

# GRADE 8

## AT A GLANCE



*What interests me? What am I good at and passionate about?* Grade 8 students take six required subjects to learn more about themselves and the world: English Language Arts, Health and Life Skills, Mathematics, Physical Education, Science and Social Studies. Exciting optional subjects are also available.



### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

*Analyze ends with -lyze, so paralyze, which sounds similar, likely ends the same way!* Your teen will study and create their own texts, including oral, print and visual texts, as they develop listening and speaking, reading and writing, viewing and representing, and inquiry and research skills.



### HEALTH AND LIFE SKILLS

*I have an idea of what I'd like to do in the future. It is just a few years away!* More than ever, your teen will see who they are and what they believe. They will begin to understand what it means to keep good relationships and make choices that help them a long way into the future.



### MATHEMATICS

*Understanding ratios, rates and proportions.* Your teen will understand perfect squares and square roots, and solve problems involving percents, rates, ratios and proportions. They will multiply and divide positive fractions, mixed numbers and integers. Your teen will solve problems involving the Pythagorean theorem, surface area, volume and probability of independent events.



### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*What are the benefits of an active lifestyle?* Your teen will take part in various activities that will help them to lead a healthy, active lifestyle. They will grow to appreciate the importance of physical activity, while discovering essential life skills, such as cooperation, leadership, fair play and teamwork.



### SCIENCE

*How do hydraulics work and why do we have an epiglottis?* Students apply this Grade 8 Science vocabulary as they investigate machines and the human body. They experiment with liquids and gases to interpret their uses in everyday situations, and they learn how light travels through different materials and how vision works.



### SOCIAL STUDIES

*How do people in different societies view the world and influence each other?* Contact between societies that view the world in different ways has shaped our world. Through inquiry, your teen will reflect on their own worldview and assess the influence that the past has on the present. By examining historical examples drawn from Japan, Renaissance Europe and Spanish and Aztec societies, your teen will better understand how contact between societies can lead to change.

### OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

ART  
CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATIONS (CTF)  
DRAMA  
ENVIRONMENTAL AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION  
ETHICS  
FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGES  
FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (FSL)  
INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES  
LOCALLY DEVELOPED COURSES  
MUSIC

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### ASSESSMENT

Your teen's learning is assessed using a variety of tools and strategies within the classroom. Ask your teen's teachers what methods they are using. The different assessment methods tell you and your teen's teachers about your teen's strengths, the areas in which they might grow and how well your teen is doing throughout their courses. The teachers can then change or refine their teaching plans to ensure that learning activities better meet the needs of your teen. At the end of each course, your teen is assessed and their achievement is reported so that you know if they have achieved the expected learning outcomes for their grade.

You play an integral role in your teen's education by providing the encouragement and support he or she needs to succeed.

### RESOURCES

A variety of digital and print resources, developed by publishers, Alberta Education or Alberta teachers, are available to help students learn. Teachers may select, and bring into the classroom, numerous innovative and creative resources to create rich learning experiences for your child. Visit [LearnAlberta.ca](http://www.learnalberta.ca/) (<http://www.learnalberta.ca/>) to learn more about the resources your child may encounter.

LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR  
CHILD'S EDUCATION  
BY VISITING

**My Child's Learning: A Parent  
Resource**

<http://www.mychildslearning.alberta.ca>



### WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

EARLY AND MIDDLE YEARS CURRICULUM SECTOR  
Telephone: 780-422-7996  
E-mail: [EDC.DivisionalStrategicSupports@gov.ab.ca](mailto:EDC.DivisionalStrategicSupports@gov.ab.ca)

FRENCH EDUCATION SERVICES  
Telephone: 780-427-2940  
E-mail: [FES-SEF@gov.ab.ca](mailto:FES-SEF@gov.ab.ca)