



Short Pump Middle School Course Request Information
2024-2025 School Year - 6th Grade
Welcome to Short Pump Middle School!



Getting Started

- This form has been designed to guide you in the online course selection process. Please review it and the HCPS Planning Guide link for Students and Parents: <http://academicplanningguide.henricoschools.us/>. Information on navigating the Planning Guide site can be found here: <https://youtu.be/Cgar2zGCxss>.
- PowerSchool Information:
 - Parent scheduling access window: January 8-22, 2024
 - Parents/Guardians will be required to login to the PowerSchool portal (<https://sis.henrico.k12.va.us/public/home.html>).
 - Once successfully logged into PowerSchool, parents/guardians will be expected to review and accept the recommended academic courses and select elective courses and an alternate with their student.
 - If parents/guardians do not have a PowerSchool account, they will be required to create a login using their student's 11-digit identification number. Parents/guardians should be sure they know their student's 11-digit identification number prior to starting this process. This number can be found on your student's report card. It is the same 11-digit number as on a Virginia birth certificate.
 - Teachers will make course recommendations for next school year in PowerSchool. Please use these as a guide to work with your student's teacher in selecting courses that are appropriate for your student.
- **All course offerings are subject to change.**
- **Adjustments to course selections may be made due to end of the year assessments.**

Required Courses

All academic core classes have been recommended by the current teacher. Information on core pathways can be found [here](#). **Six classes are required** (English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Reading/Gifted/ESL, and Health/PE). Health/PE has been automatically added to every student's schedule.

1. English/Language Arts—All English courses have a summer reading requirement.

- English 6—1109
- English 6 Collaborative—1109I (exceptional education services)
- English 6 Advanced—1109V

2. Math

- Math Course 1—3110
- Math Course 1 Collaborative—3110I (exceptional education services)
- Accelerated Math 6/7*—3115—must be enrolled in Accelerated Math 5/6 in Grade 5

3. Science

- Introduction to Earth and Environmental Science—4105
- Introduction to Earth and Environmental Science Collaborative—4105I (exceptional education services)
- Advanced Life Science—4115V

4. Social Studies

- Social Studies 6—2354
- Social Studies 6 Collaborative—2354I (exceptional education services)
- Social Studies 6/Civics Accelerated—2354V

5. Reading

- Teens Read! GR6—1106
- MS Reading 6—1177 (exceptional education services)

-OR-

Talented and Gifted Elective 6—9840K—Required for Identified Gifted learners—Students recommended for this class, take it in lieu of reading

-OR-

English as a Second Language—I 5710MS; II 5720MS; III 5730MS; IV 5731MS—teacher recommendation (for level 1-4 ESL students only)—Students recommended for this class, take it in lieu of reading.

Elective Courses

Students must select TWO electives from the options listed below. Students may choose two year long courses, OR one yearlong course and the nine-week exploratory course. Students must choose a third back-up course as an ALTERNATE in case the first or second is dropped, full, or presents a scheduling conflict with a required course. The alternate choice must be different from the first choice electives. Students are COMMITTED to their selections. Please choose carefully! Please note that the elective options listed below as choices are not guaranteed. Final course offerings will be based on course registration information and teacher availability. A lottery system may be used for elective courses with a large number of student requests. If a lottery is utilized and a student is not selected, they will be given their next available alternative choice.

___ **Art 6**—9104

___ **Beginning Band**—9228

___ **Beginning Chorus**—9269

___ **Beginning Strings**—9252MS

___ **Exploratory:** —0089—Students will rotate through **four** of the nine week classes listed below—one each nine weeks. The four classes will be determined depending on staffing and will be selected later in the scheduling process. Students/parents do not select classes for the exploratory rotation.

- These are the types of classes which **may be offered** in the exploratory class:
 - Art Exploratory—9103
 - Exploring Languages and Cultures—5102
 - Introduction to Technology—8481
 - Discovering Business & IT—6600
 - Exploratory Music—9208
 - Exploratory Drama—9761
 - Teen Living 6—8206

___ **Foundations of French Part A***—5113

___ **Foundations of Spanish Part A***—5513

***For Foundations of French Part A and Foundations of Spanish Part A courses:**

- World Language Foundations courses do not receive high school credit until the student has successfully completed the Foundations A and B in the same language. Foundations B is a course subsequent to Foundations A that is offered in the following school year.
- Students taking this class may be taking it with seventh grade students.
- Only students who feel they are equipped to handle the rigorous course load should select a World Language.
- Taking a World Language is a requirement of an Advanced Studies Diploma (see Planning Guide, <http://academicplanningguide.henricoschools.us/>, Diploma Requirements). However, students do not have to begin a language in middle school to meet this requirement. Students have four years in high school to meet the requirement. There are opportunities for students to take Language Level 1 in high school.
- Passing Foundations Part A and B is required for enrollment in Language Level 2.

Important Dates to Remember:

- **November 30, 2023; 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.**
 - SPMS Student Learning and Innovation Showcase
- **November 28-December 15, 2023**
 - SPMS Counselor Visit to Elementary Schools
- **January 8-22, 2024**
 - [Parents go online to review and accept teacher recommendations and select electives](#)
- **May 24, 2024**
 - Deadline to request a schedule change. Changes will only be honored if space is available in the courses being requested.
- **August 2024-Week Prior to School Start-Date TBD**
 - SPMS—Puma Camp: Rising sixth grade transition program

QUESTIONS: Parents, if you have questions about academic course recommendations, please contact your student's **fifth grade teacher**. For other questions, please contact your student's **elementary school counselor**.