

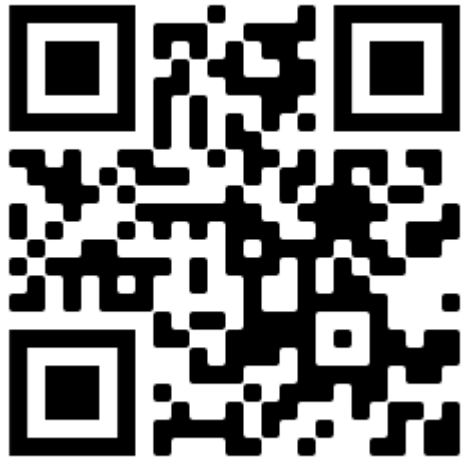


TRAFALGAR MIDDLE SCHOOL

GRADE 7/8/9 COURSE HANDBOOK

2021-2022





Visit us online

Trafalgar.sd8.bc.ca

Dear Students & Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Trafalgar's new Course Information and Selection Guide!

Trafalgar is a busy building with many things going on! One of the things we look forward to is helping students make informed choices in their learning experiences.

Students, please take time with your parents/guardians to review this [*Course Information & Selection Guide*](#).

We will use the information that we receive from you as a guide to determine which courses to offer next year. In the past, students would sign up for these courses on-site at Trafalgar, but due to COVID safety restrictions we will use the information from the registration forms.

Thank you for returning your Grade 8 registration and course selection to Trafalgar by February 5.

We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning at Trafalgar in 2021-22!

Sincerely,

Mr. Paul Luck
Principal

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Program Overview

French Immersion Program

School District 8 Kootenay Lake has a late entry French Immersion Program at Trafalgar Middle School. Students begin taking French Immersion in Grade 6 and continue through to Grade 9. All required courses are delivered in French, with the exception of English 7, 8 and 9. Core Options Courses and Lifelong Explorations are delivered in English.

English Program

Trafalgar offers all of the same great programming in English, in addition to our French Immersion Program. Students will participate in Core Required Courses as well as Core Options and Lifelong Learning Explorations Courses.

Band Program

Trafalgar Middle School is offering a music program to all Grade 6 students. We have an excellent Band Program that spans Grade 6 through 9 and our students in Grades 7, 8 and 9 have the opportunity to participate in Jazz Band as an extra option. Students are expected to practice on a regular basis, and make a commitment to participate in Band Concerts, occasional trips, and other scheduled performances.

Aboriginal Education Program

School District 8 Kootenay Lake supports a district wide cultural Aboriginal Education Program. Students who, with parental/guardian guidance, self-identify as having Aboriginal Ancestry are welcome to apply and take part in the program through:

- Cultural Field Trips
- Activities
- Mentoring opportunities with younger students



Aboriginal Education Program students are supported by an Aboriginal Program teacher. For more information, please visit (<https://sd8learns.sd8.bc.ca/abed>), or contact the school at 250-352-5591.

Required Course Information

All students will be pre-registered for the following required courses:

Grade 8 2021-2022

Pre-Registered for Required Courses: English Program

- English 8
- Social Studies 8
- Math 8
- Science 8
- Core French 8
- PE and Health 8
- Career Education 8

Pre-Registered for Required Courses: French Immersion Program

- English 8
- Français Langue 8
- Science Humaines 8
- Sciences 8
- Mathématiques 8
- Éducation Physique et Santé 8
- Éducation de Carrière 8

Core Options & Lifelong Learning Explorations Overview

In addition to their Required Courses, students at Trafalgar will participate in Core Options Courses and Lifelong Exploration Courses.

Core Options are courses focused on the Fine Arts and ADST (Applied Design, Skills and Technologies) curriculums. Students will rotate through these courses each term where they will learn with specialist teachers. Core Options classes occur 1-2 times per week.

Lifelong Learning Explorations (LLEs) are focused courses that take place on Wednesday afternoons. Students from all grades are grouped together based on areas of interest and learn with teachers that share those passions.

Core Options Course Descriptions

Grade 8 Core Options Classes Include:

Art

Students will learn and practice a variety of fine art techniques to express their imagination and creativity using a range of materials and mediums

Band

Clothing and Textiles

Students will learn and practice a variety of techniques to create and repair items using fabrics and other materials.

Digital Discovery

Students will explore and create using a variety of software and technology

Drama

Students will explore different dramatic techniques and process for expressing themselves and ideas

Foods

Students will learn and practice basic food handling and preparation techniques

Indigenous Studies

Students will explore indigenous ways of knowing, while creating

Jazz Band

Makerspace

Students will engage in the design process to prototype, test, refine and share products and ideas

Media Arts

Metalworking

Musical Theatre

Woodworking

Students will learn about the characteristics of wood as a material while practicing woodworking techniques using hand and power tools.

Please note: All these Core Options may not be offered. The courses being offered will be determined by the students' preference selections.

Lifelong Learning Explorations Course Descriptions

Please note: Due to limited space in each class, students may not always be able to take the classes they select. Please be flexible in your choices! Depending on interest, some LLE courses will be offered for 6/7 & 8/9 combined.

1. Archery

Archery is an exciting sport with a rich history. Beginners and experienced archers are welcome to come and develop their skills with Trafalgar's brand-new archery equipment. Hone your technique, form, and aim, while learning a practical skill that you will have for the rest of your life!

2. Baseball/Softball

It's one, two, three strikes you're out at the old ball game at Trafalgar! Whether you're in the field or at bat, you are sure to have fun and make friends playing baseball. Beginners and seasoned vets alike can enjoy this physical activity while being outside and developing their skills.

3. Basketball

Develop your skills and hone your game sense in basketball. You will learn fundamental skills, defensive systems, and offensive techniques. Fun drills, conditioning, scrimmages and games make up the course plan. Students will learn to dribble, shoot, pass, and score all while having fun in a supportive environment. This course is a great way to get ahead on the court and prepare for a competitive season with the basketball team.

4. Biking

Repair, maintain, and most importantly ride bikes in Trafalgar's bike lab. Get outside in our community on your bike and upcycle old bikes to give to people in our community who are in need. Students will go on bike rides, and develop hands on, lifelong skills on how bikes work.

5. Choir

Throughout this course, students will learn how to effectively sing multi-part pieces as a community. Additionally, they will explore a variety of vocal warm-ups, in addition to pieces that will expand their vocal techniques and knowledge of singing.

6. Coding

Have you ever wanted to build applications, websites, or software? Coding is the language of computers and has developed some of our favourite modern technology. Learn how to create games, applications, develop your attention to detail, creativity, and abstract thinking skills. If you are passionate about technology and computers, Trafalgar's coding class is for you!

7. Crafting

Develop your creativity and learn new skills in Trafalgar's hands on crafting course! Your creative possibilities are endless. Develop new techniques and use a variety of materials and strategies to express yourself creatively.

8. Creativity with Clay

This LLE will use clay as a medium for creative exploration. Students will create projects using the following hand building techniques: pinch and coil pots, slab, and sculpture. All projects will be glazed and fired in a kiln.

9. Drones

Drones have long been used in the military, agriculture, science, and photography but have recently landed at Trafalgar Middle School. Learn how to pilot with our brand new, state of the art, fleet of drones and develop skills to use in the future. Students will learn the history, components, the science behind them, and the future potential as they inquire, research and practice. Take flight with Trafalgar's drone course!

10. Fabulous Needle Felting

Needle felting is the process of transforming wool into 3D objects using a barbed needle. When you felt wool, you are agitating the fibres so they bond together, creating a solid fabric. If you have ever felted any of your knitting projects, you are already familiar with the process — except that you probably used a washing machine with really hot water to get the fibers to bond. Needle felting mimics that process, but instead of agitating the wool with hot water, you are doing it with an extra-sharp needle.

11. Field Hockey

Are you good at soccer or ice hockey? How about learning a new sport that uses the basics of both! Come try a new and exciting sport for both girls and boys. No previous experience is necessary. Work with the LV Rogers field hockey coaching team and improve your skills.

12. Filmmaking

In filmmaking, we explore genres of film and film techniques to create an impact on our audience. In this LLE, we enjoy making movies! You'll write scripts and work together to display your knowledge in a creative way. We make creative movies to enhance our ability to write interesting stories. Movie making is a great way to build community among students, hone students' writing skills, engage students' creative imaginations, and instill confidence even in those students who might begin the school year afraid to be in front of the camera. Movie making is certainly a collaborative and exciting way to make learning come alive!

13. Fly Fishing

Fly fishing is known all over the world as a challenging and addictive way to hook seriously big fish. Learn as a beginner or refine your technique while spending time outdoors. Trafalgar provides all the equipment and you can pursue your passion for fishing in a safe environment while at school!

14. Geocaching

Do you enjoy being outside? Do you like adventures and hunting for “treasure”? Then Geocaching is for you. Join us as we use GPS systems to find “geocaches” - hidden treasures! Students will also learn to set up new geocaches in the community for other geocachers to find.

15. Golfing

Time is shared between the golf course, driving range, and the putting green. Instruction on the fundamentals as well as golf etiquette are part of the course delivery. Having your own golf clubs is suggested as you will need to provide your own golf balls, tees, and ball repair tools.

16. Green Thunder Environmental

Are you interested in creating a better tomorrow? Come and join a committed group of individuals who are focused on finding solutions to create an environmentally friendly and sustainable future.

17. Guitar

Learn the fundamentals of the guitar such as tuning, chords, and strumming in Trafalgar’s guitar class. Develop your basic skills or refine your technique as you learn songs and music to wow your friends and family. Be creative and create music while connecting with your artistic side!

18. Hands on Science

Do you enjoy hands on learning and exploring? This class will give you the opportunity to conduct hands on experiments with your classmates.

19. Healthy Living

A perfect combo! Time in the kitchen cooking delicious and healthy food, combined with indoor and outdoor recreation to support a healthy lifestyle.

20. Hiking

Hiking is a serene yet demanding way to connect with nature. Push yourself to explore the West Kootenays while being kind to your mind and body. All levels are welcome to come and experience how to prepare for a hike, trip and route planning, and being in the great outdoors with your friends in Trafalgar’s hiking class!

21. Hockey (Must take in both terms 1 and 2)

The Hockey Academy was developed to allow students to participate in a program focusing on their passion and skill area, in an effort to extend their learning and achievement to a level of excellence. The Academy is designed for students who can provide evidence of prior commitment to their skill area in training, competition, and performance. Students participating in the Hockey Academy will commit to the first two terms. Hockey Academy runs Wednesday afternoon (bussing will be provided) during the Lifelong Exploration block. The cost for attending two terms is tentatively set at \$250 for the 24 ice sessions. There will be three full-time coaches on the ice as well as a goalie coach. If you have any questions, please contact Carla DeBiasio at (250) 505-4099.

22. Ice Fishing

Nothing compares to the thrill of tripping the flag on your ice fishing rod and reeling in a big catch. Experience this feeling, drill holes with an auger, and get outdoors in Trafalgar's ice fishing class. Live all that winter has to offer in the West Kootenays while learning about technique, timing, local fish species, and of course, patience.

23. International Cinema

Explore the world and its diverse cultures with international cinema at Trafalgar middle school. If you are a fan of travel, anime, animation, and film, you will love learning about cinematic vocabulary and techniques, as well as different countries and cultures. After learning about the country of origin, and the political and cultural context, we will watch various films from all over the globe. Past viewings include My Neighbour Totoro, The Breadwinner, The Eagle Huntress, and Le ballon rouge.

24. International Cuisine

Get ready to take your palate on a culinary adventure around the globe. In this LLE you will have the opportunity to make and eat some of the many cultural dishes that represent our diverse world.

25. Jewelry Making

Do you love to design and create? This LLE is for you! Have fun and make your own jewelry using hemp, colorful string, wire, beads, and more. You will learn to make bracelets, anklets, earrings, necklaces, and keychains. Explore your creativity

26. Makerspace & Robotics

Do you like to tinker and play around with gadgets? Have you ever wanted to build your own robot? Are you creative and able to fix things or make things out of simple objects? Then MakerSpace & Robotics is for you! Students will have an opportunity to undertake an independent or team design project based on the principles of design thinking and the MakerSpace movement.

27. Metalworking

Metalworking is a hands-on class where you will develop practical and creative skills. Create art, parts, jewelry, and useful objects with the support of a qualified teacher. You will learn a practical, real life skill while using a variety of tools and technology. If you like to be challenged, create things, and work with your hands, come give metalworking a try at Trafalgar!

28. Music Composition and Technology

Are you interested in laying down some sick beats and making your own music using iPads, iPad applications, midi and recording technology? Music Composition and Technology gives you the opportunity to create musical works collaboratively and as an individual, using ideas inspired by imagination, inquiry, experimentation, and purposeful play.

29. Musical Theatre

Come and explore the dramatics of musical theatre, using games, singing, dancing and acting! We experiment with scenes from famous musicals, write and perform our own work, and create a public performance. Students take on every aspect of theatre creation: writing and directing their own scenes, choreographing movement and dance, and singing in harmony with the class. Students who might rather be backstage will have the opportunity to learn about the lighting system, be a sound technician, design costumes, build sets and manage the front of house. Both small and large group performances ensure that there is a role for everyone. Expect to be challenged creatively and physically in artistic exploration!

30. Newspaper

The *Trafalgar Post* was launched in September of 2018 and is the student voice of the school. Students choose their topics and events to research, cover, and report on for each issue of the newspaper. The Editor in Chief is also a student! If you are interested in reporting, investigating events, and getting the truth, then join Newspaper!

31. Orienteering

Learn how to use GPS tools, read maps, and navigate using a compass in Trafalgar's orienteering course. Develop survival skills and explore Nelson and its surrounding areas while equipping yourself with the skills to backpack, hike, ski tour, snowshoe and camp in the backcountry. If you love getting outdoors, being independent, and collaborating with others, orienteering is for you!

32. Outdoor Recreation

Do you love the outdoors? Are you willing to try new sports and fitness pursuits? Outdoor Recreation will provide you with many opportunities to try new fitness activities throughout our seasons: kayaking, hiking, skiing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, biking, and more! We will be going off-site to various locations in our community to enjoy the great outdoors and to get healthy, fit, and have fun!

33. Photography

In photography, we will visit various locations in Nelson to take photographs: still life, macro, people, black and white, animal, and digital art will be the center of our study. We will also do some street photography and walk the back alleys. After this time, students will have the opportunity to produce three photos in each of the categories. They will learn how to download, re-size, and re-work the photos they select.

34. Rock Climbing

Develop your strength, agility and balance while climbing indoors and on natural rock formations with our rock climbing class. Challenge yourself to complete routes quickly. See how far you can climb on a difficult route while refining your climbing technique in a safe environment. All levels are welcome to come and discover the world of rock climbing!

35. Rowing

Get out onto Kootenay Lake and glide through the water in your very own boat. Develop your cardiovascular endurance and strength while enjoying the natural scenery. Come perfect your skills and technique while practicing one of the oldest Olympic sports, which is popular all over the world! All are welcome.

36. Skateboarding

Explore how fitness can be fun and invigorating through skateboarding, which is quickly becoming a recognized sport. Students will have dryland training, will hone their skills with support of community instructors, and will have the opportunity to mentor younger students in skateboarding skills.

37. Snowshoeing

Get out into nature, play in the snow, and get a great workout in snowshoeing! Bring your own or use the school's snowshoes to explore local recreation areas around the community of Nelson. This is a great course to enjoy fresh air and spend time with your friends while building muscle and cardio-vascular endurance.

38. Soccer

It is our goal to provide serious soccer development opportunities. This means you can expect a professional organization, high intensity practice sessions, passionate coaching, and honest feedback on your personal goals. Fun and developmental levels are based on team and individual performance, work ethic, competition, and results, beyond just effort and participation. We will offer a foundation towards exciting soccer adventures for the young athletes. Practice sessions will run outside when weather permits and inside at the indoor soccer facility during the winter.

39. Softball

Although the ball is not as soft as the name would suggest, softball is a fast paced and engaging game loved all over the world. Learn the positions, pitching, strategies and hitting while being active outdoors and having fun with your friends. Come to have fun and learn something new or to compete and share your skills with others!

40. Stitch 'n Craft

Students will be involved in creating various crafts using material and sewing skills. Student projects include making crafted greeting cards, a hand-braided rug, as well as other projects! Students will be responsible for purchasing sewing material for their project.

41. Storytelling

Storytelling has a rich history in a variety of cultures with important social and cultural implications. Whether you are entertaining, educating, preserving your culture or teaching a moral lesson, storytelling is an ancient practice which remains timeless today. Learn about plot, narrative, characters and other elements of storytelling while sharing who you are and what you believe in!

42. Swim & Gym (Grades 8 and 9 only)

Enthusiasts of personal fitness and physical activity will love using the Nelson and District Community Complex facilities to take advantage of their full gym/weight room and 6 lane, 25 metre lap pool. Develop a personal workout plan to build muscle, improve your endurance, and challenge yourself physically and mentally in Trafalgar's swim & gym class. Learn safe workout techniques and strategies in an inclusive environment!

43. Tennis

Join the ranks of some of the most dominant and influential athletes of all time who play tennis! If you want to learn how to serve, forehand, backhand, volley, and smash like the pros, Trafalgar's tennis class is for you. Come as a beginner and develop the fundamental skills or challenge yourself if you are more advanced. All are welcome to spend time outside and get some exercise in tennis.

44. Volleyball

Volleyball development skills, drills, and team play will prepare athletes for the upcoming and existing volleyball season.

45. Woodworking

This course will take students who have a passion for developing their skills in woodwork to a higher level. Each student will have the opportunity to build a small project. Since projects will change from year to year, students can take this course more than once.

46. Yoga

Challenge yourself physically, mentally, and spiritually in Trafalgar's yoga class. Learn about the rich intercultural history through a variety of different yoga traditions and develop your practice. Connect with your breath and body while taking time from your day to re-center and connect with this ancient discipline. Namaste!