

CHINOOK HIGH SCHOOL

GRADE 9 Registration Handbook (2024-2025)



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Principal's Message: Grade Nine

Welcome to Chinook High School. We are thrilled that you are going to be a member of the Coyote family for the next four years. Chinook High School is forward thinking and thoughtful, and we are doing our best to create an anti-oppressive and anti-bias learning environment that works to support all students to succeed. Staff and students explore and create together at Chinook on the road to academic excellence. You will learn in school fueled by opportunity, growth, character, and kindness.

At Chinook, you will have a full range of programs leading to lifelong learning opportunities and a wide variety of employment and post-secondary options. We want you, our Grade 9 students, to recognize your potential and engage in your learning. We support you in realizing this potential by placing high expectations on you (as we have on ourselves) towards academic and social growth. In your grade 9 school year you will have a chance to figure out the skills and attitudes needed to be successful in high school and beyond.

You are at the heart of each decision we make as a school. We can't wait until you are here. 2024/2025 will be an exciting start to high school and over the next four years we will learn a great deal together about academics, ownership, technology, arts, health and wellness, and of course, life.

While you are here, know why you are making each decision, aim for growth, be kind, own your learning, get involved, work hard, and dream; make the school and world a better place. The experiences you create over the next four years will be the result of the opportunities you engage in and the choices you make. How awesome is that!? Enjoy your last months in your amazing middle school. We will see you in the fall of 2024.

Bill Forster,
Principal



CHINOOK HIGH SCHOOL



General Information for Students Entering Grade 9

This booklet is designed to help you plan your Grade 9 year at Chinook High School. The Grade 9 year is the foundation for the following years. **Keep in mind that your success in Grade 9 subjects will determine which courses you take in Grade 10.** Set realistic goals and keep up with your class work. 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 help with high school programming.
- All students will take Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science and Physical Education.
- Electives for grade 9 are quartered...which means there are a total of 4 possible electives grade 9's take. When you select electives, we will ask you to select the first 4 you wish to take, along with 6 alternates in case we can't get you your first choices. Grade 9 students will be allowed to select only one of Band or Choir, as they take 2 elective spaces and are not scheduled to allow you to take both. In addition, due to the popularity of Foods 9 and Construction Technology 9, students will only be allowed to select one of those two as a primary selection.

Back to School Info

Please watch for future communication on school photos and grade 9 orientation.

The first day of school is September 3, 2024. We will communicate the start time for Grade 9 students in the months to come.



Homeroom groupings

Each Grade 9 student will be assigned to a homeroom. Your homeroom is not a location it is a group of students. All students in the same homeroom will remain together for all core subjects. Your homeroom will be identified by a number designation such as 9-1, 9-2, 9-3, etc.

Each homeroom grouping will have a unique timetable indicating the time and location for each class. Homeroom groups travel to different classrooms each period. For options, students will not remain in homeroom groupings. Timetables for electives are determined on an individual basis according to student requests.

Advisor Groups

Each Grade 9 student will be assigned to a teacher-advisor. Your advisor group will always meet in the same place, usually the teacher-advisor's classroom. Your advisor will be the same person for your entire high school career. Advisor groups are made up of students from all four high school grades. The group meets every day in a 12 minute class period specifically set aside on the timetable for such meetings.

Knowledge and Employability Program (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 Chinook High School.

This program is a hands on, skill based program designed to help students find employment. There is a work experience component, a curriculum based on practical experience and a certificate of completion which assists student in the world of work.

The Knowledge and Employability Program has a maximum enrolment and students who qualify or are interested in this program may contact Raelyn Riley and Jared Sandham for more information.



The following course descriptions are provided as a preview of the topic and concepts covered in the Grade 9 curriculum.

Course Descriptions - Core Classes

English Language Arts 9

In English Language Arts 9 students will engage in reading, listening, viewing, writing, speaking, and representing with an emphasis on intentional exploration.

Included in ELA 9 class is a new program compulsory to all grade 9 students entitled Foundations for High School. This program will run through the English block for one semester and will entail learning foundations for critical thinking, creativity, and technology.

Math 9

Math 9 is a year long course. Classes will be held daily.

Science 9

Science 9 is a semester long course, occurring in semester 1 or 2. Classes will be held daily.

Social Studies 9

Social Studies 9 is a semester long course, occurring in the opposite semester 1 or 2 of science. Classes will be held daily.

* The format of the core classes may change.



Compulsory Courses

All students are required to take these courses.

Physical Education 9 (Compulsory Course)

PE 9 – Physical Education 9 is a compulsory course at Chinook High School. It is taught in combination with Health & Wellness 9 with 25% of the course being health and 75% PE. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a number of different activities including a variety of team sports as well as some individual pursuits.





Selecting Your Grade 9 Electives

General Guidelines:

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

1. Electives are quartered, so there are four (4) elective spaces for Grade 9 students.
2. Band and Choir will fill two elective spaces with each course. Students will only be allowed to choose one or the other due to conflicting schedules.
3. Due to the popularity of Foods 9 and Construction Technology 9, students will only be allowed to select one of those two as a primary selection.

On the Grade 9 registration form, students will be asked to choose 4 primary elective choices (3 if they choose one of Band or Choir). Students will also be asked to choose 4 alternate electives. Every effort will be made to timetable students into their top choices but due to availability of space, some students may not get every elective they want. This is why the alternates are important, and must be different from the primary choices. Electives available to grade 9 students include:

- Art
- Band
- Choir
- Computer Programming
- Construction Technology
- Critical Thinking; Game Theory
- Beginner and Intermediate Dance
- Drama
- Forensic Science
- Military History
- Fashion Studies
- Foods
- Football (North American)
- Guitar
- History Through Film
- Leadership
- Modern Languages
- New Media
- Outdoor Education
- Photography
- Rock and Pop
- Soccer
- STEM
- Sports Performance
- Yoga



Elective Courses - continued

Art 9 – supplementary fee \$30

Art 9 provides an introduction to the art program at Chinook. This is a course that any student can be successful in no matter what previous art experience they have. Students will create artwork using a variety of mediums (drawing, paint, sculpture, mixed media, collage etc.). Through the exploration of techniques, students will gain confidence in their creative ability.

Band 9 - supplementary fee \$30

Band takes up two of the four elective 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.

Choir 9

Choir takes up two of the four elective 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.

Computer Programming 9 – supplementary fee \$10

Students will be introduced to fundamentals of computer programming and game design.

Construction Technology 9 – supplementary fee \$30

Instruction and projects will involve using most of the power tools and machinery in the woodworking area.

Critical thinking: Game Theory 9

This will be a chance for students to potentially find a new hobby, learn new skills and think about their thinking when it comes to strategy games. We will explore the rules, basic concepts and different strategies associated with a variety of card and board games. Possible games could include; chess, checkers, backgammon, Dama (Turkish Draughts), 4 in a row, Cribbage, Card games (hearts, cheat) and more.

** electives and elective fees subject to change.*



Elective Courses - continued

Dance 9 Beginner

Is for students looking to have fun while learning how to dance. Those with little or no experience dancing should be in this class. Students will learn dance combinations in various styles (Hip Hop, Jazz, Contemporary and Body Percussion), and have opportunities to create their own work individually and as a group. This class will explore the world of dance through choreography, dance history, and anatomy, giving students the chance to build confidence in moving, flexibility, strength, and style. Please contact Alisha Hornberger at Alisha.hornberger@lethsd.ab.ca for more information.

Dance 9 Int/Adv

Is for those who come to Chinook with a solid dance background either from middle school or a studio. This class, which is geared toward focused and determined movers, will move fast, as students learn choreography in various styles including but not limited to: Hip Hop, Jazz, Contemporary, Lyrical, Musical Theatre, and Body Percussion. Students will have the opportunity to build confidence, technical ability, and stage presence through individual and group choreography. We will build a foundation for our work through anatomy, and dance history, and will focus on individual improvement in strength, technique, flexibility, and style. The focus will be on in-class work but opportunities to perform may present themselves during the quarter. Please contact Alisha Hornberger at Alisha.hornberger@lethsd.ab.ca for more information.

Drama Performance 9

Students will learn the basics of stage movement, improvisation, character development and the basic techniques of acting.

Forensic Science 9

Forensic Science 9 is a class where students investigate different scientific fields and aspects of criminalistics. Some of the topics covered are blood spatter, trace analysis, anthropology, hand writing, and finger printing. This course is a combination of hands on and theory that helps students consider how modern forensic science is used to help solve various crimes.



Elective Courses - continued

Fashion Studies 9—*supplementary fee \$40*

Students will practice basic sewing skills while practicing creativity, hands on work and skill building through the wide variety of projects in the fashion classroom! Illustration and design are also explored. Projects may also include crochet, embroidery or other handwork.

Foods 9 – *supplementary fee \$35*

Students will explore the role of food, looking beyond consumption to production, visual appreciation, nutrition, meal planning economics and preparation. Students will learn about various skills in the cook trade. Through exploration students will explore their interests, passions and skills as they relate to the foods industry.

Football 9 (North American)

For anyone interested in learning more about football regardless of previous experience. We will develop various skills while also learning about the rules and strategy associated with the game. There will be some classroom work, but weather permitting, we will be outside getting exercise while we learn, practice skills, and play football.

Guitar 9 - *supplementary fee \$25*

This course is designed for students who want to learn to play guitar or continue to develop their knowledge and skills on the acoustic guitar. Students will learn about the history and fundamentals of popular music (blues, rock, folk and country). Topics covered include guitar maintenance, tuning, open chords, bar chords, and basic music theory. The goal is to give students the foundation for a life-long enjoyment of music and a desire to continue learning. Students will need to have a guitar at home so they can practice at least two hours a week.



Elective Courses - continued

History through Film 9

History Through Film 9 allows students to visually pay witness to history and the way in which history is remembered. This course will touch on the affects Hollywood has had in remembering people and events; how history can be portrayed in differing ways in order to ethically, morally and emotionally reach their viewers; and finally students will learn to take what they see in film and critically analyze the information they just viewed by cross-referencing it with outside sources and formulating their own opinions on the relevance, accuracy and overall value of the movie media outlet.

Leadership 9 TBA –supplementary fee \$10

This course will allow students explore the basic principles of leadership and evaluate their own personal leadership characteristics and qualities through various projects and initiatives. In Leadership, students will learn practical skills in teamwork, decision-making, organization, communication and service.

Military History 9

This course offers students a look into Canada’s military history including some of the conflicts we have been a part of and the impacts that they would not be able to see within their social studies courses. They will investigate Canada’s proud military past through various events and experiences while remembering and better understanding the significance of the sacrifices made by those who have come before us.



Elective Courses - continued

Modern Languages 9—*supplementary fee \$20*

In Modern Languages 9, students get a taste of French, Spanish, and Italian, all of which we offer at the high school level. You don't have to have any experience with any of the languages to be successful. We start right from scratch. And at the end of the class, you get to study and present on a language of your choice. In the past, students have studied everything from Blackfoot to Japanese to ASL! One of the big things students get out of attending the class is a sense for how similar the Romance languages are – and that they can succeed at taking any or all of them at the high school level!

New Media

Students will explore a hands-on sampling of technologies and projects that will foster creative approaches to learning. Topics may include digital design in both Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop, A/V projects, web content creation, digital product design and/or programming. Computer skills will be developed along with hands-on, physical projects.

Outdoor Education 9 – *supplementary fee: \$20*

Love the outdoors? Or have you always wanted to try it out? In this course, you will learn some of the essential skills for surviving in the outdoors. Depending on the weather, we will try to be outside as much as possible. You can also look forward to a number of off-campus activities that we have planned.

Photography – *supplementary fee \$10*

Photography 9 provides an introduction to the Photography 10/20/30 program at Chinook. Students will begin to explore what photography means to them and understand different ways to approach composition, shooting techniques and basic editing profiles using various hardware and software.



Elective Courses - continued

Rock & Pop 9 – *supplementary fee \$45*

This class is designed for students to deepen and broaden their musical experience by working in combos with other students that share their interest in music. Students will be encouraged to sing and play one or more instruments (electric guitar, bass, drums, and keyboards). The expectation is that students will already have had some previous experience and will be motivated to do individual practice. Some students may wish to take Guitar 9 before taking this class. The class will explore the basics of Rock and Roll and will also encourage students to pursue their own musical interests.

Soccer 9 – *supplementary fee TBA*

This class is open to all levels of soccer players from beginner to advanced. Skill development will focus on various soccer related drills and activities as well as some scrimmage and mini game simulations. The goal is to have fun and incorporate some skill development and exercise.

Sports Performance 9

The Sports Performance 9 program is an active class that uses the fitness center at Chinook to instruct students in movement training, proper functional strength training, linear and lateral speed techniques, foot speed and agility, injury reduction, explosive power development, and energy system conditioning. Students will also explore the world of youth sports, sports development, sports psychology, and nutrition.



Elective Courses - continued

STEM 9

This class allows students to explore and develop their knowledge of various concepts of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). Each week students will engage in a new problem and practice their skills regarding research, planning, communication and execution to complete the challenge to the best of their ability. Weekly challenges will be completed in a collaborative learning environment, with an ongoing cumulative project chosen by the individual student based on their interest and choice.

Yoga 9

This class will be an opportunity for students to support healthy living through postures, stretches and meditation. No previous yoga experience required. Mats and blocks provided.



** electives and elective fees subject to change.*

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Co-Curricular Program

(some events may vary due to student interest and staff expertise)

ATHLETIC TEAMS

- Football
- Volleyball
 - Girls' Varsity & Junior
 - Boys' Varsity & Junior
 - Grade 9 boys and girls
- Basketball
 - Girls' Varsity & Junior
 - Boys' Varsity & Junior
 - Grade 9 boys and girls
- Badminton
- Baseball
- Curling
- Cross Country
- Golf
- Track & Field
- Rugby
 - Girls' Varsity & Junior
 - Boys' Varsity & Junior
- Softball
- Slo-pitch
- Wrestling
- Weight Lifting
- Intramural Activities
- Sports Events Assistant:
 - Gate Supervision
 - Scorekeeping
 - Linesman
 - Other duties

SCHOOL PRODUCTIONS

- Drama Productions
- "Arts Alive and Well"
- Winter Concert
- Spring Concert
- Dance Productions

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Basketball & Volleyball Tournaments
- City Track and Field Meet
- Academic Awards Night
- Graduation
- Yote Day

MISCELLANEOUS CO-CURRICULAR

- Art Club
- Board Game Club
- Book Club/Creative Writing
- Chess Club
- Christian Fellowship
- Chinook Environmentalists

- Cosplay and Fandom
- Creative Writing Club
- Culture Club
- Drink Tea and Make Stuff or Whatever
- Drum Line
- Dungeons and Dragons
- Grad Committee
- Games Club
- Interact Club
- Math Club
- Magic Club
- Nitsitapi
- QSA
- Robotics
- Tabletop Games
- Teen Mentoring





2023-2024 School Fees

(Subject to Change)

General Fees:

- Locker rental \$5
- Support for clubs/teams varies
- Text book rental fee \$5
- Activity Fee (*School District Event Admission, Access to Athletics Facilities such as the gym and Fitness Centre, Access to facilities such as the Computer Labs and Media Center excluding Fine Arts Productions*) \$20

In addition there may be supplementary fees dependant on elective courses selected and optional items.





Supplementary Fees

(Subject to Change)

These fees assist with the cost of materials:

Yearbook	\$45.00 <i>Optional</i>
School I.D. Card Replacement	\$ 5.00
Art 9	\$30.00
Band 9	\$30.00
Construction Technology (Shop 9)	\$30.00
Fashion Studies 9	\$40.00
Food Studies 9	\$35.00
Guitar 9	\$25.00
Leadership 9	\$10.00
Modern Languages 9	\$20.00
New Media 9	\$10.00
Outdoor Education 9	\$20.00
Photography 9	\$10.00
Rock and Pop	\$45.00

Deferral or Waiver of School Fees:

Parents may apply to pay fees on an instalment plan due to economic difficulties, or in exceptional cases school fees may be waived. In either case, parents must contact the school business manager prior to the start of the school year. zak.rowley@lethsd.ab.ca



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Bell Times (Subject to Change)

The first class begins at **8:05 am**. Each bell after signifies the end of one

Bussing

Westside students who live more than 2.0 km (public walkway) from Chinook and are inside the Chinook boundaries (please see boundary maps at <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/parents/register/school-boundaries>) will be eligible to ride the yellow school buses from route W1 – W12. After reviewing the maps on the school district website if you are still not sure if you qualify to ride the bus please ask in the office.

* Students who are attending an out of boundary school by choice will not be provided any bussing.

Out of Boundary Students

While any high school student can attend any high school they choose providing there is room and resources at the school of choice, students who wish to attend an out of boundary school must complete an Out of Boundary Application for Admission form. For more information on current boundaries please see boundary maps at <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/parents/register/school-boundaries>)

*Students who are attending an out of boundary school by choice will not be provided bussing.

Lockers

Students are assigned lockers and locks according to advisor groups. Students are expected to use the lockers they have been assigned. Please do not change or share with other students as you are responsible for your assigned lock, locker and the contents.

We do not allow personal locks. Do not share your lock combination with anyone!

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Flex Time

What is Flex time? Flex time is a block of time in the school day or school week when students have the opportunity to make decisions to guide their learning in areas of need or interest.

Currently there are two consecutive flex blocks where teachers offer office hours and students are able to take advantage of personalized learning opportunities. Flex time is when a lunch hour would typically occur.

Some of this time will be structured and you will be required to be in a certain place, doing a certain thing, and some of it will be unstructured, where you can eat and visit (or leave, as long as you are back on time). Some appropriate choices for Flex time would be academic self direction or clubs.



CHINOOK HIGH SCHOOL



For the Parents



Did you know ...

Lethbridge School District uses PowerSchool to strengthen its communication between the school and home. Using the Parent Portal, parents and guardians can now access information online regarding their child's grades and attendance.

Download PowerSchool Mobile today on your Apple or Android device to stay connected. The same app can be used by both parents and students. You'll have real-time access to attendance, upcoming assignments, grades and more.

School Cash Online

As Chinook High School does not accept post dated cheques, School Cash Online is the perfect alternative as it's an easy and safe way to pay for your child's school fees. Now, with a few clicks, you can pay for school fees, yearbook, performance tickets, Chinook clothing and so much more from your own home. All you have to do is register an account, attach your children and make the payments online. We accept many different payment forms so check it out at www.chs.lethsd.ab.ca.



All fees can also be paid in the school office. We accept debit, Visa, Mastercard and cash.





Frequently Asked Questions ...

Is it true that students call teachers by their first name?

Yes, we are on a first name basis with our students.

Can I bring my cell phone to school?

Yes, you can. Teachers will set the rules for use during class time, and these will be different in different classes.

Did you say Media Centre?

Yes, Chinook High School has a Media Centre (Theatre). The Media Centre seats 350 people on upholstered chairs on a sloped floor. If you would like a visual and are familiar with the Yates Memorial Theatre in Lethbridge it would be safe to say that our Centre is a slightly smaller version of the Yates.

What does the gym look like?

Our gym is over 14 000 square feet. If you are familiar with most other high school gyms it is safe to say that Chinook's is 40% to 50% larger. For example, we have 3 volleyball courts side-by-side where most gyms have two. Our gym seats 1200 people in the bleachers and comes equipped with event lighting which means the courts are brighter than the lights over the crowd when a game is being played.





Frequently Asked Questions ...

Is there a cafeteria?

We have a full service cafeteria. Students are encouraged to bring their own lunch but there is a full service cafeteria on site.

Can I wear my hat?

Hats are permitted in the school. Some teachers may ask that you remove them during class. Hats are removed for some assemblies and when we play O' Canada.

Are we allowed to go to lockers between classes?

Yes but you are still held accountable if you are late for class.

Does Chinook have a closed campus?

No....we have an open campus, which means that students may leave campus at flex (lunch time) or if they have a spare (only some Grade 11 and 12 students have spares).

Can we use backpacks?

Yes.....students are permitted to carry books to class in backpacks.

Does Chinook have a dress code?

Yes.....we expect students to be neat, clean and presentable. Students with inappropriate clothing will be asked to go home and change or immediately alter their clothing to acceptable standards.





Frequently Asked Questions ...

Is there access to school computers?

Yes you will have a school email account and many teachers will expect you to use computers in your classes. The Library contains computers for individual study and research. Appropriate use of computers is expected. Some gaming and inappropriate web sites are off limits. All student log-ins are monitored by our computer system administrator. Students are also encouraged to bring their own laptops or tablets to use at school as well.

Can I try out for school teams and clubs?

Yes we have lots of Grade 9 sports teams, lots of clubs and activities, and room on students' council as well. There is so much to do; the hard part is deciding what you like best!



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If you want to buy cool Chinook-branded clothing, come see the Business Manager in the office, or check out the Spirit Wear link on our school website!

