

ROYAL BAY ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE SECONDARY



GRADE 9 *Course Request Guide* 2026-2027



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Introduction to Course Selection

École Royal Bay Secondary School offers a comprehensive and diverse range of academic and elective courses for all students. This Course Request Guide plays an integral role in communicating student choices offered. The choices students make determine the following year's timetable. It may not always be possible to offer all the courses listed in this guide. For example, if a course has insufficient enrollment, it will not be offered. Students need to be flexible in adjusting to the alternate course selections they will be asked to list, along with their primary selections. Make course selections carefully and please be aware that requests for course changes after the timetable is built will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and if requested opportunities are available.

Communication

The communication tools and links below are the main methods we use to send out notifications and news:

- Royal Bay Website <http://royalbay.web.sd62.bc.ca/>
- Royal Bay APP <https://rbss.appazur.com/app/>
- Raven's Nest <http://royalbay.web.sd62.bc.ca/about/this-week-in-the-ravens-nest/>

Counselling Department – Counsellors are an integral part of the academic advising process. Students should meet with their assigned counsellor to plan/finalize their programs and review graduation requirements as not all course requests can be accommodated.

Each student is assigned a Counsellor and a Vice-Principal based on their last name.

Counsellors

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Ms. K. Hogan
Ms. C. Kadin
Ms. R. Fafard

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Program Planning

Class Size Limitations – When space in classes is limited, priority will be given to students needing the course to meet graduation requirements. Students will be assigned space in classes according to grade level. Junior students can enroll in senior classes if space permits.

Course Selection & Full Time Program – Students **must** select a minimum of nine (9) courses.

Course Planning (Grade 9)

For more information on BC's Curriculum visit <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>

Required Courses

English Program	French Immersion Program
Career Education English Language Arts Mathematics Physical and Health Education (PHE) Science Social Studies Elective 1 Elective 2 Elective 3	Education a la Carriere English Language Arts Français Langue Seconde Mathématiques Physical and Health Education (PHE) Sciences Humaines Sciences Naturelles Elective 1 Elective 2

Elective Courses¹

Applied Design, Skills & Technologies (ADST)	Arts Education	Languages	Physical & Health Education (PHE)
Home Economics: - Home Economics Exploratory - Stagecraft Costuming & Design - Textiles Information & Communications Technology: - Computing Foundations Technology Education: - Metalwork/Drafting - Woodwork – Artistic Woodwork - Woodwork/Electronics	Dance: - Dance Foundations – Beginner - Dance Foundations – Intermediate Drama: - Drama - Performance Company (Musical Theatre) - Musical Theatre Music: - Band - Choral Music: - Concert Choir - Vocal Jazz - Guitar (Intro) - Piano (Intro) - Jazz Band Visual Arts: - Visual Arts	- French - Spanish	- Outdoor Education - Sports Performance Basketball - Sports Performance Rugby - Sports Performance Volleyball

Choice Programs

District Based	School Based Courses
Academies: Dance, Equine, Golf, Lacrosse, Mountain Bike and Soccer	Leadership Mathematics 9 Key Concepts Stagecraft Theatre Production

English Program: Required Courses

Career Education 9

MCE--09

- Explores personal development, global trends and local needs through events like Take Our Kids to Work Day.
- Reflects on students' preferences, skills, strengths and passions.
- Introduces safety skills for the workplace and online while further exploring one's digital footprint.
- Promotes research and expansion of students' knowledge of career possibilities.

English Language Arts 9

MEN--09

- Designed to build students' skills in the areas of reading and writing, speaking and listening, viewing and representing through various activities and strategies in order to strengthen their literacy and critical thinking.
- Explores each of the choice areas: Composition, Creative Writing, Focused Literary Studies, New Media, and Spoken Language in preparation to enter their preferred areas of choice in English 10.

Mathematics 9

MMA--09

- Designed to continue building on skills from math 8 and to prepare students for both the [Workplace Courses](#) and the [Foundations/Pre-Calculus Courses](#).
- Covers powers and exponents, rational numbers, algebra, polynomials, linear equations, graphing, proportional reasoning, statistics in society, and financial literacy.
- Strongly recommended that a Proficient in Math 9 is needed order to be successful in Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10.
- See our [FAQs](#) on the school website.

Required Equipment: Scientific Calculator

Physical and Health Education 9

MPHE-09

- Expands students' application, understanding, proficiency and leadership through physical activities.
- Encourages the development of personal health and fitness goals.
- Help to build an understanding of strategies to maintain and foster lifelong physical activity.
- Develops students' knowledge with respect to making healthy choices in relation to their mental and emotional well-being.

Science 9

MSC—09

- Offers an exciting journey into the world of science, covering interesting topics in chemistry, biology, physics and earth science such as:
 - elements and the periodic table.
 - reproduction, from cells to human life.
 - electricity, both static and current.
 - the biosphere and cycles of matter and energy through the ecosystem.
- Practice making observations, asking questions and testing hypotheses through explorations and experiments.

Social Studies 9

MSS—09

- Concentrates on 1750-1918, and includes European, Asian, North American and First Nations topics.
- Refines skills through examination of: revolution, nationalism, industrialization, colonialism and imperialism.
- Builds concepts and skills, together with the discussion of contemporary issues, culminates in students' ability to transfer knowledge to a real-life situation.
- Provides greater opportunity to explore a variety of topics and First Nations issues will be a central theme.

French Immersion Program: Required Courses

The French Immersion program integrates the four communications components (writing, speaking, listening and understanding) in every subject.

“This curriculum seeks to awaken the curiosity of students by encouraging them to look critically at the world around them. It is designed to enable students to use the French language as a cognitive development tool to build their knowledge through observation, exploration, inquiry, and the integration of newly acquired knowledge about the world.” (<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/fral/core/goals-and-rationale>)

To be eligible for the Double Dogwood, students must successfully complete the following courses:

Education a la Carriere 9

FECF-09

- Explores personal development, global trends and local needs through events like Take Our Kids to Work Day.
- Reflects on students' preferences, skills, strengths and passions.
- Introduces safety skills for the workplace and online while further exploring one's digital footprint.
- Promotes research and expansion of students' knowledge of career possibilities.

Français Langue Seconde 9

FFRAL09

- Builds student awareness of the linguistic and cultural variety found in the French-speaking world.
- Builds students' skills in the areas of reading and writing, speaking and listening, and grammar knowledge through various activities and strategies in order to strengthen their literacy and critical thinking.
- Explores many different types of texts (oral, visual, written) to broaden students' perspectives and understanding of the Francophone and Indigenous world.
- Integrates growth mindset and self-reflection into lessons – growth mindset encourages students to embrace challenges, learn from criticism/setbacks and see effort as a pathway to mastery.

Mathématiques 9

FMTHF09

- Designed to continue building on skills from Mathématiques 8 and to prepare students for both the Workplace pathway and the Foundations/Pre-Calculus Pathway.
- Covers powers and exponents, rational numbers, algebra, polynomials, linear equations, graphing, proportional reasoning, statistics in society, and financial literacy.

Sciences Humaines 9

FSCHF09

- Concentrates on 1750 to 1900, and includes European, North American and First Nations topics.
- Explores topics such as imperialism and colonialism through media representations (songs, movies, visual art).
- Builds concepts and skills, together with the discussion of contemporary issues, culminates in students' ability to transfer knowledge to a real-life situation.
- Provides greater opportunity to explore First Nations issues, which will be a central theme.

Sciences Naturelles 9

FSCF-09

- Examines four key disciplines in science (chemistry, biology, physics, and earth science).
- Concentrates on developing skills to ask questions about the natural world using the scientific method and communicate scientific ideas in various ways.
- Focuses on atomic theory, the periodic table, and the formation of chemical compounds in the chemistry unit.
- Examines sexual and asexual reproduction through the process of cell division in the biology unit.
- Examines electricity through circuits and voltage in the physics unit.
- Explores the cycles that help ecosystems function and sustainability in the earth science unit.

Elective Courses

Applied Design, Skills & Technologies (ADST)

Home Economics

Home Economics Exploratory 9

XLDCA09

- Introduces applied design in home economics, including food studies, textiles and family studies.
- Areas of emphasis include: food and kitchen safety as well as cooking and baking, basics of textile arts, including hand sewing, weaving and knitting/crochet and finally, communication and relationship skills.

Stagecraft Costuming & Design 9

YHEC-0D

- Introduces how costumes “set” the stage by helping to develop characters, setting, and the plot of a live performance.
- Students design and construct costumes for Royal Bay productions.
- Welcomes students to the behind-the-scenes creative team who contribute to the production on show night.

Textiles 9

MTXT10

- Welcoming students to the world of fashion and design, no sewing experience is needed, beyond a willingness to learn and explore.
- Follows a creative process to design projects.
- Makes art out of fabric and textile materials using a variety of methods: Sew a piece of clothing and upcycle something old and make it new again.

Information & Communications Technology

Computing Foundations 9 (ICT)

MADIT09

- Covers a wide range of material including: game design, digital citizenship and governance, basic and advanced computing techniques, digital editing for film and photos, basic programming, building computers, 3D printing, and virtual reality technology.
- Can also be taken by Grade 10s and is recommended before entering any advanced computing classes.

Technology Education

Metalwork 9/Drafting 9

MADM-09

- Introduces modern manufacturing and design practice to ignite areas of interest in future grades.
- Structured with 1 Term focused on each area in both the metal shop and drafting lab.
- Metalwork combines metal manufacturing processes such as sheet metal, MIG welding, machining and hand tool skills.
- Introduces shop safety and works through an exploration of different methods to complete various projects.
- Drafting combines skills of manual and computer-aided drafting.
- Introduces a series of drawings to help understand the process of design drawing.
- Advances to 3D modeling where students have the opportunity to 3D print (plastic) designs.

Woodwork 9/Electronics 9

MADW-09

- Introduces wood manufacturing and electronics skills to ignite areas of interest in future grades.

- Structured with 1 Term focused on each area in both the wood shop and electronics lab.
- Woodwork consists of shop safety along with machine and hand tool processes.
- Transition to Electronics lab will add electronics arts to each previous woodwork project.
- Introduces electronics parts, followed by the design and construction of a printed circuit board.
- Explores CNC machining and 3D modeling/3D printing, modified C programming language and the Arduino microprocessor.

Arts Education

Dance

Dance Performance 9-12 focuses on 4 styles of dance: Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary and Stage. We offer two different Dance experiences. You do not need to already be a dancer to be successful in this class! The best thing you can bring with you to class is a strong work ethic and a good attitude.

See the descriptions for choosing the right Dance class/experience/level for you:

Dance Foundations 9 – Beginner

MDNC-09

Beginner Dance Performance students:

- Have little/no experience; or
- Danced when they were younger but have not since; or
- Are athletes and want to work on their skill/flexibility; or
- Are in theatre and want to work on being a “triple threat”; or
- Have experience in 1 of the styles of dance listed above; or
- Want to take Dance for one semester.

Dance Foundations 9 – Intermediate

MDNC-09I

Intermediate Dance Performance students:

- Have some (1-3 years) experience in most of the styles of dance listed above; or
- Have studio experience in most of the styles of dance listed above; or
- Am in Grade 9 and have future years ahead to potentially move into the Academy Program; or
- Want to take Dance for one semester.

Drama

Drama 9

MDR--09

- Explores, creates, and promotes an appreciation for the dramatic process.
- Introduces and develops: ensemble building, movement and vocal technique, character creation, scene building, improv and playwriting.
- Introduces scene study and creating personal dramatic works.

Musical Theatre 9

XLDCC09MTH

- Students will learn and improve their singing, dancing, and acting skills.
- Students will learn the history of musical theatre while learning and rehearsing songs and scenes from the

musical theatre cannon.

- This class will offer special opportunities such as seeing shows in the community and attending classes with professional performers.

Performance Company 9 (Musical Theatre)

MDR09PC/ XLDCC09MTH

This is a yearlong course offered inside the timetable.

- Designed for students with previous performance experience who are passionate and interested in pursuing a career in the performing arts.
- Offers intensive instruction in classical and contemporary acting, musical theatre, as well as film and TV.
- Culminates in a full-scale production in March. Past productions include: *Pippin*, *Cabaret*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *Urinetown*, and *Catch Me if You Can*.
- Requires a high level of commitment and excellent attendance - As showtime approaches, some rehearsals will take place after school.

The following course is an **elective** course that has requirements that exceed those listed above. Requirements range from application and acceptance guidelines to a specific commitment to either a yearlong participation and / or scheduling outside the regular Timetable (OTT).

Stagecraft Theatre Production 9

XST--09Y

This is a yearlong course offered outside the timetable.

- This course works alongside the performance company and offers students the opportunity to be a part of the backstage crew during the run of our major yearly production.
- Students will:
 - Explore the different areas of backstage work including lighting, sound, costumes, stage management, props, set design, and scenic painting
 - Learn about and undertake a theatre design project
 - Choose a backstage area and develop technical skills related to that “crew”
 - Learn about and participate in the technical theatrical process and the show run of our yearly theatrical production
 - Students are required to put in time beyond regular class hours as show time approaches.

Music

Instrumental

Band 9

XBA—09

This yearlong course runs on alternating days with Jazz Band or HUB learning classes.

- Welcomes musicians who have been previously enrolled in band or have taken private lessons.
- Allows choice of a new instrument or continued playing of previous instrument: woodwind, brass or percussion.
- Teaches playing instruments proficiently, while learning musical concepts like rhythms, notes, chords and scales.
- Provides opportunity for travelling with fellow musicians to festivals and concert tour.

Material Cost: Instrument rental (some instruments are available through the school) \$15/month.

Percussionists – annual fee will be \$20 for school year. Uniform rental requires \$5.00/year.

Students required to purchase any other supplies for their instruments such as reeds, valve oil, sticks, etc.

Jazz Band 9

XLDCB09JB

This yearlong course runs on alternating days with Concert Band or HUB learning classes.

- Introduces instrumental jazz through the performance of 'Big Band' arrangements.
- Uses a variety of jazz styles including swing, funk, Latin, rock and ballads.
- Encourages listening to recordings, coping the great players and developing reading and improvising 'chops'.
- Performances at Festivals and Community events require occasional extracurricular rehearsals.

Material Cost: Instrument rental (some instruments are available through the school). \$150/year.

Percussionists – annual fee will be \$20 for the school year. Uniform rental required \$5.00/year.

Students required to purchase any other supplies for their instruments such as reeds, valve oil, sticks, etc.

Vocal

Choral Music (Vocal Jazz)

XLDCD09VJY

- Teaches a unique and exciting style of vocal music, where microphone technique is taught through a variety of Jazz styles (swing, Latin and ballad) as a performance-based ensemble.
- Introduces a cappella (voices only) or accompanied by a rhythm section.
- Performances require occasional extracurricular rehearsals.
- Rehearses healthy vocal production and singing in 3 and 4 part harmony.
- Welcomes students to sign up for one or two semesters of this course.

The following course is an **elective** course that has requirements that exceed those listed above. Requirements range from application and acceptance guidelines to a specific commitment to either a yearlong participation and / or scheduling outside the regular Timetable (OTT).

Choral Music (Concert Choir) 9

XC---09Y

Classes run yearlong, outside the timetable.

- Welcomes new singers to a performance-based ensemble that introduces choral music styles and singing 3 and 4 part harmony.
- Fosters and promotes a love of singing and a desire to develop one's musicianship.
- Performances at festivals and community events allow for travel with fellow band/choir members.

Non-Performing

Guitar 9 (Intro)

XGUIT09

- Utilizes a step-by-step method geared towards beginners.
- Starts with the basics: chords, scales, popular riffs, theory, strumming patterns, finger picking, bass lines, note reading, symbols and technical terms, rhythm, maintenance and ear training.
- Structured to teach students to be knowledgeable musicians and to enjoy playing great, classic music.
- Uses Blues and contemporary songs to aid in developing technique and facility on the guitar.

Materials Cost: Students to provide an acoustic guitar. (School owns only a few guitars, available to rent for \$15.00)

Piano 9 (Intro)

XLDCA09PIA

- Utilizes a step-by-step method geared towards beginners.

- Starts with the basics: melody and chords, hand and finger positioning, theory, composition, symbols and technical terms, sight reading and ear training.
- Teaches students to be knowledgeable musicians and to enjoy playing classic and contemporary songs.

Materials Cost: Piano or keyboard for home practice is an asset.

Visual Arts

Studio Arts 3D 9 (Ceramics and Sculpture)

MVA—

- Explore your creativity through three-dimensional art, with a focus on ceramics and additional sculptural techniques.
- Build skills in design, form, texture, and surface treatments through hands-on practice.
- Learn from classical and contemporary 3D artists to inspire your own work.

No experience needed, just curiosity, commitment, and a sketchbook!

Visual Arts 9

MVA—09

- Explores a variety of media and processes, including drawing, painting, printmaking and a variety of sculpture materials, including hand building with ceramics.
- Expands image development skills through the application of design elements and principles.
- Introduces traditional and contemporary artists and art forms.

Required Equipment: Sketchbook/Visual journal.

Languages

Core French 9

MFR--09

- Introduces French language learning in a fun and fast paced learning environment.
- Listening, speaking and viewing helps students acquire and understand French.
- Share experiences and perspectives through stories.
- Builds understanding of Francophone culture through stories, films, poetry, art, and other creative works. Creates an appreciation and deeper understanding of cultural diversity.

Spanish 9

MSP--09

- Introduces Spanish language learning in a fun and fast-paced learning environment.
- Listening and viewing helps students acquire and understand Spanish.
- Introduces Spanish culture, and the ability to tell a story and have a conversation in Spanish.
- Builds understanding of Latino culture through stories, films, poetry, art, and other creative works. Creates an appreciation and deeper understanding of cultural diversity.

Physical & Health Education

Outdoor Education 9

XLDCE09OE

- Develops the skills and prepares students for a multi-day backpacking trip in the spring.

- Designed as a hands-on course that focuses on learning by doing such things as: wilderness safety/survival skills, first aid, nutrition, navigation and orienteering, environmental practices/nature appreciation, team building, goal setting, leadership and personal fitness.
- Develops an appreciation of our local and coastal environments by exploring natural ecosystems, exercising sustainability and understanding human's impact on the environment.
- Prioritizes a significant outdoor component and students must be prepared for a range of weather conditions.
- Activities will include activities such as hiking local trails and exploring coastal areas, rock climbing, mountain biking, ultimate Frisbee, and paddle boarding/kayaking.

Sports Performance Basketball 9

XLDCE09BB

Recommended prerequisite: Prior experience playing basketball is recommended.

- Geared towards the player who wishes to improve their performance.
- Works on basic skills, strategies, and concepts in a fun, high energy, and competitive environment.
- Requires daily demonstration of commitment and focus to improve performance in the sport.

Sports Performance Rugby 9

XLDCE09RB

- Geared towards the player who wishes to improve their performance.
- Works on basic skills, strategies, and concepts in a fun, high energy, and competitive environment.
- Requires daily demonstration of commitment and focus to improve performance in the sport.

Sports Performance Volleyball 9

XLDCE09VB

Recommended Prerequisite: Prior experience playing volleyball is recommended.

- Geared towards the player who wishes to improve their performance.
- Works on basic skills, strategies, and concepts in a fun, high energy, and competitive environment.
- Requires daily demonstration of commitment and focus to improve performance in the sport.

Choice Programs

Students may choose unique courses from the list below. Note that these courses have requirements that may exceed those listed in previous sections of this guide. Requirements range from application and acceptance guidelines (Academies) to a specific commitment to either a yearlong participation and/or scheduling outside of the regular Timetable (OTT).

Academies

Students interested in academies at Royal Bay require:

- Registration via [SD62 Academies Office](#);
- Audition/skills assessment;
- Recommendation from your present Vice-Principal; and
- Academy specific fees.

Official acceptance into an SD62 Academy at Royal Bay Secondary School is determined and communicated by the Royal Bay Administration Team **only**. Registration into an Academy via the SD62 Academies Office does **not** constitute acceptance into any Royal Bay Academy.

The following academies are hosted at Royal Bay:

Dance Academy	Equine Academy
Mountain Bike Academy	Soccer Academy
Golf: Golf Academy – Learn to Compete Golf Academy – Learn to Play	Lacrosse: Lacrosse Academy (Boys) Lacrosse Academy (Girls)

For detailed and up-to-date information regarding our District Academy programs, please visit our [District Academies site](#).

Leadership 9/10

XLEAD09Y

Offered as a yearlong, multi-graded class, outside of the timetable.

- Provides opportunities to organize school activities and events, as well as learning about leadership skills.
- Allows students to give back to the school, local, and global communities in a positive manner and have a voice in some of the many exciting things that happen on a daily basis around the school.
- Self-motivation, communication, and a positive attitude are critical to taking part in our leadership program.
- Class meeting times determined annually, with additional meetings on an “as needed” basis.

Mathematics 9 Key Concepts & Mathematics 9

MMA--09KC/MMA--09

Offered as a yearlong program:

- **Semester 1** – Mathematics 9 Key Concepts
- **Semester 2** – Mathematics 9
- Designed for students who had challenges in Math 8 and need to solidify their basic skills before proceeding to Mathematics 9, or Mathematics 10 the following school year.
- Reinforces many of the concepts developed previously (integer operations, fractions, decimals, order of operations) and introduces material to prepare the student for Mathematics 9 (rational expressions, algebra and geometry).
- Focuses on reading comprehension as part of the assignments.

Required Equipment: Scientific Calculator