

École Secondaire
Hugh McRoberts
Secondary School



GRADE 7 PROGRAM PLANNER
2023 – 2024

“Learning Together ... Achieving Our Dreams”



École Secondaire Hugh McRoberts Secondary School

GRADE 8 COURSE SELECTION FOR 2023-2024

MISSION STATEMENT

McRoberts is a dual track school where staff, students and parents learn together in an environment of trust, support and mutual respect. Our purpose is to enable all learners to develop their potential, prepare for the future and achieve their dreams.

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Hugh McRoberts
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Important Dates for Program Planning for the 2023-2024 School Year

Hands-on Night	January 18 6:30pm @ McRoberts
Grade 7 Parent Information Night	January 18 7:00pm @ McRoberts
Applications & References for Math 8/9 Exam Due	February 7
Entrance Exam for Mathematics 8/9	February 14 3:30pm @ McRoberts
Course Selection Sheets Due	February 16
Round 1 Transfer Applications	February 6-28
Striker Basketball Classic	TBA
Grade 7 Day at McRoberts	TBA

GRADE 8 PROGRAMS

All students in Grade 8 take a total of eight courses. The specific courses are determined, in part, by the program stream (French or English).

ENGLISH PROGRAM

English
Social Studies
Mathematics
Science
Physical and Health Education
French
Home Ec./Tech Ed.
Fine Arts Elective (one of Art, Drama, Band, Choir)

FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM

Français Langue
Sciences Humaines
Mathématiques
Sciences Naturelles
Éducation Physique et Santé
English
Home Ec./Tech Ed.
Fine Arts Elective (one of Art, Drama, Band, Choir)

GRADE 8 ELL

Students receiving English as a Second Language support are enrolled in support classes. Depending on the ELL level, student schedules include the following courses:

<u>ELL 1 Level</u>	<u>ELL 2 Level</u>	<u>ELL 3 Level</u>	<u>ELL 4 Level</u>
ELL 1	ELL 2	ELL 3	ELL 4
ELL 1	ELL 2	ELL 3	English 8
ELL 1	ELL 2	Math 8	Math 8
Math 8	Math 8	Social Studies 8	Social Studies 8
PE 8	Science 8	Science 8	Science 8
Home Ec./Tech Ed.	PE 8	PE 8	PE 8
Elective*	Home Ec./Tech Ed.	Home Ec./Tech Ed.	Home Ec./Tech Ed.
Elective*	Elective*	Elective*	Elective*

* In Grade 8, students may choose their Fine Arts elective in Art, Music or Drama.



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MCROBERTS TIMETABLE

Since the 2021-2022 school year, McRoberts switched to a semester timetable. Please note that we are currently undergoing a review, and the timetable structure for the 2023-2024 school year has not been decided yet. A final decision regarding timetable structure (linear or semester) will be made by April 2023.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students at McRoberts are encouraged to get involved with the school community to enhance their school experience. Students can participate in the following extra-curricular programs:

Athletics

Badminton	Golf	Table Tennis	Volleyball
Basketball	Rugby	Tennis	
Cross Country	Soccer	Track & Field	
Field Hockey	Swimming	Ultimate	

Clubs and Activities

Animal Rescue Club	Crochet/Knitting Club	Mental Wellness Club
Art Club	Debate Club	Model UN Club
Book Club	Drama Club	Multicultural Club
Canucks Fan Club	Engineering Club	News Club
Chess Club	First Responders	Rainbow Club
Civics Club	Green Team	Rugby Club
Club Coalition	Interact Club	Student Council
Coin Club	KPOP Dance Club	Social Justice Club
	Literature Club	Strikers Give Back
	Mentorship Club	Women in Leadership

Travel

McRoberts offers travel opportunities for students that originate through curricular areas, clubs and/or athletic teams. Recent trips have been cancelled due to COVID, but past trips have included:

Costa Rica (Costa Rica Club)	Mexico (Spanish classes)
France-Spain (French, Spanish classes)	New York (Fine Arts Trip)
France (French Immersion Program)	Wales (Rugby Tour)
Europe (Battlefield Tours)	



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REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8

The aim of English Language Arts is to provide opportunities for personal and intellectual growth through speaking, listening, reading, viewing, writing, and representing to make meaning of the world and to prepare them to participate effectively in all aspects of society. Teachers select from a wide range of texts, including literature, non-fiction, visual/aural, and multimedia texts, which are particularly suited to their students.

FRANÇAIS LANGUE 8

Français Langue 8 aims to foster authentic francophone learning situations that will allow students to acquire a variety of competencies, knowledge and strategies. These are all necessary for communicating and interacting efficiently and confidently in French. Students will be given the opportunity to exercise their creative and critical thinking skills through inquiry and a wide variety of activities. We will also focus on encouraging positive cultural identity and understanding, including the First Peoples Principles of Learning. Literary content may include plays and legends.

FRENCH 8

The French 8 program explores topics that are relevant to the student's age group and interests. Emphasis is on the communicative approach, including participating in simple reciprocal interactions and basic self-expression in French. Using the Communi-Quete program, written and oral projects are an important focus of this course.

SCIENCE 8

Emphasis in this course is on the introduction of scientific attitudes, skills, processes, knowledge and thinking abilities. Students will learn science through a variety of activities including an examination of science as it applies to their everyday lives. Areas of study to achieve these goals are: cells and the immune system; atoms and the kinetic molecular theory; optics and electromagnetic radiation; and layers in Earth and plate tectonics.

SCIENCES NATURELLES 8

This course parallels Science 8.

HOME ECONOMICS/TECH. EDUCATION 8

This course is an exploratory course which introduces students to the basic skills in areas such as Woodwork, Electronics, Computers, Foods and Clothing.

PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION 8 ÉDUCATION PHYSIQUE ET SANTÉ 8

The PHE 8 program will review and refine the basic movement skills developed through the elementary physical education program. The emphasis is on team sports and major activities.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8

The overall goal of Social Studies 8 is to develop thoughtful, responsible, active citizens who are able to acquire the requisite information to consider multiple perspectives and to make reasoned judgments. The Social Studies 8 curriculum provides students with opportunities as future citizens to critically reflect upon events and issues in the past in order to make more informed decisions about events and issues in the present and future. The Social Studies 8 curriculum will focus on world civilizations between the seventh and eighteenth century.

SCIENCES HUMAINES 8

The content parallels Social Studies 8.

MATHEMATICS 8

This mathematics course is designed to develop numeracy skills by combining mathematical knowledge, communication skills, problem solving, connecting ideas, reasoning, mental math, estimation, visualization, and the use of technology. Students will construct their own meaning out of mathematics, understand math in meaningful contexts, and learn to move from concrete to abstract ideas by linking concrete, pictorial, and symbolic concepts. The course will focus on the Five Big Ideas of Number Representations, Computational Fluency, Linear Relationships, Spatial Relationships, and Data Analysis.

MATHEMATIQUES 8

The content parallels Mathematics 8.



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REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MATHEMATICS 8/9

Teacher recommendation and entrance required

Able and motivated students with a good work ethic and a strong math background are encouraged to consider this course. Students will be chosen on the basis of their performance on core math skills and problem-solving strategies on an entrance exam and recommendation from their grade 7 teacher. This accelerated course covers the Math 8 and Math 9 curricula in one year – see the Mathematics 8 and Mathematics 9 course descriptions for full details. Students achieving “proficient” or higher in this course will be recommended to proceed to Foundations and Pre-Calculus 10 in their grade 9 year. Students achieving below “proficient” will be recommended to enrol in Mathematics 9 in their grade 9 year to develop a more solid foundation prior to taking a math course at the grade 10 level. Acceleration of math in grade 8 sets up the potential for students to take AP Calculus in their grade 12 year.

ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ART 8

This is a foundation course in Visual Art for students of all artistic abilities. It will provide you with many skills you have been craving to learn. Do you like to make stuff? Draw, paint, sculpt with clay, and have creative challenges? This is the course for you! We will explore how to mix your creativity with different materials, processes, and art techniques. We will also look at historical and cultural influences in Art to learn how art is everywhere around us.

Students learn different musical concepts, styles, and cultural contexts while improving their skills on an instrument. Instruments include piccolo, flute, oboe, clarinet; soprano, alto bassoon; alto, tenor, baritone saxophone; trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, string bass and percussion. Students are expected to participate in performances throughout the year.

DRAMA 8

Students will be introduced to drama concepts and performance techniques through theatre games, class exercises and group presentations. Drama will help students develop their confidence and provide them with a safe and creative space to express themselves in new and imaginative ways. In Drama 8, students will work on storytelling through tableau, character creation, mime, puppetry, improvisation, and speech. The skills that students develop in Drama 8 will help them in other subject areas and throughout their lives.

CHOIR 8

Choral classes are open to any students who wish to learn to sing for enjoyment. A wide variety of music is explored including popular repertoire. Attendance at rehearsals and concerts is considered part of the course work. Chorus provides an excellent opportunity for ELL students to develop English skills. This class is a great opportunity for everyone who enjoys singing regardless of past or present experience.

CONCERT BAND 8



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MCROBERTS HIGHLIGHTS

McRoberts Secondary is a dual track school offering both English and French Immersion programs. The school first opened in November 1962 and currently has an enrolment of 972 students in Grades 8 to 12. McRoberts has a long and well established tradition of student achievement and academic excellence, athletics and community involvement.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

At McRoberts, we believe:

- schools should be for all learners.
- all students should have a school program which is challenging.
- addressing the needs of high ability learners should not be confined to one specialized program option, but should be built around the strengths, interests and needs of the individual student.
- programming for learners should address the needs of the whole child - affective, social, and cognitive; and
- learning needs change with age.

McRoberts also offers a variety of extracurricular activities that complement curricular areas.

- Music – Grade 8 Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Choir
- Drama – One Acts, Spring Production
- Art/Photography – School displays, Publications and Set Designs, Yearbook

ATHLETICS

McRoberts has a long tradition of, and reputation for, athletic excellence in a variety of sports.

Student participation is high, and teams have often ranked among the top in the Richmond league and/or province. Sports that McRoberts has won provincial banners for in the past include field hockey, soccer, rugby, and curling.

COMMUNITY

McRoberts is well known for its efforts in promoting and instilling a strong sense of social responsibility. McRoberts fosters a school community of difference makers, providing many different opportunities for students to develop their leadership and teamwork skills. To date, students have made and continue to make a large impact and significant contributions to the school and greater community.

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ENRICHMENT

Elective Courses

The opportunity to experience a wide variety of elective choices over a student's years at McRoberts is an important component of enrichment. Students are encouraged to select a range of electives over their secondary school years in order to develop into a well-rounded individual. McRoberts offers a variety of elective courses in all curricular areas – academic, Fine Arts and Applied Skills.

Accelerated Courses

Accelerated courses are for students with high ability and motivation. Currently, we offer acceleration in Mathematics. By taking Math 8/9 in their grade 8 year, students will be able to complete Math 12 in their grade 11 year and thus giving them the opportunity to focus on AP Calculus in their grade 12 year. It is recommended that students take a Math course every school year gr. 8 – 12 despite successfully completing one of the accelerated math courses, to best support success in university science programs.

NOTES

For more information about McRoberts, please contact:

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