



GRADE 8 INFORMATION PACKAGE

LOOKING AHEAD: QUICK TIPS FOR GRADE 8 STUDENTS



CtK Student Services

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct. 20-24	Counsellor Class Visits
Nov. 2	Online Registration Opens (non-associate schools only)
Nov. 5	Grade 8 Day at CtK (associate schools only)
Nov. 13	(Access to course selections via myBlueprint (associate schools))
Nov. 13	Grade 8 Information Night (Including AP, French and IEP presentations)
Dec. 5	Course Submissions via myBlueprint Due
Jan. 9	AP Application Due (where applicable)
Feb. 1	AP Decisions Emailed
May 1	Final Course Changes Due (Google Form)
May 7	BREAK Event (registered students)
Aug 26	New Student Orientation Day

Welcome!

As you look ahead to this next chapter in your education, we are excited to welcome you in the fall to CtK and to help you along your transition from elementary to high school.

This *Quick Tips* sheet will outline some of the important information and dates that students should be aware of. Please note that you can reach out to Student Services with any questions and we will do our best to assist you and your parents in this process.

You've got this, future Jags!

Student Services: (905) 702-8838 x 2005

CtK Mentor Program

The aim of the Mentor Program is to provide Grade 9 students with a connection to a senior student who will mentor and assist them in a wide variety of ways. From helping students navigate around the school to answering questions about clubs, sports, school events, and extra help, the Mentors have the ultimate goal of welcoming and supporting their Mentees and helping them ease into life at CtK!

- Mentors are assigned to support period 1 Grade 9 classes.
- Mentors organize and run various special event days for Grade 9s.
- Your Mentor is here to help or to direct you to someone who can help!

Your Day at CtK

2 Semesters in each school year

- Sem 1 runs Sept. to Jan. and Sem 2 runs Feb. to June

School day runs from 8:05 am - 2:40 pm

- 4 classes each day (75 mins each)
- LUNCH during period 3 (75 mins)

6 Compulsory and 2 Elective Courses in your schedule

Exams and/or Culminating Activities at end of each semester

Graduation Requirements

17 Compulsory Courses
13 Elective Courses

4 English Credits
3 Math Credits
2 Science Credits
1 Credit in Arts
1 Credit in Phys. Ed.
1 Credit in French
1 Credit in Geography
1 Credit in Canadian History
.5 Credit in Career Studies
.5 Credit in Civics

40 Community Service Hours
OSSLT
2 Online Credits (Opt out form available)

***NEW**

1 Credit in Tech (Gr 9 or 10)
1 Credit in STEM Group
Financial Literacy Requirement

***As of October, 2024

Counsellors @ CtK

Mrs. Fataar
FataarM@hcdsb.org

Mr. De Cicco
DeCiccoM@hcdsb.org

Mrs. Lauc
Lauci@hcdsb.org

Mrs. Pavanetto
PavanettoC@hcdsb.org

Frequently Asked Questions

When will I receive my timetable?

Students will receive their timetables at the end of August at the August Orientation Day. They will have a chance to tour the school with their Mentors and find their classes ahead of the start of the year.

How will I be paired with my Mentor?

Grade 8 students will be paired with a mentor in their period 1 class in September. Mentors are carefully selected and will be assigned to period 1 classes.

How do I get a Health and Phys. Ed. uniform?

Health and Phys. Ed. uniforms can be purchased through School Cash Online beginning in early September. Uniforms can be picked up from your Phys. Ed. teacher.

Where can I find more information about the AP Program?

Students interested in the AP Program can find additional information, along with a presentation shared with families, on Ctk's website, under the "Advanced Placement" tab. You can also reach out to Student Services with any specific questions about the program or the application process.

I am in in the French Immersion at my elementary school—is there a separate application I need to complete to continue in the program?

No application is needed. Students coming from a French program in Grade 8 simply need to select the appropriate French courses indicated on the Option Sheet.

Where can I find out about clubs and sports teams being offered at Ctk?

Students are strongly encouraged to join at least one activity in Grade 9. Student satisfaction and engagement greatly increases for students who participate in at least one club early on. A list of sports, clubs and activities can be found on Ctk's website under the "Students" tab or on ctkathletics.ca.

When can I begin accumulating hours for the Community Service Grad Requirement?

Students can begin accumulating their hours beginning on July 1st prior to beginning Grade 9. Information about where to volunteer, as well as the form that needs to be completed and submitted to your guidance counsellor upon completion of your hours, can be found on the Ctk site under the "Students" tab or on ctkathletics.ca

Is the GLE course required for all students?

Students with an IEP are able to select the GLE course.

How can I find information about bussing?

Students who reside within Ctk's boundary zone may qualify for bussing. Please go to haltonbus.ca for more information.

Where can I purchase my school uniform?

The school uniform provider is McCarthy Uniforms, who have a showroom in Milton that students may visit to purchase their uniforms. For information about their hours and booking an appointment, please go to: www.mccarthyuniforms.ca

Will I have a chance to change my courses?

Yes, parents will be provided with a link to complete a Google Form, which will allow them the chance to reconsider their initial selections in December and make any desired changes by May 1. No elective changes are permitted after this date.

Which courses count for the new STEM-related group?

Business Studies, Computer Studies, Cooperative Education, a 4th Mathematics Credit, A 3rd Science Credit, a Tech Credit



Christ the King Catholic Secondary School

Grade 9 Course Selection Guide 2026-2027

Click or tap here to enter text.
STUDENT'S LAST NAME

Click or tap here to enter text.
STUDENT'S FIRST NAME

Click or tap here to enter text.
ELEMENTARYSCHOOL

For more information on High School and Grade 9, see our Important Information and FAQ's

PART A: COMPULSORY COURSES

Select **SIX (6)** courses (one per subject):

SUBJECT AREA	DESTREAMED (Select Full Package)	FRENCH IMMERSION (Select Full Package)	ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
GEOGRAPHY	☐ CGC1W1	☐ CGC1WM	
ENGLISH	☐ ENL1W1	☐ ENL1W1	☐ ESLA/B/C/D
FRENCH	☐ FSF1D1	☐ FIF1DM	
RELIGION	☐ HRE1O1	☐ HRE1OM	
MATH	☐ MTH1W1	☐ MTH1W1	
SCIENCE	☐ SNC1W1	☐ SNC1W1	

GENERAL LEARNING STRATEGIES OPTION**

- ☐GLS1O1 Learning Strategies (non-IEP students)
☐GLE1O1 Learning Strategies (IEP students only)

**Selected in consultation with counsellor/SERT in lieu of French

WORKPLACE PATHWAY OPTIONS**

- ☐ENG1L1 Locally Developed English
☐MAT1L1 Locally Developed Math
☐SNC1L1 Locally Developed Science

**Select one or more in consultation with counsellor/SERT

PART B: ELECTIVE COURSES

Select one elective course from Group A and one from Group B. Course descriptions can be found [here](#)

GROUP A: SELECT ONE (1) FROM THESE 3 OPTIONS

- ☐TAS1O1 Technology and the Skilled Trades
☐TXJ1O1 Hairstyling and Aesthetics (Cosmetology)
☐BEM1O1 Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset

GROUP B: SELECT ONE (1) FROM THESE 4 OPTIONS

- ☐AMU1O1 Instrumental Music
☐AVI1O1 Visual Arts
☐NAC1O1 Expressions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Cultures
☐PPL1OF Traditional Gym Female
☐PPL1OM Traditional Gym Male

PART C: STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE

The \$65 [Student Activity Fee](#) which helps to fund: Academic Awards, yearbook, leadership opportunities, guest speakers, special student events, extra-curricular activities, etc.

School Cash Online receipt number: Click or tap here to enter text.

AP PREP APPLICATION PROCESS (optional)

Before an application can be reviewed, the following steps must be fully completed. Students are not enrolled until all steps are fully completed and they have been admitted into the program.

1. Complete the AP Prep Online Application Form by January 9, 2026: <https://tinyurl.com/CTKAP2627>
2. Indicate a minimum of 2 AP courses (marks must be at L4, 85% in each strand of the courses to which the student is applying)
3. Ensure you have completed the [Online Registration](#) for the 2026-2027 school year and provided all supporting documents to attend CtK The AP
4. Prep Committee will review all applications and email decisions by February 1, 2026.

CHANGES TO COURSE SELECTIONS

Students will have the opportunity to verify and modify their course selections. The deadline to make elective course changes for the following school year is May 1, 2026, after which it is at the discretion of the school whether changes can be made.

Click or tap here to enter text.
STUDENT SIGNATURE

Click or tap here to enter text.
PARENT/GUARDIAN
SIGNATURE

Click or tap to enter a date.
DATE



Christ the King Catholic Secondary School

Grade 9 Elective Course Descriptions

Select 1 Course from Group A:

COURSE CODE	TITLE	DESCRIPTION
TAS101 (Technology)	Technology and the Skilled Trades	This hands-on course enables students to further explore the engineering design process and develop other technological knowledge and skills introduced in earlier grades. Students will design and safely create prototypes, products, and/or services, working with tools and technologies from various industries. As students develop their projects to address real-life problems, they will apply technological concepts such as precision measurement, as well as health and safety standards. Students will begin to explore job skills programs and education and training pathways, including skilled trades, that can lead to a variety of careers.
TXJ101 (Technology)	Hairstyling & Aesthetics (Cosmetology)	This course enables students to understand the concepts they need to design, develop, and deliver services in the exciting world of Cosmetology. Students will use the processes and a variety of tools to deliver salon services and strengthen their communication skills.
BEM101 (Business)	Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset	In this course, students will learn what makes an entrepreneur thrive and the skills required to succeed in today's business environment. Students will begin to develop their own entrepreneurial mindset, and learn why it's important to take initiative, adapt to change, find creative solutions, and understand the financial considerations of entrepreneurship. This hands-on course will use business software and applications to help students plan and develop their entrepreneurial ideas and learn how to present them to a target audience. Throughout the course, students will enhance their communications skills as well as develop and refine their project management skills, including goal setting, time management, and networking.

Select 1 Course from Group B:

COURSE CODE	TITLE	DESCRIPTION
AMU101 (Arts)	Instrumental Music	This course emphasizes the performance of music at a level that strikes a balance between challenge and skill and is aimed at developing technique, sensitivity, and imagination. Students will participate in creative activities that teach them to listen with understanding. They will also learn correct musical terminology and its appropriate use.
AVI101 (Arts)	Visual Arts	This course offers an overview of visual arts as a foundation for further study. Students will become familiar with the elements and principles of design and the expressive qualities of various materials through working with a range of materials, processes, techniques, and styles. They will learn and use methods of analysis and criticism and will study the characteristics of historical art periods and a selection of Canadian art and the art of other cultures.
NAC101 (Arts)	Expressions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Cultures	This course explores various arts disciplines (dance, drama, installation and performance art, media arts, music, storytelling, utilitarian or functional art, visual arts), giving students the opportunity to create, present, and analyse art works, including integrated art works/ productions, that explore or reflect First Nations, Métis, and Inuit perspectives and cultures. Students will examine the interconnected relationships between art forms and individual and cultural identities, histories, values, protocols, and ways of knowing and being. They will demonstrate innovation as they learn and apply art-related concepts, methods, and conventions, and acquire skills that are transferable beyond the classroom. Students will use the creative process and responsible practices to explore solutions to creative arts challenges.
PPL1OF/M (Physical Education)	Healthy Active Living	This course emphasizes students' daily participation in a variety of enjoyable physical activities that promote lifelong healthy active living. Students will learn movement techniques and principles, ways to improve personal fitness and physical competence and safety/injury-prevention strategies. They will investigate issues related to healthy sexuality and the use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs and will participate in activities designed to develop goal setting, communication, and social skills.



Mentors at Ctk

What Mentors do?

- Give advice and support to grade 9 students
- Help grade9s feel comfortable in their new school
- Are active role models and friends to younger students
- Organise camps and run mentor activities
- Design fundraisers and school events
- Encourage school spirit throughout the year



How to Become a Mentor?

- In grade 10 students complete an application process as outlined in that school year.
- Students must demonstrate that they are caring, responsible, organized & reliable.

Benefits of Being a Mentor:

- Great to add on job resumes and school applications
- You can receive volunteer hours
- You help your school community
- Build relationships with students, staff and the greater community
- Make the most of your high school experience!



TRANSITIONING TO GRADE 9

To simplify the process of preparing for Grade 9, we've created a checklist for students and their parents to ensure you're not missing any important reminders.



GRADE 8 CHECKLIST

- ☐ I plan to attend Grade 8 Information Night (including AP Information Night) on **Nov. 13th**
- ☐ I have pre-registered for events using the QR provided in handout or on ctk.ca
- ☐ I have a copy of the Grader 8 Quick Tips hanout and have read over it carefully
- ☐ I have begun to think about the courses I would like to take next year. This might include speaking to teachers to see their recommendations, discussing with family and friends, attending the information events at Ctk and exploring the information provided on Ctk.ca
- ☐ I registered with the HCDSB:
<https://www.hcdsb.org/parents/register-your-child/secondary-9-12/> and provided all necessary paperwork requested (Registration opens Nov.1)
- ☐ I have received the follow-up registration email from hewsonm@hcdsb.org after registering.
- ☐ I have provided all documentation required to complete the registration process.
- ☐ I have completed the course option sheet and selected 6 compulsory courses and 2 elective courses for grade 9.
- ☐ I have paid the \$65 Activity Fee through SchoolCashOnline:
<https://Hcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/84200/6/False/True>
- ☐ I have completed the Course Verification Form by **May 1st, 2026** (will be emailed to all registered students in the spring) to request any changes to my initial course selections. This is my final opportunity to make changes to my electives.
- ☐ I have registered for BREAK on **May 7th, 2026** and provided my permission form to Ctk (will be emailed to registered students in spring)
- ☐ I have ensured that I will be available on **August 26th, 2026** for the Grade 9 Orientation Day.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (WHERE APPLICABLE)

- ☐ I have selected de-streamed English, Geography, Math and Science. Counsellors will change courses to AP level after acceptance into the program.
- ☐ I have completed the online Advanced Placement application by **Jan. 9th, 2026** (This is found on the CTK main webpage in the “Advanced Placement” tab)
- ☐ I have included my grade 7 final report card and my grade 8 progress report card in my AP application.
- ☐ My parents have checked their email for an AP decision email coming **February 1, 2026**.
- ☐ I have provided Ctk with any additional documentation requested in the AP decision email.

CTK PRESENTS

GRADE 8 BREAK

THURSDAY
May 7th, 2026

IN-PERSON
EVENT

MORE INFORMATION
TO FOLLOW IN THE
SPRING FOR ALL
REGISTERED GRADE 9S



WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY

CtK Orientation 2026

Wednesday, August 26th



Welcome!

Explore our school, meet other students and staff, get familiar with your schedule and the building where you will spend the next 4 years!!!!



FREE food and games! Explore our Clubs Fair!! Be a part of our pep-rally!!!

