



St. Mary Catholic Secondary School

Welcome to Grade 9



Requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma

- **30 Credits** (18 compulsory and 12 elective courses)
- **Provincial Literacy Requirement** (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test – Spring of Grade 10)
- **40 hours of Community Service** (Starting as early as the summer after Grade 8)

Course Types & Pathways

Grade 9 and 10

Academic (D)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students learn the essential concepts of a subject and explore related materials • Emphasis is on theory and abstract thinking as a basis for future learning • Students are creative and like to research and problem-solve • Students are independent learners with good to excellent learning skills • Students who do well in Grade 9 Academic have generally performed in the Level 3-4 range • most direct route toward studies at university
Applied (P)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develops students' practical knowledge and skills • emphasizes concrete/hands on applications relates to familiar real-life situations • Students are more dependent learners, preferring discussions, teacher-directed or teacher-guided learning and real-life applications • Students who do well in Grade 9 Applied have generally performed in the Level 2-3 range • most direct route toward studies at college
Locally Developed (L)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • intended for students who require extensive program support and who are planning to enter the workplace once they leave high school * The Program Support department will contact parents whose children have been recommended for these courses by their Elementary school.
Open (O)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open level courses are offered for students at all levels of academic abilities and learning needs and strengths • Expectations are designed to be appropriate for all students
Alternative (K)* (Non-Credit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative, non-credit courses focus on independent learning skills • Special Education classes designed specifically for Functional Life Skills students

Decoding the Course Code

e.g. MFM 1P1 = Foundations of Mathematics, Grade 9 (Applied)			
First 3 characters identifies the subject e.g. MFM = Foundations of Mathematics	4th character identifies the grade e.g. 1 = Grade 9	5th character identifies the course level e.g. P = Applied	6th character identifies specialty course e.g. 1 = regular course F = Extended/ Immersion French A = Pre-Advanced Placement

Course Options (Grade 9)

Compulsory (Choose One from each grouping)

Elective (Choose One from entire list below)

English	ENG1D1 (academic) ENG1L1 (locally developed) ENG1P1 (applied) ESLA01/ELDA01* : English as a Second Language (open)	Arts <i>Students are encouraged to complete their one compulsory Arts credit in Grade 9 or Grade 10</i>	ADA101 : Drama (open) AMI101 : Instrumental Music – Beginner (open) AMI102 : Instrumental Music – Experienced (open) AMV101 : Vocal Music (open) ATC101 : Dance (open) AVI101 : Visual Arts (open)
French	FSF1D1 (academic) FSF1P1 (applied) FSF101 (open – no or limited experience)		
Geography	CGC1D1 (academic) CGC1P1 (applied)	Business	BTT101 : Information and Communication Technology (open)
Math	MAT1L1 (locally developed) MFM1P1 (applied) MPM1D1 (academic) MPM1DA (AP prep)	Program Support	GLE101/GLS101* : Learning Strategies (open) KALBNS* : Creative Arts for Enjoyment & Expression KGKBNS* : Personal Life Skills
Science	SNC1D1 (academic) SNC1L1 (locally developed) SNC1P1 (applied)	Technology	TIJ101 : Exploring Technologies (open) TTJ101 : Exploring Transportation Technologies (open)
Phys. Ed/ Health	PPL103 (open - female) PPL104 (open - male) PAF103 Yoga and Pilates (open - female)		
Religion	HRE101 (open)		

*Specialized courses that require consultation with Guidance Counsellor, Program Support Teacher, and/or ESL Teacher.

Extended French/French Immersion Program: Grade 9 students must take **FOUR** courses in French (French, Geography, Physical Education and Religion). Students with 3800 hours of French should choose French Immersion (FIF1DF).

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Extended French (FEF1DF) OR French Immersion (FIF1DF)	French (FIF2DF)	French (FIF3UF)	French (FIF4UF)
Religion (HRE10F)	Religion (HRE20F) or Religion Thru the Arts (HRE20G)	Religion (HRT3MF)	*Religion (HRE4MF) may be taken in French, if desired
Geography (CGC1DF or CGC1PF)	History (CHC2DF or CHC2PF)		
Phys. Ed (PPL10F female or PPL10G male)	*Careers/Civics (GLC20F/CHV20F) may be taken in French, if desired		
* Visual Arts (AVI10F) may be taken in French, if desired			

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Late January – Guidance Counsellors visit Grade 8 classes to discuss Course Selection
February – Course Selection via Career Cruising & Activity Fees due
Spring – Transition meetings with Program Support for student with IEPs
Late August – DCDSB “High School Head Start” (4-day Introduction to Gr 9 program)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Please visit: stmary.dcdsb.ca > Guidance
 - Transitioning to High School
 - Course Levels and Calendars
 - Pathway Programs (information on Secondary School)
 - Getting Ready for Post-Secondary (information on Apprenticeship, Community Living, College, University and Workplace)
- Call a St. Mary Guidance Counsellor:
905-420-7166, Press 4