



CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL Grade 8 Options Course Selections

Please ensure that you help your child choose the option courses. The online selection process will take place at school. This document is to ensure they are comfortable with making their choices.

Although we are still giving students the opportunity to express their interest in option courses by making a selection, please know that, unless the student selects Band, French Immersion, or Sports Academy, there is a possibility that they will not get all of their top choices.

Note: All students are required by Alberta Education to take the following core subjects:

Mathematics	Social Studies	Physical Education OR Sports Academy
Science	Language Arts	Health (1 Term) *unless in Sports Academy

1. **Full Year Sports Academies** - classes are every other day (double block), all three terms. Depending on registrations, these may take the place of Physical Education, Health, and Option courses. Central Middle School will be in contact with those affected.
2. **Full year courses –Band** classes are every other day, all three terms.
3. \$150 comprehensive fee for all students
4. Additional course fees for those enrolled: Instrument Rental Fee for Band students, Sports Academy.

Grade 8 Option Course Descriptions

Art II (2D) – Drawing and Painting

The goal of this class is to help you become a better artist by teaching you valuable skills while creating amazing projects you dreamed you could create. Come and learn some great things like, realistic looking Conte landscapes, incredible shaded drawings and painting your favorite cartoon character in an interesting way.

Art III (3D) – Sculpture

Sculpture 8 is all about exploring the 3D side of art. We build amazing projects out of materials like cardboard, wire and plaster. If you think making crazy musical instruments out of clay, designing custom plaster masks or creating moving interactive machines is cool, then you should sign up.

Band

Band is a full year performance based course designed to teach students individual playing skills and group performance technique through an instrument of their choice. Students will be exposed to a variety of music including standard concert band repertoire, popular music (both past and present), and ensemble music.

Throughout the year students have several musical experiences including band camp, festivals, and concert performances at the Red Deer College Arts Centre. These performances are used to set goals to attain higher levels of playing and achievement for all bands.

For students that will be playing larger, more expensive instruments provided by the school, such as a baritone saxophone, French horn, baritone, tuba, and percussion equipment; there is a \$125.00 rental fee for the year. This will save parents a bunch of money not having to rent these instruments from a music store.

I look forward to having you continue in our fun and exciting band program.

Note: Students who did not take band in Grade 7 may join the band program in Grade 8. Please contact Mr. Pearson to discuss instrument placement and details.

Computer Science, Coding, and CAD

Do you find yourself fascinated by technology and computers? Do you like or want to learn to code or 3D design on computers? This course will help you learn to create basic computer programs (apps), design digitally, and participate in 3D printing. Students can expect to develop problem-solving skills as they work through fun coding and CAD challenges! Coding will be taught primarily via web-based software that utilizes JavaScript. CAD will be taught through the popular and intuitive web-based site TinkerCAD. Students will learn the skills to code games and creative projects to share.

Cosmetology

Ever wonder how they create gore makeup in movies or for theater productions? Explore the world of self-care through everyday looks, movie magic, and more in our Cosmetology and Special FX course. In this class, students will be provided an introduction to all things aesthetics, including skin and nail care, makeup, and hairstyling; and yes, we will be making fake blood. Come dive into hands-on activities whether your dream is to work in theater, film, or if you just love cosmetics!

Drama

Drama 8 is a course in creative dramatics with an emphasis on personal and social development, trust, and cooperation. We will use a variety of techniques such as theater games, improvisation, role-playing, storytelling, description, observation and technique. We will do some script work, but mostly group and ensemble work.

Fashion Studies

Students will have one mini project (a pin cushion) and one small project (a pair of oven mitts) to complete, allowing students to gain or to extend their sewing knowledge. Students will then have the freedom to choose a project from a wide array of options or find their own pattern to create an accessory, garment, or home decor item. Personalization and creativity are unlimited as students may choose to make items like a duffle bag, shorts, a quilted project, bags and more. This class may be taken a second time with different requirements for the projects that need to be completed.

Fashion - Textile Arts

Students will be able to expand their needle felting, hand sewing, and loom knitting knowledge. If time permits students will also have the opportunity to explore beading, macrame, bracelet making, creating a bigger loom knit project, cross stitch or embroidery. Students will also have access to materials and equipment to explore knitting or crochet as a self directed project.

Foods

Students will delve deeper into more advanced recipes, developing a greater understanding of specialized cooking tools and equipment as well as more advanced cooking terminology. Cupcakes, muffins, biscuits, cookies, pasta, and crepes are just a few of the recipes being made in this course.

French as a Second Language

French as a Second Language is designed to build French language skills in listening, speaking and reading. Students will engage in the French language while building vocabulary through a variety of fun, engaging and active learning activities such as games, skits, plays, songs and in completing various projects both in the classroom and with technology-based media. Aspects of French and French Canadian culture will also be included as we move through the various seasons and holidays. Students may begin study in FSL at any point in middle school as the program can easily be adapted to individual levels of ability.

Graphic Design

Do you love art, design, and being creative? Do you enjoy using computers? This program is designed to provide students with a foundation of digital graphic design knowledge. Students enrolled in this course will become familiar with and use Adobe Illustrator! Students will participate in elements of design, understanding vector design, logo development, typography, and creating digital art. In addition to using Illustrator, students will also participate in various other online tools and encounter new types of presentation software. Skills, tasks, and challenges will vary from term to term, so if students choose to repeat the option they will be faced with new challenges.

Guitar

This class is a continuation from the Grade 7 Guitar class covering acoustic guitar basics. Chords, scales, arpeggios, and basic strumming patterns will be covered using the Hal Leonard Guitar Method Book 1. Students will also learn basic note reading skills and how to understand rhythm patterns. Guitar tablature will be introduced to students through a variety of current pop music. Students who wish to purchase the Hal Leonard Guitar Method Book may do so at a cost of \$10.00.

****Students who did not take the Guitar Option in Grade 7 are more than welcome to join in Grade 8. Students may take this class all three trimesters.**

Indigenous Studies

Are you interested in a hands-on course learning more about Canada's First Nations, Metis, and Inuit? You will learn about current and past Indigenous leaders, meet elders from the community, make indigenous food, listen to indigenous music, make indigenous clothing and housing items, play indigenous games, learn about treaties, and discuss current and past Indigenous issues. This is available to both Indigenous and Non-indigenous students that are interested.

Jazz Band (takes place before or after school) ****see Mr. Pearson if you wish to sign up****

Jazz Band is a full year course designed for Grade 7 and 8 students to develop their instrumental playing skills through jazz music. Jazz standards, contemporary jazz, modern jazz, and rock/pop pieces arranged for jazz band will be played. Students should have one year of playing experience on their instrument to feel comfortable playing in the jazz band. Students also have the opportunity to focus on a different instrument than the one they play in the concert band if they want to pursue that challenge. Besides the standard concert band instruments, students may also play bass, electric guitar, and piano in the jazz band.

Leadership

The goal of the Leadership elective is to provide students with a variety of learning experiences which will enable them to acquire the skills needed to serve their school and community by planning and implementing large group activities such as Pep Rallies, Multi-Cultural Events, Friendship Week, and Me to We Campaigns. Students will participate in a variety of activities that will foster skill development in the following areas:

Communication	School and Community Service
Planning and Organizing	Relationship and Team Building
Self-Awareness	Problem Solving and Decision Making

Learner's/Driver's Ed

Thinking about getting your Learner's permit soon? This course will help you prepare for the test.

Photoshop and Photography

Into digital photography and art? This course is taught in the computer lab and focuses on learning Adobe Photoshop and basic photography compositions. Students will experiment, use, and become familiar with many Photoshop tools and features. Students will have the opportunity to work with stock photos as well as their own. In addition to using Photoshop, students will also participate in photography and composing their own photos. Students will also be introduced to Canva presentation software.

Outdoor Education (can only be taken once)

This course provides opportunities for learning about the outdoors and developing skills and knowledge related to nature, survival, and enjoying outdoor pursuits. The following is a list of activities from which we may draw in order to achieve the learner expectations and course objectives: archery, layering techniques of technical clothing, outdoor survival skills, knot tying, fishing, rock climbing, personal and group safety, and possibly fire building & extinguishing. This class will usually have a day trip associated with it at an extra cost.

Recreation Education

This is an option course that will provide opportunities for students to participate in a variety of fun games and activities. They will develop an understanding and appreciation for an assortment of indoor activity possibilities such as table tennis and bowling; and outdoor activities of various physicality levels such as Spikeball, bocce, and disc golf. Students will be expected to demonstrate fair play, cooperation with others, and a willingness to engage in the activities provided throughout the trimester.

S.T.E.M. 8

S.T.E.M. means Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. This course will provide opportunities for students to challenge themselves through a variety of engineering challenges, fun science experiments, art projects, coding and puzzles, as well as a self-directed science fair project.

Vocal Music and Performance

This class will be an exploration in singing. You will have the opportunity to explore a variety of different types of music and genres through singing, listening and research projects. This is a great class for students who love to sing and would like to explore singing in smaller groups, duets or solo, in a safe space. We can learn more about how to warm up your voice, blend with other singers, protect vocal health, sing harmonies, solo or karaoke and so much more!

Woodworking

Woodworking 8 offers students the opportunity to work with various materials, machines, and tools in the shop to build woodworking projects. Students can expect to learn workshop safety, basic hand and power tool training, joinery methods and techniques, measurement, the designing and planning process, and how to follow woodworking instructions. Students will have the opportunity, and be expected, to use many industry-standard power tools, including the miter saw! Project options include a Muskoka (Adirondack) Chair, beach chair, small table, shoe shelf, or a themed birdhouse as well as other projects. Students participating in this course are expected to be self-motivated and able to work independently to complete projects.



Grade 8

Option Course Registration

Please specify which program you are registering in:

- ☐ French Immersion
- ☐ English
- ☐ ESL

The following are Full Year courses; please check if you are interested:

- ☐ **Band**
 - ☐ Woodwind Instrument (Flute, Clarinet & Saxophone)
 - ☐ Brass/Percussion (Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone & Tuba)
- ☐ **Sports Academy** (must [register online](#) prior to selection)

Core Courses (All Year)

All students take Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, Health, and Physical Education. French Immersion students also receive English Language Arts (Anglais).

Option Courses

In addition to the above core subjects, students will also take option courses. At CMS we operate on a trimester system where students switch options approximately every 3 months.

If you are in the English, French Immersion, Late French or ESL Programs choose 8 options.

Sports Academy students choose 6 options. Band students choose 5 options.

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| ☐ Art 2D | |
| ☐ Art 3D | |
| ☐ Computer Science | ☐ STEM |
| ☐ Cosmetology | ☐ Vocal Music |
| ☐ Drama | ☐ Woodworking |
| ☐ Fashion Studies | ☐ Photoshop and Photography |
| ☐ Outdoor Education | |
| ☐ Recreation Education | |
| ☐ Fashion - Textile Arts | |
| ☐ Foods | |
| ☐ French as a Second Language (FSL) | |
| ☐ Graphic Design | |
| ☐ Guitar | |
| ☐ Indigenous Studies | |
| ☐ Leadership | |
| ☐ Learner's/Driver's Ed | |