



## Course Catalogue

**Grade 9**

2026 – 2027

Welcome to John Barsby Community School. Whether you are new to John Barsby, or you are a returning student, we know that a great year filled with wonderful experiences and opportunities awaits you.

John Barsby is unique in its sense of community and being part of our school community can give you the support that you need to achieve academically and to explore your own personal development. As a student, part of your responsibility is to plan your next school year by selecting courses for your educational program.

Our goal is to provide a broad range of courses to meet your needs and interests; however, please keep in mind that all courses are subject to adequate enrollment as well as facility and staff availability. We will work hard to meet as many of your course requests as possible; however, we cannot guarantee that every course request will be fulfilled.

We urge you to give serious consideration to your course planning. It is important to read this booklet carefully and discuss the information with your family. Many courses are a building block giving you the necessary foundations to be successful at the next grade level. Take time to seek advice from your teachers, counsellors, and your parents as you make decisions for next year. Build a program for yourself that is challenging and will help you develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes that will give you direction as you move beyond high school.

## COURSE PLANNING INFORMATION

Grade 9 is the year to polish up academic skills in preparation for the Grade 10-12 Graduation Program! Students will continue to build a strong foundation in required courses and will be invited to further explore elective interests.

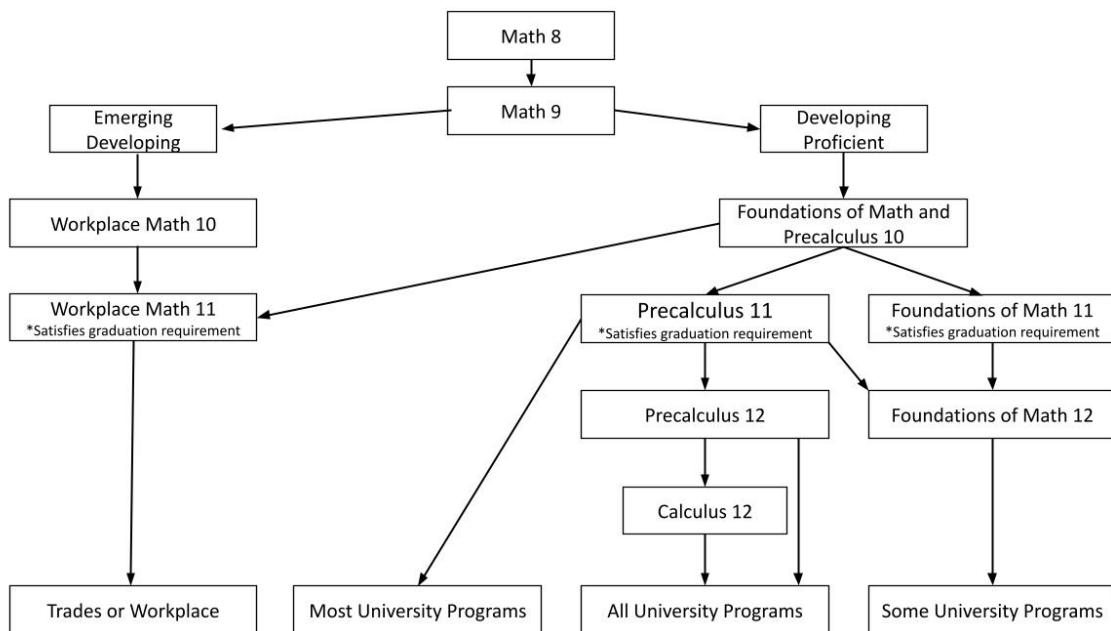
Students are encouraged to be thoughtful about the courses they request to take advantage of opportunities to build life skills as well as opportunities to navigate technology, develop their well-being, and to explore their creativity.

Please consult with teachers and your education counsellor if you have questions.

Required courses in grade 9 are:

- English 9
- Social Studies 9
- Math 9
- Science 9
- Careers 9
- Physical and Health Education 9

## MATHEMATICS



## **MATH 9**

Content: rational numbers, exponents, polynomials, linear relations and equations, spatial proportional reasoning, statistics and budgets/transactions.

Big Ideas:

- The principles and processes underlying operations with numbers apply equally to algebraic situations and can be described and analyzed.
- Computational fluency and flexibility with numbers extend to operations with rational numbers.
- Continuous linear relationships can be identified and represented in many connected ways to identify regularities and make generalizations.
- Similar shapes have proportional relationships that can be described, measured, and compared.
- Analyzing the validity, reliability, and representation of data enables us to compare and interpret.

Students should achieve Proficient (PRF) or Extending (EXT) to ensure success in Foundations of Math and Pre-Calculus 10 .

## **ENGLISH**

### **English 9**

English 9 continues the aims and goals of the English Language Arts program as set out in grade 8, using increasingly complex texts and tasks. Emphasis is put on developing skills in reading and viewing for information; thinking and organizing; and writing, and presenting, so that students improve their ability to connect, comprehend, communicate and create. Conventions and literary devices are reviewed, and more complex terms, techniques and usages are introduced.

## **SCIENCE**

Science provides opportunities for us to better understand our natural world, to ask questions and seek answers, and to grow our collective scientific knowledge. Aware that our scientific knowledge is provisional and is influenced by our culture, values, and ethics, we can link traditional and contemporary Indigenous understandings with current scientific knowledge to enable us to make meaningful connections to our everyday lives and the world beyond.

## Goals

- An understanding and appreciation of the nature of science as an evidence-based way of knowing the natural world.
- Place-based knowledge and experiences about the natural world in the area in which they live by accessing and building on existing understandings, including those of local First Peoples.
- A solid foundation of conceptual and procedural knowledge in biology, chemistry, physics, and earth and space sciences that they can use to interpret the natural world and apply to new problems, issues, and events, to further learning and to their lives.
- The habits of mind associated with science — a sustained curiosity; a valuing of questions; an openness to new ideas and consideration of alternatives; an appreciation of evidence; an awareness of assumptions and a questioning of given information; a healthy, informed skepticism; a seeking of patterns, connections, and understanding; and a consideration of social, ethical, and environmental implications.
- A lifelong interest in science and the attitudes that will make them scientifically literate citizens who bring a scientific perspective, as appropriate, to social, moral, and ethical decisions and actions in their own lives, culture, and the environment.

## Science 9

This course is organized around these four BIG IDEAS:

- Cells are derived from cells.
- The electron arrangement of atoms impacts their chemical nature.
- Electric current is the flow of electric charge.
- The biosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere are interconnected, as matter cycles and energy flows through them.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### **Social Studies 9 (1750 – 1919)**

Social Studies 9 contributes to the important goal of preparing students for their lives as Canadian citizens and members of the international community. It continues from Grade 8 Social Studies studying major events in history from 1750 – 1919. There is a focus on the development of the culture, politics, economy technology and the environment in emerging global civilizations. Specific topics that are open for examination are the importance of the concept of ‘revolution’ in the development of government, the impact of colonization on indigenous and immigrant peoples, the development, adaptation and influence of technologies on societies, and the impact these have on the resources of the global environment.

## PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

### **Physical and Health Education 9**

This course builds upon the learning experiences from the PHE 8 course and enables students to continue to develop and enhance their physical literacy levels and develop a stronger understanding of various factors that influence personal health decisions and their potential influences. Students will actively participate in a variety of units including both team and individual sports such as volleyball, basketball, soccer, softball, football, ultimate, ball hockey, lacrosse, track & field, badminton, wrestling, dance, gymnastics, weight training, and health education.

### **Physical and Health Education 9 - Performance and Sport**

This course builds upon the learning experiences from the Physical and Health Education 8 course and enables students to continue to develop and enhance their physical literacy levels and develop a stronger understanding of various factors that influence personal health decisions and their potential influences. Students will actively participate in some units including both team and individual sports.

This course also includes daily physical activity, physical literacy, and personal health and performance goals. Additionally, this specialty course introduces and develops the leadership and athletic skills of students who are interested in acquiring technical, nutritional, coaching and management experiences in sport. This course is open to any student who is seeking to contribute in a positive way to sport within the community and who is seeking opportunities to set and achieve personal goals for themselves. For more information about this course, please see Mr. Stevenson.

### **Physical and Health Education 9 – Health and Wellness**

Health and Wellness is designed to teach strategies in health, fitness, and wellness that lead to a better understanding of the need for life-long activity. Participation is the goal in this non-competitive environment, challenging all students to find their own comfort level while improving fitness, and learning new sport activities and skills. For further clarification on this course please speak to the PE Department, or your present PHE teacher.

## CAREER EDUCATION

### **Career Education 9**

Career Education 9 allows students to reflect on their preferences, skills and career goals. It provides students with opportunities to recognize the value of work, perseverance and effort, and the importance of the educational choices they are making. Career Education 9 is a one term course and is combined with a one term elective.

## ELECTIVE COURSES

### LANGUAGES

#### **French 9**

This course builds upon basic French skills. Students work to further develop their abilities to listen, speak, read, and write in French to support language acquisition. Students improve their competencies through conversation and comprehension activities. Students learn to express themselves in present, past, and future verb tenses. There are language and cultural components to this course that are designed to increase student engagement and appreciation of the beautiful language and culture within la francophonie, the French-speaking collective of nations. *La vie est belle en Français 9!*

#### **Hul'qumi'num 9**

The aim of this First Nation language course is to develop some basic comprehension of the Hul'qumi'num Coast Salish language and culture. It is expected that students will acquire basic communication skills in the Hul'qumi'num language, develop cultural sensitivity, and acquire additional concepts about language and culture. All students are encouraged to enroll in this Coast Salish language course. Note: Hul'qumi'num is accepted as a second language.

### APPLIED DESIGN, SKILLS, AND TECHNOLOGY

#### **Information Technology 9**

In this course, students will develop an understanding of the fundamentals of information literacy and digital citizenship. The course will focus on the student as both a user of software (i.e. MS Office) and a developer (i.e. Computer Programming). Information Technology 9 enhances a student's skill to develop, critique, and publish professional-looking digital documents, media, and programs, using industry standard software.

Basic-to-moderate computer literacy is a focus of this course.

- Basic computer literacy (file and folder management, hardware and software)
- 3D Modeling and Computer-Aided Design
- Desktop publishing, word processing, and media design
- Software programming basics

### **Robotics 9**

Robotics is a Project-based course that uses both a digital and hands-on approach to introduce the basic concepts of robotics, focusing on the construction and programming of autonomous and controlled robots. Students will be introduced to Block-based Coding, and VEX Robotics, to build and test different robots, to complete various challenges and programming activities, culminating in an end-of-semester robot contest.

### **Woodwork 9**

Students will work creatively with a variety of wood. Emphasis will be on safe use of hand and power tools. Students will explore ways to laminate, shape and inlay wood into aesthetically pleasing and functional projects. Major projects constitute the beginning of a larger bedroom and living room set.

### **Technology Education 9**

Students will design and build mechanisms and small vehicles to explore the mechanics behind what makes things go. Projects on powertrains and propulsion systems may include solid fuel rockets, bottle rockets, and mousetrap cars. Some key concepts are energy transmission, efficiency, fuel types, and effects of forces on devices. Paper airplanes and popsicle stick bridges are used to explore other topics in technology.

## **HOME ECONOMICS**

### **Textiles 9**

If you like to design and create, and enjoy hands on learning experiences, then Textiles is for YOU! Students will review basic sewing skills; develop advanced techniques; discover the origins, characteristics, care, and cultural aspects of textiles and clothing design; utilize principles of design; and create strategies for altering patterns and upcycling. Students may also take the opportunity to plan, design, construct, dress and maintain the costumes required for our theatre productions. Through each grade level, students will advance their skills and in the senior levels, you are given opportunities for more self-directed and personally creative projects.

### **Food Studies 9**

The Basics of Cuisine – Basic skills will be built upon as the culinary world is opened up to include new techniques and methods of preparation. Cooking principles of fruit, vegetables, eggs, milk, cheese, meats, baking skills and foods for entertaining will be covered. Specific areas will include food safety, planning, preparing and presenting of nutritious foods and meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks). Health, economic and environmental factors that influence availability and choice of food in personal, local, First Peoples and global contexts will also be considered.

## VISUAL DESIGN AND PERFORMING ARTS

### **Art 9**

We barely got our engine's revving in Art 8. Art 9 is a chock-a-block semester full of drawing, painting, sculpting, printmaking, and more. We are going to kick up some serious art in this class!

### **Photography 9**

This course teaches the use of digital cameras in regard to proper exposure, shutter speeds, apertures and artistic composition. The elements of design will be stressed and put into practice while taking images. Students will learn computer file management skills as well as post production techniques in Photoshop, the leading industry standard software used in creating digital imagery.

### **Content Creator 9**

Are you interested in experimenting with digital media to create content? Everything you watch these days comes from a content creator. Some are simple videos taken from a phone using Capcut to edit and some take it to the next level. Do you have a business idea and brand and want to start making advertising for? You simply want to make funny and interesting videos? Want to be part of the media team at Barsby to get the news out about sports and other activities? Maybe you want to experiment with the idea of podcasting and see where that takes you? Or maybe you want to make a digital show that presents news and information? There are many paths in this class. It will be project based and self-driven! Bring your exciting ideas to the table and see where it goes! Digital video, photography, audio recording could all be part of your projects by using your smart phones and/or our advanced equipment.

### **Drama 9**

This course introduces students to foundational performance skills. Students will explore drama elements, techniques, and vocabulary, to convey personal and social ideas through performance. They will create, perform, and respond to theatre and story-based performance. They will be introduced to how sound and light contribute to a theatrical performance, will collaborate to write, stage, and perform a piece of original theatre, and practice performing individually in front of an audience. The students enrolled in this class will be expected to participate in the Theatre Company's Play Production as a member of the cast or crew.

## **Rock Band 9**

Prerequisite - Fine Arts 8 or Director's Permission

"The School of Rock" is an exciting experience that immerses students in the world of rock music, focusing on electric guitar, bass guitar, keyboards, vocals, and drums. Over several weeks and years, students will develop skills and explore techniques and styles common in rock music. In addition, there are history, theory, and audio sound components.

This course allows students to choose an instrument for in-depth study. Any given day may contain a blend of whole-class music instruction, small group practice sessions supervised by the music director and a team of experienced peer tutors. This class is designed as a hands-on experience that gives students the opportunity to take ownership of their musical talents and enthusiasm. Students will be encouraged to learn songs on their own using guitar & bass tablature, You Tube tutorials, and platforms such as Ultimate Guitar.com. Songs from classic rock groups including White Stripes, CCR, Deep Purple, Joan Jett and many more, will be used for whole-class instruction and performances.

## **ACTIVE LIVING**

These courses are elective courses and are requested in addition to Physical and Health Education 9.

### **Basketball 9**

This elective course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to improve their skills through sport. Students will develop, refine and apply movement skills in a variety of physical activities and environments. Students will have the opportunity to learn the rules of the sport and will be able to act as minor officials in the league and tournaments. The basis of this course will be to acquire advanced skills and strategies in Basketball.

### **Volleyball 9**

This elective course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to improve their skills through sport. Students will develop, refine, and apply movement skills and strategies in variety of volleyball related activities and environments. Volleyball specific training will be provided through weight training, sport psychology, individual skill development, and team development. Students will also get the opportunity to be well versed in the rules of volleyball to minor officiate.

### **Football Theory and Application 9**

This elective course focuses on learning football and theory with position specific skills, defensive and offensive schemes, sports team management and promotion. Students will be critically analyzing film to learn skills and learning how to game plan. They will receive certification for refereeing, first aid, and basic taping skills. Themes will include the importance of being a good ambassador for their sport, school, and community, and potential post-secondary options. Examples of content covered are: formations, motions, man and zone blocking schemes, ball carrying, run blocking, pass blocking, passing, play-action passing, receiver pass routes, reading defensive blitzes, coverages, gap control, containment principles, blitzes, shifts, stunts, man and zone coverages, special teams, sportsmanship, leadership, on and off field conduct. As student athletes, volunteerism will affect grading.

### **Performance and Leadership 9 \*\*\*New**

This course is for football players who wish to continue their flexibility, speed, agility training, Olympic and Powerlifting from semester 1. Athletes from other sports are most welcome. This is a performance class for athletes who want to build the physical foundation to “make the play” in competitive sports that they play.

### **Outdoor Education 9**

Outdoor Education 9 is an active and fun course that is designed to enable students to develop an understanding and appreciation of various types of outdoor activities. Possible activities students in this course may engage in are: local seashore hikes, local mountain hikes, canoeing, rock climbing, orienteering and camping. The course will combine outside time with classroom instruction. There will be instruction in basic first aid, knot tying, principles of Leave No Trace, fishing, water safety, winter safety, conservation, hiking and camping preparation. This course is designed for students that enjoy or want to explore recreational outdoor activities and adventures. Regular hikes/walks and field trips are planned to further enhance the outdoor experience.