



Alexander Galt Regional High School

Concentration Programs 2026-2027

Parent Handbook

ABOUT OUR CONCENTRATION PROGRAMS:

Alexander Galt is proud to offer students the opportunity to select from a variety of optional enhanced concentration programs. While following the prescribed MEQ curriculum, students who apply and are accepted into a concentration program follow an adjusted subject-time allocation that permits them to have 7 blocks of “concentration” at Cycle 1 or 6 blocks of “concentration” at Cycle 2. We invite you to read through this handbook in order to best understand how these programs run, what commitments are involved, and what application process is required.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU APPLY FOR A CONCENTRATION:

- The deadline to apply is **December 12, 2025** in order to prepare for course selection.
- Students selected will be notified of their placement in January 2026 by their respective program coordinators (provisional acceptance, provisional conditional acceptance, refusal, or waiting list).
- **SELECTION PROCESS:**
A selection process will be carefully followed based on the following:
 - 1) motivation to be in the program
 - 2) being a positive asset within our school & community
 - 3) overall academic and behavioural standings.
- Applications received after the December 12, 2025 deadline could potentially result in placement on a waiting list, pending program availability.
- Course selection is completed online (February/March) and would reflect concentrations provided all required documents have been returned.
- Program contract and supporting documents will be sent in the spring (May/June) and are to be completed and returned as soon as possible.
- All school fees must be paid and up to date by course selection.
- New students from outside of AGRHS must send a copy of their June report card by the end of June (*or immediately upon issue). Current AGRHS students do not need to submit a report card.
- Acceptances issued in January are subject to review based on the June 2026 report card / MELS exam results (cycle 2) and teachers' placement recommendations. *Given some constraints with scheduling classes, placement may not be possible for some students. Communication will be made accordingly. A student may receive a conditional placement prior to course selection in February but placement may be overturned following the June 2025 June results.*
- Students on wait lists will be confirmed in August based on remaining availability in the program or on new availability resulting from incomplete files (ie. no contract received; incomplete payment, etc...) Communication will be made accordingly.
- As with all programs and courses, the ability to run the program can only be done based on sufficient numbers. Similarly, adaptations or suspensions of any program may be required due to extenuating circumstances such as the global pandemic.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

If a concentration program is of interest to you:

Ensure you have fully read the handbook and clearly understand all terms.	☐
Complete the online application prior to December 12, 2025. <i>Applications are processed annually - returning students must reapply by the same deadlines.</i> To fill in the application you will need to sign in to a google account, if you do not have a google account, use an ETSB student account. If your child is not currently enrolled in ETSB and you do not have a google account, contact Mrs. Adrianna Lyons at lyonsa@etsb.qc.ca	☐
Ensure you have uploaded all requested documents in the online application: ★ Copy of 2024-2025 Final June Report Card ★ Copy of 2025 - 2026 First Communication / Term 1 Report Card (if available at the time of registration)	☐
Specific program document requirements: Portfolio for Art Concentration One to three minute audition video for Performing Arts to agpac@edu.etsb.qc.ca .	☐

Once conditionally accepted into a concentration:

Ensure the return of the fully completed and signed contract and all supporting documentation:

Concentration Contract 2026-2027 (sent in May/June 2026)	☐
Full payment or financial plan	☐
Ensure your child has the required uniform items (optional items- if desired)	☐

AGRHS CONCENTRATIONS

VISUAL ARTS CONCENTRATION

**“Art is not a thing, it is a Way”
Elbert Hubbard**

The Visual Arts Concentration offers an enriched and multi-leveled curriculum that allows each student to progress and thrive according to his or her individual needs and level. The program develops students’ artistic skills and knowledge, while enabling them to establish their unique identity as young artists. Students are encouraged to engage in reflective practices, as they develop a self-directed and independent approach to the art making process.

The program offers a strong foundation in drawing and painting, coupled with varied studio courses such as: sculpture, illustration, and more. Learning is enhanced via museum and gallery visits, specialists’ studio workshops, exploration of potential art based careers, and visits to higher education art institutes. Each school year brings many new experiences and much growth, which is celebrated in a fabulous year end art exhibit, created and hosted by our students.

SCIENCE CONCENTRATION

(This program is only offered to cycle 1 students)

This project-based curriculum explores the same topics as a traditional science class, but through an intensive hands-on approach. Students go into greater depth in each topic as they apply what they are learning to a project that they can see, touch, and make decisions about.

This program is looking for students who are passionate about science and technology, who are hard working, detailed-oriented people and who have a heightened sense of curiosity about the world around them. Depending upon numbers, students may be grouped by Sec. 1 and Sec. 2 separately or may be grouped together in a multi-level grouping. The students will receive double the amount of science instruction, allowing for a more in depth exploration of the material and application of their understanding through exciting hands-on projects. This means more labs, more “doing”, more learning, and more fun!!

PERFORMING ARTS CONCENTRATION

The Performing Arts Concentration program offers an enriched and multilevel curriculum by combining theatre, dance, and music in an effort to provide a safe and open-minded environment to students who show a passion for and/or talent in these three disciplines. Through new and varied opportunities, our students will be inspired to achieve a common goal of excellence through the development of a cooperative creative process which will instill a sense of belonging. In return, such an environment will foster a sense of self-worth and confidence through performance achievements.

Throughout the year, students practice the performance and appreciation of different styles of dramatic works, dances, and music. These competencies are developed through a variety of lessons and projects that touch on theory and analysis, and the practical application of skills learned. Students have multiple opportunities to perform individually, in small groups, and as a collective group in front of peers and other audiences.

SPORTS CONCENTRATION

The sports concentration program is a unique program that allows students to choose a specific sport(s): hockey, basketball or soccer for TERM 1 and TERM 2. For TERM 3 - students will go through a multisport rotation allowing them to stray away from their sport of choice. No matter what sport is chosen, students will be engaged, work hard, improve fundamental skills and game play.

The sports concentration program creates an atmosphere where students are expected to balance academics and athletics. The balance between academic growth, success and athletic improvement is a unique offering to our students at Alexander Galt.

If you are passionate about sports and want to improve your game, this program is for you!

CONCENTRATION EXPECTATIONS

Students accepted into a concentration program commit to:

- Remaining in the selected concentration for the year (no course changes)
- Academic effort and growth
- Concentration effort and growth
- Positive attitude and behavior within the school & community
- Respecting the financial deadlines
- Attend class on a regular basis
- Always give a 100% effort both in academics and program requirements
- Attending academic help and/or remediation when necessary

Parent(s) / Guardian(s) commit to:

- Respecting that the commitment to the selected concentration program is for the full school year (no course changes)
- Supporting their child in their academic effort and growth
- Supporting and reinforcing the positive attitude and behavior of their child
- Respecting the financial deadlines
- Encouraging and supporting regular class attendance
- Positive collaboration with the school team
- Updating the school of any changes in the contact information of the parent(s)/guardian(s) or medical information of their child

Teachers & staff at AGRHS commit to:

- Providing engaging and quality learning experiences that respect and enhance the MEQ curriculum
- Provide relevant and timely constructive feedback to the student to support growth
- Communicate concerns to the parent(s)/guardian(s) in a timely manner
- Refer to and provide access to academic help/remediation where necessary
- To maintain expectations and the conditions under which students may achieve them

COURSE SELECTION

It is expected that students and parents take the course selection very seriously as this is what guides the organization of the resources allocated to the school. Where asked to indicate priorities of choices, there must be alternates selected. In the event that a group cannot run due to low numbers, the next priority is considered. The same rules applied to course changes across the school - apply to concentration students. Where the student has received their choices, changes are not considered. Where a student has not provided a choice or alternate choices in priority, the school determines placement based on availability. Changes during the year are highly exceptional and only considered under teacher recommendation for reasons of particular concern, primarily the potential failure of the student.

Please note the following if a student chooses to be in a concentration:

CYCLE 1 Level 1 & 2 students attend 5 out of 6 social studies classes and 1 out of 2 ethics classes

CYCLE 2 Level 3 - concentration takes the place of the 4 block option and students do not miss any other classes

CYCLE 2 Level 4 & 5 concentration takes the place of the 2 block option and students attend 5 out of 6 English classes and 1 out of 2 ethics classes

ACADEMIC CRITERIA

Academic structure and standards:

- A student entering from elementary school, should successfully complete their grade 6 competencies
- A student must demonstrate academic effort and growth throughout the school year
- A student should complete their present grade level without any failures
- A student with an average below 70% and/or a failure in any class may be conditionally accepted on probationary status.



If at any time students are not meeting the academic standards, they may need to use their concentration blocks to catch up on their academic responsibilities.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Academic support for the student(s) is a measure that is put into place to help those who are on probationary status, are experiencing difficulty, or need temporary remedial help.

Academic support is recommended and required when one or more of the following situations occur:

1. A student feels that he/she needs additional explanation in a certain subject and has requested academic support.
2. A student is asked by his/her teacher to attend in order to gain further explanation or to catch up on assignments.
3. A student has a justified absence and requires time to catch up on material that he/she missed, or needs to write a test that was missed due to an absence.
4. A student is placed on academic probation due to academic failure or behavioral problems.

ACADEMIC / BEHAVIOURAL REFERRALS & PROBATION

A referral letter will be sent home with your child, by the VP and/or coordinator in the following cases:

1. He/she is not meeting the academic criteria
2. Consistent behavioral problems or major behavioral infractions
3. Not on time and consistently late
4. High absenteeism
5. Concern for the overall well-being and success of your child

A student may be removed partially from concentration blocks for a period of time in order to address the specific concerns.

A probation from concentration could occur if:

- A student is not meeting the academic and/or behavior criteria
- Sent to triage or receives one or multiple school suspension(s)

***A student will be removed partially or completely from concentration blocks for a period of time in order to address the specific concerns. Depending upon the circumstances that lead to probation, or the frequency and impact of the probationary interventions, a student could be fully removed from the program.*

ATTENDANCE

Attendance at school is essential to remain in the concentration programs.

When students miss school unexpectedly (sick, etc.), the parents are expected to phone the school to notify the absence of the student. A doctor's note may be required for significant absences.

When students miss school unexpectedly (sick, etc.) the student is expected to:

- Catch up on anything that was covered or work that was assigned in class during their absence
- To communicate with their teacher via email or check the google classroom for any assignments that they may have missed.

Understandably, the first priority for students who are ill is recovering from their illness and so it is understood that students may not be able to complete work at that time. They will, however, need to take measures to complete all essential work once they are able and preparing to return to school. In exceptional circumstances, concentration blocks could be used to allow the student to catch up.

Students are required to be prepared for each class with:

- Materials
- Equipment
- Uniform (if required by the specific program)
- A positive attitude and growth mindset!

MEDICALS

As the school resources are organized around the courses selected during the course selection period, the commitment to a concentration program is for the full school year. That being said, students who encounter injury or illness resulting in medical notes restricting participation will be expected to remain with their group and thus benefit from the “theoretical” instruction even though they may not be able to participate at the practical level.

Reimbursement of fees based on medical notes is highly exceptional and for the most part will not be possible as the expenses of the program are locked in.

CONCENTRATION COSTS

The following prices are approximate costs for each program. With budgets under review for the 2026-27 school year, we can commit that these will be a maximum and will not exceed the prices below. Please take note that uniform and field trips are not included - these are an extra cost.

SPORTS CONCENTRATION: Approximately \$175 - \$1150 - depending on sport(s) selected

PERFORMING ARTS CONCENTRATION: Approximately \$200

VISUAL ARTS CONCENTRATION: Approximately \$150 - \$250 - depending on whether a new or returning student in the program

SCIENCE CONCENTRATION: Approximately \$150 - \$300

The parent is responsible to meet the required deadlines for payments, including dates committed to in a payment plan. If the full balance is not paid or followed - the student will be given a regular schedule that is not part of the concentration program.

If the payment plan is not respected - the student will be removed and provided a regular schedule until the payment is made in full.

Failure to respect the financial contract will result in an obligation to pay the full amount of all outstanding school debt as well as payment in full (without a payment plan) if the student is to be accepted into a concentration program in subsequent years.

UNIFORMS

All ordering of uniforms is completed by the parent directly with the supplier. Payment will be done directly with the supplier. Specific order information will be provided through the specific concentrations. More information to come.

REQUIRED UNIFORMS:

SPORTS CONCENTRATION: *Recommended 2 T-shirts, 2 shorts & sports concentration hoodie (other items will be available but are optional)*

Ordering online is made easy with our partnership with TORO GRAPHIX

SOCCER - soccer cleats, indoor athletic shoes, shin pads & navy blue soccer socks

BASKETBALL - basketball shoes or proper athletic shoes

HOCKEY - students must provide their own hockey equipment and student will need to order hockey jersey and socks through Mr.Fisk

PERFORMING ARTS CONCENTRATION: 1 T-shirt **Other items will be available but are optional.*

VISUAL ARTS CONCENTRATION: Hoodie

SCIENCE CONCENTRATION: *Optional items available*

COMMUNICATION



- Communication is a key factor to success
- The main way of communicating with you will be via email, phone, and/or the Mozaik parent portal
- *Please make sure that all important contact information for parents/guardians is accurate*

If you have any questions - don't hesitate to reach out to us 😊

CONCENTRATIONS, GUIDELINES, PROCEDURES & ACADEMICS

Mrs.Lyons – Vice-Principal CYCLE 2

EMAIL: lyonsa@etsb.qc.ca

QUESTIONS RELATED TO FINANCES & HOW TO PAY

Ms.Kylie George

EMAIL: GeorgeK@etsb.qc.ca

819-563-0770 ext. 22056)

QUESTIONS RELATED TO SPECIFIC CONCENTRATIONS:

SPORTS CONCENTRATION: Ms.Dubeau – dubeaun@edu.etsb.qc.ca 819-563-0770 ext 22081

SCIENCE CONCENTRATION: Mr.Fogg - foggj@edu.etsb.qc.ca

VISUAL ARTS CONCENTRATION: Mrs.Blampied - blampiedn@edu.etsb.qc.ca

PERFORMING ARTS CONCENTRATION: Mrs.Grenier - greniero@edu.etsb.qc.ca