

Grade 9 Registration Handbook 2020-2021



Principal's Message:

Welcome to the Churchill Family! This is a very exciting time in your life as you begin the final chapter of your journey through the public education system.

Our vision at Winston Churchill is “A community of learners, working to make the world a better place”. This is something that we strive to be every day. In order to make this dream a reality we **build relationships, pursue growth & value diversity**. We value kindness and hard work and work together to try and be a little bit better every day.

At Churchill, we provide a full range of program offerings leading to a wide variety of employment and post-secondary opportunities. This school prides itself on its history and in its possibilities, and as such, places high expectations on our students regarding social and academic performance.

I would encourage you to become an active member of our school community. There are many opportunities to become involved in student leadership activities, fine arts, athletics & clubs. This is your school and your high school experience. Make it one you will remember fondly.

Tracy Wong

Principal

General Information for Grade 8 students

This booklet is designed to help you plan your Grade 9 year at Winston Churchill High School. The Grade 9 year is foundational for the following years. Keep in mind that your success in Grade 9 subjects will have a direct impact on which courses you will be eligible to take in Grade 10. Set realistic goals, work hard and be kind. Grade 9 is an important year of transition for you.

Your Grade 9 Program

- Students entering Grade 9 will be assigned to a teacher-advisor who will stay with them for the duration of their time at Churchill. This advisor will assist with academic programming and be the students go to person at Churchill.
- All students will take English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies & Science.
- All students will take Physical Education and Health.
- Students will be registered in up to seven options classes. Band and Choir are year-long courses and therefore, count as four (4) option selections. Spanish, French & Tae Kwon-Do are ½ year options and count for two (2) option selections each.

Knowledge and Employability (K & E)

Students entering high school in grade 9 may have been in a Knowledge and Employability program in middle school or may qualify for this program upon entering Winston Churchill High School.

This program is a hands-on skill-based program that is designed to assist students in developing the skills needed for employment after high school. There is a work experience program component and a curriculum based on practical experience. Students will finish high school with an 80-credit certificate of completion.

The K & E program has a maximum enrollment. Students interested in this program may contact Jamie Bach for further information.

International Baccalaureate (IB)

Churchill has offered the prestigious International Baccalaureate program of studies for motivated and capable high school student in Southern Alberta since 1990. The IB program offers Churchill students the opportunity to engage in and academically challenging, world recognized program of studies.

If you are interested in IB...

Students entering high school in grade 9 might already be thinking about applying for admission to the IB program. Some information to consider if this is the case:

- IB is an advanced academic program for high school students (10-12).
 - IB is based on an international curriculum.
 - Universities world-wide want IB students.
- IB starts in Grade 10 with a pre-IB year, and continues in Grades 11 & 12 with the full IB program or individual IB courses.
- Any grade 10 student may apply for IB.
 - There is no pre-IB program in Grade 9.
 - You do not have to be a WCHS student in Grade 9 to be accepted to IB.
- Admission to Grade 10 pre-IB program is based on marks in the Grade 9 core subjects.
- For further information on the IB curriculum, students can contact Morgan Day.

Winston Churchill Advisor Program

Each Churchill student (9-12) will be assigned a teacher-advisor. The student's advisor group will always meet in the same place, usually the teacher-advisor's classroom. Students will stay with the same teacher-advisor for the duration of their time at Churchill. This provides a consistent connection for students at Churchill. There is time built into the timetable every day for students to connect with their Advisor.

Grade 9 Patterns

Each Grade 9 student will be assigned to a specific grade 9 pattern. Your pattern is a specified group of students that will be grouped together for English, Math, PE & Health classes. You will be with other groups for Social, Science & option classes. Your pattern will be identified by a number designation such as 9-1, 9-2, 9-3, etc.

Each Grade 9 pattern will have a unique timetable indicating the time and location for each class. Options class groupings will be determined based on student's option choices.

Course Descriptions – Core Courses

- **English Language Arts 9**
 - English is a year long course. Students will write a PAT at the end of the second semester.
- **Math 9**
 - Math is a year long course. Students will write a PAT at the end of the second semester.
- **Social Studies 9**
 - Social is a semester course. Classes will be held six times per week. Students will write a PAT at the end of the semester in which they are taking the class.
- **Science 9**
 - Science is a semester course. Classes will be held six times per week. Students will write a PAT at the end of the semester in which they are taking the class.
- **Physical Education & Health 9**
 - PE and Health will be offered as a combined course that will run all year. Classes will be held three times per week. Teachers will balance class activities so that 75% of instruction is PE and 25% is Health.

Selecting your Grade 9 Options

General Guidelines:

The following guidelines are provided to assist students and their parents in selecting Grade 9 options:

- There are seven options spaces for Grade 9 students. Each option will run on a quarter system schedule and will meet three times per week.
- Select seven options from the list. Churchill connections is a mandatory course for all Grade 9 students and will be one of the eight options.
- Band and Choir will be offered as year-long options and will take four options spaces with each. Spanish, French & Tae Kwon Do are offered as ½ year options and will take up two options spaces each. Students in both Band and Choir will have all eight option spaces used.

On the Grade 9 registration form, students will be asked to indicate eight option choices. Every effort will be made to timetable students into their top seven choices (Churchill Connections making eight), however this is not always possible based on enrollment.

The available option classes available to Grade 9 students in 2020/2021 include:

Animation 9 (1)	Foods 9 (1)
Art 9 (1)	French 9 (2)
Band 9 (4)	Graphics 9 (1)
Choral 9 (4)	IB Prep & Math Skills 9 (1)
Churchill Business Challenge 9 (1)	Military History 9 (1)
Churchill Promotions 9 (1)	Physical Wellness 1 (1)
Construction Tech 9 (1)	Physical Wellness 2 (1)
Computer Programming 9 (1)	Reading Café 9 (1)
Dance 9 (1)	Spanish 9 (2)
Drama 9 (1)	Tae Kwon Do 9 (2)
English IB prep 9 (1)	World Geography 9 (1)
Fashion 9 (1)	

Grade 9 Option Tally: _____ + _____ + _____ + _____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = **7**

(The TOTAL of the selected options must equal 7)

Option Course Descriptions

- **Animation**

- Are you interested in cartooning and animation? This class will explore different techniques and styles of animation including frame-by-frame animation, stop motion animation, and the use of animation software

- **Art (\$10.00 fee)**

- Art 9 will introduce the elements of design through several projects and various materials. The understanding of design can be applied to many other option classes throughout high school.

- **Band**

- Band 9 is a year-long option that is offered three times per week. Band takes up four of the eight option spaces available to Grade 9 students. This option promotes an improvement in music skills and knowledge, an increased ability to perform music, growth and strengthening of individual character, and cooperative social interaction.

- **Choral**

- Choral 9 is a year-long option that is offered three times per week. Choral takes up four of the eight option spaces available to Grade 9 students. As with Band 9, this option promotes an improvement in music skills and knowledge, an increased ability to perform music, growth and strengthening of individual character, and cooperative social interaction.

- **Churchill Business Challenge**

- In this class, you will learn what it takes to market and manage a small business. We will focus on marketing products from our school store in a challenge environment.

- **Churchill Promotions**

- In this challenge you will learn about Promotions, Graphic Design, Photoshop, Adobe Premier and Social Media. You will create promotional materials like posters, banners and multimedia messages to promote events for our school.

- **Construction Tech (\$20.00 fee)**

- Construction Technology 9 incorporates instruction and projects that will involve using most of the power tools and machinery in the woodworking area.

- **Computer Programming**

- Computer Programming is a course designed to give students the basic computer skills necessary for success in high school. Topics covered include: Digital Citizenship, MS Word, MS Excel, MS Powerpoint, basic graphics skills, video presentation and keyboarding.
- **Dance**
 - Dance 9 will be a technical dance class in which students will learn a series of dance techniques which will be incorporated into choreographed routines students will learn and perform. Elements of other styles such as ballet, modern, jazz and hip-hop, may be explored.
- **Drama**
 - Students will learn the basics of stage movement, improvisation, character development and the basic techniques of acting.
- **English IB Prep**
 - The English IB prep course is designed for students considering taking IB next year. You'll learn how to think and write about texts analytically and you'll have the opportunity to learn how to effectively share your ideas in a class that's discussion-based. If you like to read, think, discuss, and debate, this class is for you!
- **Fashions (\$15.00 fee)**
 - Students will have the opportunity to learn basic sewing skills, including the use of a sewing machine and serger. A minimum of three projects will be made during the semester.
- **Foods (\$15.00 fee)**
 - Have you ever wanted to explore the field of cooking? In Foods 9 you will learn the basics of meal planning, cooking and meeting the nutritional requirements of Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating. Come and practice your cooking skills while enjoying your delicious creations.
- **French**
 - French 9 is an option that is offered three times per week. This course is a continuation of concepts learned in French 7 and 8, but can be taken by beginners who are interested in pursuing the French IB program in Grade 10. Students will learn the basics of communication in French in a fun and relaxed atmosphere.
- **Graphics**

- This course will improve your knowledge and techniques with Photoshop Elements. You will also learn editing "tricks" with photographs and create photo presentations.

- **Math IB Prep**

- IB is a rigorous and demanding program. This option will give an advantage in math because it is the first course completed in IB and instruction goes fast. We will extend the grade 9 curriculum to cover Trigonometry, Integral and Rational Exponents, Radicals and Factoring Quadratics. The goal is also to set students up for more success in general so we will be delving into mindfulness practice and time management. These are key skills that will assist current Gr. 9 students with their sights on the IB program.

- **Military History**

- The Canadian military history course asks students to examine the effect of war on our nation, to develop an appreciation for Canadian military history, and to build an appreciation for the sacrifice made by Canadian service men and women. It is important to emphasize the course is not intent on glorifying war. On the contrary, the focus will be on developing an understanding of, and appreciation for, the harsh realities of war and the impact it has on a nation's identity. The course will explore the following: pre - 20th century conflict in Canada, Canada and World War I, Canada and World War II, and the future of the Canadian military. Students will have an opportunity to explore military histories in their own families, as well as the rich military history of Lethbridge and Southern Alberta.

- **Physical Wellness 1**

- Physical Wellness is a grade 9 option that focuses on physical activity, fitness and various aspects of health and wellness. In this course, students will have an opportunity to engage in physical activities such as indoor and outdoor team games, individual pursuits and a variety of cooperative games involving teamwork and leadership. Students will also be introduced to various aspects of personal fitness and will have the opportunity to learn functional fitness in our fitness center. Students will also engage in activities that are an extension of health and wellness activities that are taught in physical education courses. Grade 9 students will have the opportunity to take this course twice throughout the year.

- **Physical Wellness 2**

- Same as Physical Wellness 1 (students could take this option twice)

- **Reading Café**

- This option will allow students to read for pleasure. They will be introduced to diverse, contemporary texts. Students will be able to listen to and share book talks, as well as connect with our learning commons facilitator to help find books that interest them. They will also be sharing their personal reviews of texts with options for both public or private publishing methods. Occasionally, there will be hot chocolate/tea, and treats!

- **Spanish**

- Spanish 9 is an option that is offered 3 times per week. This is an introduction to Spanish language and culture. Spanish is the 2nd most spoken language in the world and one of the easiest to learn. Students will experience foods and culture of Hispanic countries. At completion they will be able to communicate the basics of the language.

- **Tae Kwon Do (\$30.00 fee)**

- This class is offered to students with an interest in learning a traditional martial art. Students will learn the fundamental movements, stances, blocks, punches and kicks of one of the world's most dynamic self-defense forms. Classes are offered in a safe, traditional format following the tenets of Tae Kwon-Do; Courtesy, Integrity, Perseverance, Self-Control, and Indomitable Spirit. Instruction will focus on the white belt to yellow belt curriculum. No previous experience is necessary. Classes meet three times per week for the whole semester (20 weeks), When choosing this option please keep in mind that this class will require physical exertion each and every session and requires members to pay strict attention to the instructor at all times. Students will be expected to maintain a clean uniform and participate to their best ability each class.

- **World Geography**

- In World Geography 9 students will be introduced to the concepts of human, physical and political geography. Students will build an understanding of the political divisions in our contemporary world, as well as examine the impact of physical geography on the human condition. Through the use of print and digital mapping resources, students will develop geographic thinking skills and grow their understanding and appreciation of the complex world in which we live.

2020-2021 Co-curricular Programs

Grade 9 Athletic Teams

- Lethbridge Schools Athletic Association (LSAA) Sports
 - Cross Country
 - Volleyball
 - Basketball
 - Badminton
 - Track & Field
- Additional Athletic opportunities for Grade 9 Athletes
 - Rugby

School Productions

- Major Drama Productions
- One Act Play
- “Arts Alive and Well”
- Fall & Spring Concerts
- Tunes in June

Clubs (Take place at lunch or during I2)

- Human Rights
- GSA
- Table Tennis / Chess
- Interact
- Robotics
- Braille Club
- Plant Club

Student Lockers

Students are assigned lockers and locks according to their advisor group. Students are expected to use the locker they have been assigned. Please do not change or share with other students as you are responsible for the contents of your assigned locker. We do not allow personal locks.

Do not share your locker or lock combination with anyone!

School Fees 2020 – 2021

- Student Fee \$50.00
- Art 9 \$10.00
- Construction 9 \$20.00
- Fashion Studies 9 \$10.00
- Food Studies 9 \$15.00
- Tae Kwon Do \$30.00
- Band Instrument \$100.00
- Yearbook \$45.00

Grade 9 Course Fees will be added to SCHOOL CASH ONLINE each quarter (based on when the student is enrolled in that option).

Please note there will be fees associated with most co-curricular activities. Specific costs will be provided when a student registers for these activities.

GST is charged where applicable

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE is the preferred method of payment for all school fees

<https://lethbridgeschoolcashionline.com>