, and use a variety of different materials and technologies. Projects may include, but are not limited to, bottle rockets, large catapults, boomerangs, CO2 cars, miniature skateparks and landscapes, miniature boats, egg drops, mousetrap cars, gravity cars, 3D prints, and sticker design. Between larger projects, students will have an opportunity to make small woodwork projects.

Arts Education

(All students must select at least 1 choice from this category)

Art

Art is a student driven class where individuals focus on developing and discovering their own creativity and self-expression. Classes will explore new concepts and methods, conceptualize new designs and produce work inspired by their own imaginations. Students will use a variety of media to create projects using color theory, 3D design, 3D modelling, drawing, painting, sculpture, and collage.

Creative Collective

Creative Collective is an explorative and collaborative combination of the Art, Media, Technology, Shop and Makerspace programs. It is entirely based on your interests and aptitudes and allows you access to a variety of different construction areas to make whatever you can design! Projects can include but are not limited to in a fairy forest installation community project, a wooden art frame, DIY miniature skateparks/skateboards, jewelry making, wood art, and cardboard games, and collaborative colouring projects. Projects can be designed using: Sketching, Paint Layering, Jewelry Making, Costume Design, Stagecraft, Textile/Graphic Design, Sculpture, Woodwork, Metalwork, 3D printing, 3D modelling, Photography, Etching, and Sticker Making. The only limit is your imagination!

Creative Writing

In Creative Writing, students cultivate their creative thinking and communication skills while writing. In this course, students follow their writing interests and passions. Opportunities to write in a variety of genres encourage students to experiment with new ideas, concepts and processes in their writing. Students will create and manage their own portfolios.

Digital Media

Students will learn the basics of the design process, storytelling and animation. They will focus on learning Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Premier while producing individually designed comics, stop motion animations, and building their own intellectual properties.

Drama

Learn basic performance techniques and have the option of exploring dramatic theory through silent films, infomercials, improvised comedy, movement to music, mask work, full length plays, and scene work. The skills learned in this class will help students with self-confidence, communication, expression, collaboration, and creativity. Students are encouraged to come with enthusiasm, but no previous drama related experience is necessary.

Theatre Performance

Students will participate in rehearsing and staging a musical theatre production for an audience. This involves memorizing lines, singing and dancing (a little). If you want to get on stage, this is your chance! Also we will need students to run lights and sound and design sets and do costumes and props and stage management.

Film Studies

Learn by studying different films and their directors. Watch the films in class and then learn the different techniques employed within. Develop and share opinions of the movies watched in class and enrich your understanding of film through the study of the social, cultural, historical, and/or political contexts that influence their meaning and interpretation.

Music

Students will discover and explore introductory concepts used in music. No prior musical experience is needed, however having training on an instrument or voice is helpful. Students will create music using a variety of instruments.

Garage Band

This is a music course focussing on rock band instruments like electric guitar, electric bass, drums, keyboards, and voice. Students will also work with music software to explore mixing, sampling, and composing electronic music. Students will collaborate with each other to rehearse and perform songs that they've chosen or written themselves.

Photography

Advanced photo methods will be taught and encouraged (proper lighting, macro, etc.). Photos will be uploaded to a shared space where their peers can critique them. Students can use personal cameras or will have access to school cameras.

Other Electives

Leadership

This course is designed to introduce students to the idea of becoming a leader. Learn how to lead your own life, contribute to our school community, as well as taking opportunities to connect with the community at large (outside of our school). We will study current trends in leadership as well as learn how to work together as a team to design projects – including how to plan, organize, and run an event. Special opportunities, such as working with students with diverse abilities, supporting sporting events, and sharing personal passions are all options. Students must be flexible and committed to informally volunteer time outside regular class time to ensure events happen according to deadlines. This course is a phenomenal item to put on a resume or job application.

Outdoor Education

Learn about shelter making, fire making, fishing, wild plant identification, orienteering, hiking, canoeing and more. Student should be comfortable exploring the outdoors in a variety of weather conditions.

Peer Tutoring

Peer tutoring is a class where you work with younger students in their classroom, one-on-one, or in small groups. You can work with teachers that you know, or we can find you a 'good fit' so that you can build your leadership skills and confidence while sharing your knowledge. Our Lake Trail peer tutors are an important part of our grade 6 and 7 classes that are in high demand. If you are someone that could see yourself as a role model for younger students, this course is for you!!

Personal Fitness

Learn the fundamentals of fitness, set a program for yourself, and then follow your program to achieve personal goals surrounding health, wellness, strength, flexibility, agility, and endurance

Team Sports

If you want to join the Basketball and/or Volleyball team at Lake Trail this year, then this course is for you! Students will focus on developing their individual skills, and then progress towards team dynamics and coordinated plays. This course will also focus on developing teamwork, sports-person-ship, and leadership skills.

