

BBS Middle School

2024-2025 Grades 7 and 8

Registration for Elective Courses

- Students **MUST** choose at least one Arts elective **blue** (see Table 1).
- All elective courses are for one semester except grade 7 Music electives which are one-year courses.
- Intervention course electives (Math, English, & Arabic) are based on teacher recommendation and their first semester results. Those students have the privilege to be pre-registered in all the other electives of their choice.
- Students will choose four electives for the entire academic year except if they are taking the music elective:
 - Students will choose one elective from each block (see Table 2) – two for Semester 1 / two for Semester 2.
 - If Grade 7 students Music (full year course for grade 7), then they will choose only an additional two electives for the entire academic year.

Table 1

Department	Grade 7	Grade 8
IT	Robot Design 7	Autonomous Robots 8
		AI & Tech Innovation
	Digital Design 7	Graphic Communications 8
Languages	French 7	French 8
Science	First Aid 7	First Aid 8
Math	Math Intervention 7*	Math Intervention 8*
English	English Intervention 7*	English Intervention 8*

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	English Advanced 7*	English Advanced 8*
Arabic	Arabic Intervention 7*	Arabic Intervention 8*
Other	Health & Wellness (Girls)	Health & Wellness (Girls)
	Leadership	Leadership
		Entrepreneurship
		21st Century Skills
The Arts	Elements of Art 7	Mixed Media 8
	Styles and Techniques 7	Intro to Ceramics 8
	Principles of Design 7	Form & Media 8
	Music 7**	Instrumental Music 8 - Concert Band
	Arabic Drama 7	Model United Nations (MUN)
	Speech & Debate	
	Band 7**	

*Students will be pre-registered for these courses, but students should fill-in these course names in their Planning Table below and contact their advisor.

** One year course

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Grade 7 Registration

Grade 7 Electives by Semester & Block			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Block 1 (Sun & Tues)	Block 2 (Mon & Wed)	Block 3 (Sun & Tues)	Block 4 (Mon & Wed)
English Advanced 7	Arabic Drama 7	English Advanced 7	Arabic Drama 7
Arabic Intervention 7	Music 7 (year course)	Arabic Intervention 7	Music 7 (year course)
First Aid 7	First Aid 7	First Aid 7	First Aid 7
Math Intervention 7	French 7	Math Intervention 7	French 7
Principles of Design 7	Principles of Design 7	Principles of Design 7	Principles of Design 7
Elements of Art 7	Art Styles & Techniques 7	Elements of Art 7	Art Styles & Techniques 7
Robot Design 7	Robot Design 7	Robot Design 7	Robot Design 7
Speech & Debate	English Intervention 7	Speech & Debate	English Intervention 7
Digital Design 7	Digital Design 7	Digital Design 7	Digital Design 7
Leadership 7	Health & Wellness (Girls)	Leadership 7	Health & Wellness (Girls)
Band 7		Band 7	

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Grade 7 Registration Planning Table

Use the table below to plan for your electives course registration.

Fill the first row with your first choices and the second row with your backup choices in case the first is already full.

Semester 1		Semester 2	
Block 1 (Sun & Tues)	Block 2 (Mon & Wed)	Block 3 (Sun & Tues)	Block 4 (Mon & Wed)
First Choice:	First Choice:	First Choice:	First Choice:
Second Choice:	Second Choice:	Second Choice:	Second Choice:

Grade 7 Elective Course Descriptions

Robot Design 7 (IT)

In this introductory robotics course, students apply their critical thinking skills as they create interactive stories, games, art, and other projects related to robotics and programming. In addition, they use new learning tools designed to introduce students to robotics, engineering, programming, and general STEM teaching through robot-based learning systems.

Digital Design 7 (IT)

By using a variety of technology, students can create interesting and inspiring combinations of 2D and 3D digital designs. Students communicate and reflect on their work and increase their creativity and problem-solving skills to become more productive members of the community and a lifelong learner.

Elements of Art 7

Art is not just a skill. Students must also understand the basic concepts and fundamentals of visual art. Understanding art elements and principles and

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how to use them is the first step to producing high-quality art. In this course, students learn drawing with the main elements of art: the use of line, shape, volume, and space. Different media are used to explore drawing as a self-evaluating process. Many questions are posed for students to consider their talent and grasp the essentials of their process. Students are evaluated on their progress with in-class drawing sessions.

Art Styles & Techniques 7

The aim of this beginning course for middle school students is to give an appreciation of Visual Arts and of different styles and techniques of drawing and painting. An understanding of technical painting skills is achieved through different projects dealing with textures and tones. A wide range of painting and drawing techniques are used, including shading, smudging, clear strokes, sponge paint, and abstract paint.

Speech & Debate

In this course, students will acquire the basic skills of public speaking and the art of debating. They will explore the forms of public speaking, the construction of a debate, the different types of fallacies and logic, how to create a good argument, construct a speech, and understand refutals and rebuttals. Following that, students will present arguments through learning the skills of public speaking, and experiment with public Speaking training such as studying body language, eye contact, vocal variety, usage of stage/speaking area, and more. They will also look into speech crafting, content, speaking to a particular audience, and others. The course will conclude in a debate tournament practice.

Principles of Design 7

Principles of Design is a visual art course that allows students to use a variety of media to create an art piece. Exploration of a wide range of materials and techniques is emphasized. Students can combine drawing, painting, and collage with a wide range of processes such as relief printing, marbling, stenciling, and sponging on paper, wood, and canvas. Students organize and assemble the project pieces to create a series of mixed media works combining a variety of different surfaces and effects.

Music 7: Sing out (year course)

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For this year- long elective, students will develop a general and personal repertoire of songs. We will be building on vocal techniques, singing with accompaniment from various instruments and creating music.

The emphasis will be on singing different types of songs, exploring from pop to classical and at the end create a music program for a music performance.

Band 7: Instrumental (year course)

For this year-long elective, students will be learning how to play one of the following instruments; **trumpet, clarinet or flute**. They will also be learning how to read music and will have the opportunity to play in small ensembles and eventually form part of the school band.

Students that have a musical background are advised to take this elective.

You will be having fun, making music and learning at the same time.

Drama 7

This course is intended to help students develop the ability to create dramatic works using the forms, concepts, elements, and conventions taught within the classroom. Students will expand their thinking, solve problems, and develop their ability to express ideas and feelings in new and creative ways.

French 7

Students learn the basics of the French language such as letters, colors, numbers, and days of the week. Students develop basic conversational skills, for example, greetings, and how to speak at the restaurant, airport, and public places. Students also develop their French reading and writing skills.

First Aid 7

Students who understand first aid gain the ability to help those in need. In this course, students learn techniques to prevent, respond to, and treat common illnesses and injuries. Students learn communication, decision-making, teamwork and leadership skills as well as the basics of first aid which include and understanding of basic anatomy and physiology.

Math Intervention 7

This course reinforces for students the building blocks for success in future high school mathematics courses by reviewing and strengthening understanding of topics standard to Math 7: negative numbers; fractions, decimals, and percentages; ratios and proportions; algebraic equations; and geometric shapes and measurements such as volume and area.

Arabic Intervention 7

يقوم المنهج على تقوية مهارات اللغة العربية التي تم إعطاؤها في الصف السادس، بالإضافة إلى ما يتم تناوله في الصف السابع في القراءة والكتابة والسلامة اللغوية والإملاء، ويقوم كذلك بتدريب الطالب على المهارات الشفوية والمحادثة في اللغة العربية الفصحى.

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English Intervention 7

This course is designed to strengthen study skills introduced in English 6 in the areas of Reading, Writing, and Grammar. In addition, the course focuses on developing students' oral communication skills such as the preparation and presentation of short speeches (important skills valued by BBS alumni and their parents). English Intervention 7 represents an important academic investment because every Grade 7 student must succeed in Grade 8, the final step before promotion to high school.

English Advanced 7

Do you like to read and write? Then, this is the elective course for you! English Advanced 7 is designed to strengthen and provide an application for all the necessary academic skills needed in Grade 8 and beyond. **This course does not take the place of English 7 – this elective course supplements English 7.** If you are thinking ahead and considering an Honors English class in High School, this is the elective you should consider. Join this class to enhance your overall academic skills for future accelerated studies. In this course, students will have the opportunity to work on short story writing, and literature analysis, where they demonstrate their understanding with various project-based assignments that build knowledge and expand critical thinking.

Academic Learning Support 7 (ALS)

Academic Learning Support (ALS) is an elective class for students receiving Tier 3 Learning Support services or who have been diagnosed with a diverse learning need. This class will assist in building foundational academic skills needed for the general education curriculum. Students receive support in a small group setting, as outlined by the student's formal intervention plan (FIP) or individual educational plan (IEP). Academic learning support will also provide instruction and support for executive functioning skills to promote an increase in on-task behavior, classwork completion and homework completion. Finally, it will provide re-teaching of some concepts, initially introduced in the general education setting.

Leadership 7

By cultivating a mindset of leadership, students will develop critical skills that empower their choices and promote constructive action. Students will examine, reflect and refine their own thoughts, actions and beliefs and will look at ways that they can encourage and influence positive outcomes and actions in those around them. By developing their interpersonal and communication skills, organization and time management, and creative-thinking processes, students will learn to see themselves as the agents of change in their own and others' future. Possible projects may include creating newsletters, magazines .

Health & Wellness (Girls)

Middle School Health Education and Wellness at BBS is a course that introduces students to the basic concepts of health and wellness. Students will explore various topics and the factors that will influence their health and wellness, so that we can make health literate decisions regarding living a healthier life. Students will be encouraged to take responsibility for personal wellness as they investigate topics in personal health and wellness, nutrition, mental health, decision making, stress management, mindfulness, disease awareness and prevention, personal safety and media awareness.

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Registration for Elective Courses Grade 8 Registration

Grade 8 Electives by Semester & Block			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Block 1 (Sun & Tues)	Block 2 (Mon & Thur)	Block 3 (Sun & Tues)	Block 4 (Mon & Thur)
Math Intervention 8	Arabic Intervention 8	Math Intervention 8	Arabic Intervention 8
Entrepreneurship 8	English Advanced 8	Entrepreneurship 8	English Advanced 8
MUN	First Aid 8	MUN	First Aid 8
French 8	Leadership 8	French 8	Leadership 8
Autonomous Robots 8	AI & Tech Innovation	Autonomous Robots 8	AI & Tech Innovation
Graphic Communications 8	Autonomous Robots 8	Graphic Communications 8	Autonomous Robots 8
Intro to Ceramics 8	Form & Media 8	Intro to Ceramics 8	Form & Media 8
Instrumental Music 8	English Intervention 8	Instrumental Music 8	English Intervention 8
Art Mixed Media 8	Art Mixed Media 8	Art Mixed Media 8	Art Mixed Media 8
Health & Wellness (Girls)	First Aid 8	Health & Wellness (Girls)	First Aid 8
	21st Century Skills		21st Century Skills

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**Registration for Elective Courses
Grade 8 Registration Planning Table**

Use the table below to plan for your electives course registration.

Fill the first row with your first choices and the second row with your back-up choices in case the first is already full.

Semester 1		Semester 2	
Block 1 (Sun & Tues)	Block 2 (Mon & Wed)	Block 3 (Sun & Tues)	Block 4 (Mon & Wed)
First Choice:	First Choice:	First Choice:	First Choice:
Second Choice:	Second Choice:	Second Choice:	Second Choice:

Grade 8 Elective Course Descriptions

AI & Tech Innovation

AI & Tech Innovation is an exciting elective where you will dive into the world of future technology. From designing and programming robots to creating innovative mobile applications and exploring the dynamics of gaming, here, you'll also initiate your exploration into the exciting world of Artificial Intelligence (AI). students will engage in hands-on projects, collaborative problem-solving, and creative exploration. This dynamic course empowers students to explore their creativity, develop critical thinking skills, and become the tech leaders of tomorrow.

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Autonomous Robots 8 (IT)

The objective of this course is to introduce students to the basics of programming as well as problem-solving and gaming strategies by using different kinds of robotics kits. They will enjoy a hands-on team experience about robotics programming using the concepts of STEAM education: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, & Mathematics. It will be a fantastic experience building something out of tiny parts and seeing it come to life. Students will learn to identify the stages of robot creation, then build a model able to interact with the physical world. This course will inspire and motivate the next generation to continue in computer science and engineering courses.

Graphic Communication 8 (IT)

Understanding the basics of digital communications is essential in the 21st Century. This course gives an overview of the designs of digital communication systems, covering the basics of graphic design, digital marketing, digital publishing and digital art. Students will be able to use a number of technologies to create innovative output and communicate their ideas using different platforms.

Mixed Media 8

This course is an introduction to the elements of mixed media and incorporates drawing, collage, painting, cut paper, mosaics, 3D artworks, and recycling crafts. These media allow students the opportunity to explore contemporary processes of image making that stress the concept of working in a series of artwork, rather than creating a single, end-in-itself piece.

Intro to Ceramics 8

This course will use ceramics as a way to explore and understand three-dimensional space. Both traditional and experimental approaches to ceramics will be explored as a way to develop technical skills and expand our conceptual approaches. Students will develop a practical understanding of how clay behaves, while building a conceptual framework through which to apply this knowledge. Studio practice includes hand building, modeling, and carving as possibilities for turning ideas into three-dimensional propositions. Illustrated talks will help acquaint students with the ideas artists have explored through history and in contemporary sculptural practices.

Form & Media 8

This course focuses on the relationship among ideas, form, and material. Students will be required to produce a series of sculptures that explore one specific idea, concept, personal or social issue of their choice. Metaphor and symbolism will be examined and used as vehicles for communicating meaning. Emphasis will be placed on the unity of the body of work being produced as well as on clarity, craftsmanship, and presentation. Students will also analyze critically the use of conceptual content in contemporary sculpture.

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Music: Marimba Band

In this course, you will learn how to play music using both melodic and non-melodic percussion instruments, as well as how to read music notation. Through playing instruments together in a band or ensemble, you will study rhythm, melody, and musical form.

Model United Nations 8 (MUN)

This course is designed to provide an orientation to the activities of the United Nations, as well as providing an understanding of the modalities of international diplomacy. This course will explore current events, pressing international issues, the basics of international law and some of the protocols and procedures of diplomacy, such as the current parameters of the implementation of UN bodies. Understanding current issues and diplomacy will prepare MUN students for their role as distinguished diplomats at the annual Model United Nations conference.

French 8

Students will learn the basics of the French language, including letters, colors, numbers, days, etc. Students will learn and develop their basic conversational skills, for example, greetings, how to speak at the restaurant, airport, and public places. Students will also develop their French reading and writing skills. Students will apply their skills by engaging in preset dialogues as well as composing their own. By the end of the course, students will be able to express themselves in simple sentences in French.

First Aid 8

Students who understand first aid gain the ability to help those in need. Students will learn techniques to prevent, respond to, and treat common illnesses and injuries. Students will learn communication, decision-making, teamwork, and leadership skills as well as the basics of first aid which include: anatomy and physiology.

Math Intervention 8

Math Plus 8 encourages students to transition from understanding foundational mathematics concepts in Math 8 to applying these concepts through organizing and synthesizing information by graphing, estimating, and solving equations. Tech tools will guide students through this critical turning point with engaging lessons and activities that revolve around real-world concepts, making the study of math more meaningful and building math fluency and confidence.

Arabic Intervention 8

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مهارات القرن الحادي والعشرين: 21 Century Skills

تم وصف إطار التعلم لهذا القرن بأنه يشمل المهارات والمعارف والخبرات التي يجب أن يتمكن الطلاب منها للنجاح في العمل والحياة، وأنه مزيج من المعرفة بالمحتوى والمهارات الخاصة والخبرة. وتتسم تلك المكونات بكونها متكاملة فيما بينها.

لماذا مهارات القرن الحادي والعشرين؟ لأن هذه المهارات متعددة التخصصات تعتبر الأساس الذي يحتاجه الطلاب للنجاح في حياتهم المهنية والاجتماعية خلال عصر المعلومات الحالي، فهي تسلّحهم بالمعرفة والخبرات الضرورية لمواكبة التغيرات السريعة في عالمنا المعاصر.

وتتمثل في ثلاث فئات أساسية وهي: أولاً/ مهارات التعلم والإبداع،

وتشمل: التفكير النقدي (إيجاد حلول للمشكلات)، الإبداع والابتكار (التفكير خارج الصندوق)، التعاون (العمل ضمن فريق واحد)، التواصل (نقل الأفكار والتعبير عنها بشكل فعال).

ثانياً/ مهارات الثقافة الرقمية، وتتمثل فيما يلي: المعرفة المعلوماتية، المعرفة التكنولوجية، الثقافة الإعلامية.

ثالثاً/ مهارات الحياة، وتضم خمس مهارات أساسية: المرونة والقدرة على التكيف، القيادة والمسؤولية، المبادرة والتوجيه،

الإنتاجية والمساءلة، المهارات الاجتماعية.

English Intervention 8

English Intervention 8 course is designed to strengthen study skills introduced in English 7 in the areas of Reading, Writing, and Grammar. The course focuses on further developing students' oral communication skills such as the preparation and presentation of short speeches (important skills valued by BBS alumni and their parents). English Plus 8 represents an essential academic step because every Grade 8 student must succeed in high school where formative and summative assessments prepare students for the rigorous college admissions process that includes writing application essays and taking standardized tests such as the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

English Advanced 8

Do you like to read and write? Then, this is the elective course for you! English Advanced 8 is designed to strengthen and provide an application to all the necessary academic skills needed in High School. **This course does not take the place of English 8 – this elective course supplements English 8.** If you are considering an Honors English class in Grade 9 in preparation for Advanced Placement (AP) courses, this is the elective for you. In this course, students will work on their debating and literary analysis skills, by demonstrating their understanding with various project-based assignments that build knowledge and expand critical thinking.

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Entrepreneurship 8

Entrepreneurship is the process of taking an idea or a solution to a problem and turning it into a business. Entrepreneurship focuses on recognizing a business opportunity, starting a business and operating and maintaining a business. Students will be exposed to the development of critical thinking, problem-solving, and innovation in this course as they will either be the business owner or individuals working in a competitive job market in the future. Integration of basic accounting and finance, marketing and business management will be developed throughout projects.

Academic Learning Support 8 (ALS)

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Leadership 8

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