



PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL



COURSE SELECTION PRESENTATION

AJAX HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

WELCOME FUTURE RAMS AND THE CLASS OF 2028!





PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL

- **Review of Resources**
- **Course Pathways**
 - De-streamed, Inclusive Academic and Locally Developed
- **The Individual Pathways Plan (IPP)**
- **The Grade 9 Program - Course Selections**





AVAILABLE RESOURCES

The following resources will be available on both the **Ajax High School website** AND your **Grade 8 Google Classrooms**;

- **Grade 8 Family Info Night presentation**
- **Guidance Meet & Greet presentation**
- **Choosing My Success and other DDSB documents**
- **Teams & Clubs List**
- **Frequently Asked Questions document**
- **Individual Pathways Plan instructions' sheet**
- **Course Selection instructions' sheets**
- **Elective/Optional Courses Overview document**





PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Review your

“Choosing my Success – Course Planning Tool”

Review and/or reflect on:

- EQAO results
- Report card marks and learning skills
- Academic strengths
- Talk to caregiver/guardians, SERTS, teachers
- Examine long-range goals, personal interests
- Consider the variety of educational pathways

STUDENT NAME		COURSE PLANNING TOOL 2020-2021	
STUDENT #:		ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NAME	
EQAO		Grade 3 EQAO Level	
Grade 6 EQAO Level		Reading	
Language Reading		Language Writing	
French Listening		French Speaking	
Language Strand Modifications as per IEP (where applicable)		Modified at Grade Level (Y/N/A):	
Modified Below Grade Level (Y/N/A):		Modified Below Grade Level (Y/N/A):	
ATTENDANCE		ATTENDANCE	
Grade 8 Attendance to Date (Jan. 6, 2021)		Grade 8 Attendance to Date (Jan. 6, 2021)	
Days Absent:		Days Absent:	
Lates:		Lates:	
IEP:		IEP:	
IMPORTANT REMINDERS		REFLECTION QUESTIONS	





PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL

GRADE 9 PATHWAY

What is De-streaming?

- De-streaming means that students will no longer be separated into Academic and Applied streams. Students will take a combination of courses made up of De-streamed, Inclusive Academic and Open level courses. Locally developed courses will still be available for some students as well.
- In De-streamed and Inclusive Academic classrooms, there will be a distinct shift in pedagogical practices and assessment to ensure improved equitable outcomes for all students.
- De-streamed, Inclusive Academic and Open courses will prepare students for university, college, apprenticeship and workplace pathways, providing more post-secondary options for our students.





PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL

GRADE 9 PATHWAY

What is the difference between Inclusive Academic, Inclusive De-streamed and Inclusive Open Grade 9 Courses?

- **Inclusive Grade 9 Academic** uses the Academic curriculum expectations
- **Inclusive Grade 9 De-streamed** uses the new De-streamed curriculum expectations
- **Inclusive Grade 9 Open** uses the Open curriculum and allows students to keep their options open regarding post-secondary opportunities
- All of the courses are grounded in Universal Design for Learning, including a focus on Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy, Differentiated Instruction, Assessment and Evaluation and classroom supports for all students





PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADE 9 PATHWAY AT AJAX HS

- Science, English, Geography and Math are taught at the De-streamed pathway
- French is taught at the Inclusive Academic pathway and Open pathway
- Successful completion of the Gr. 9 De-streamed/Inclusive Academic courses allows you to take “Applied” and/or “Academic” courses in grade 10.





PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADE 9 PATHWAY

At Ajax HS, **English, Math and Science** are also offered at the **Locally Developed (L)** pathway.

- For students who require additional support and flexibility
- Reinforces elementary curriculum while providing skills necessary for further study
- Students are traditionally **identified and reviewed** into these courses in their IPRC meetings
- All subjects **DO NOT** have to be taken at the same level





PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL

GRADE 9 PATHWAY

Optional/Elective courses are taught as the **Open (O)** pathway

- One set of expectations
- Designed to prepare students for further study in certain subjects and enrich their education





IMPORTANT DATES

Course selections will open on:
February 13th, 2024 @ 10am

**Course selections must be completed and
submitted by:**



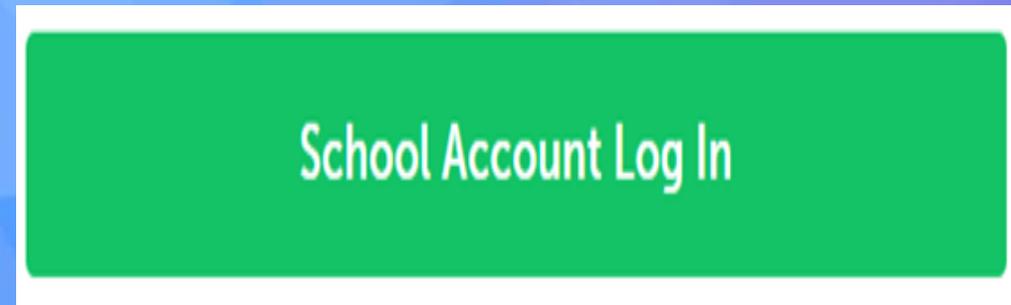
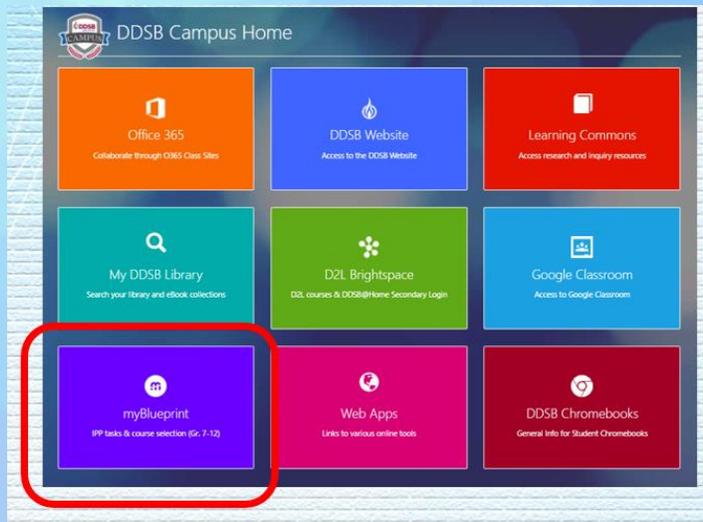
February 26th, 2024 at 4pm





INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS PLAN

Log in to myBlueprint - www.myblueprint.ca/ddsb



Complete your myBlueprint Individual Pathways Plan

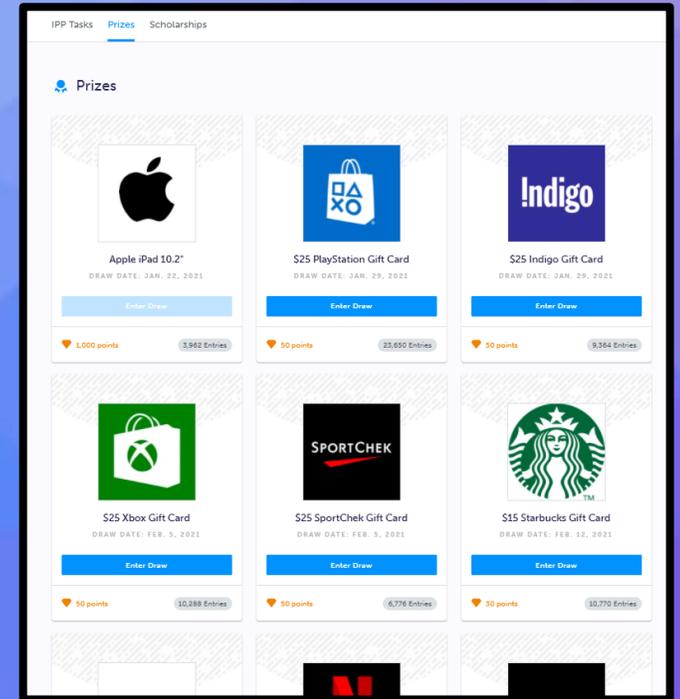




INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS PLAN

Your IPP allows you to:

- **Reflect on your academic and personal skills**
- **Explore future goals and possible careers**
- **Earn myBlueprint points for a chance to win prizes or scholarships**

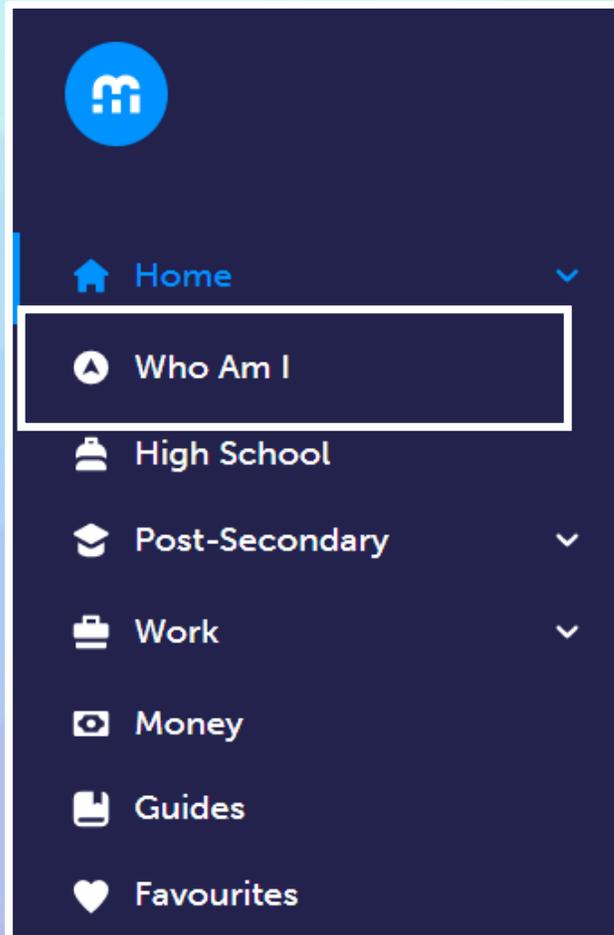




INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS PLAN

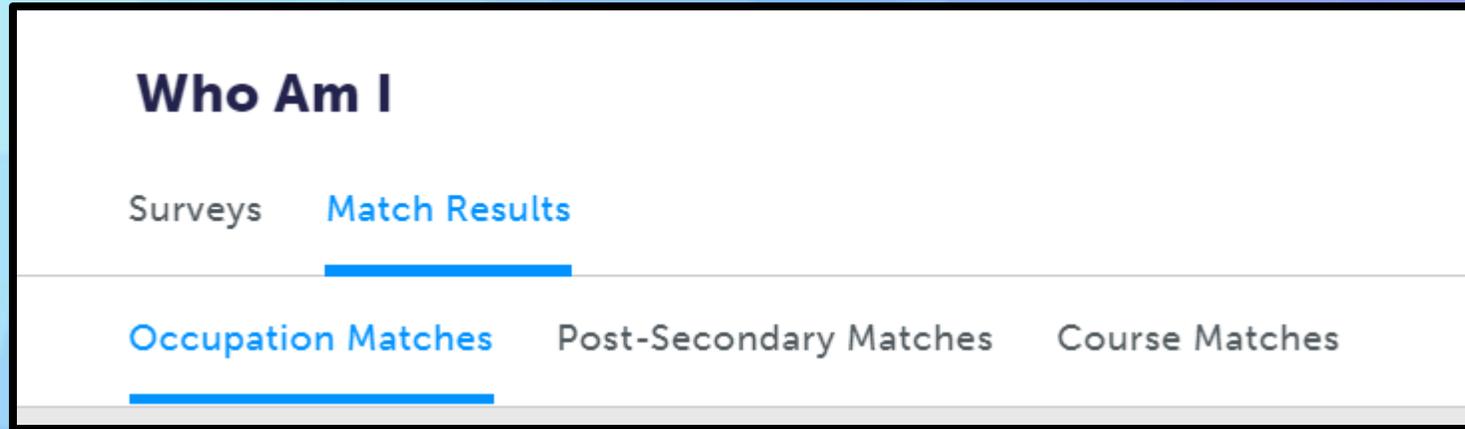
Click on **“Who Am I”** and complete the Personality Surveys:

- Learning Styles
- Personality
- Interests
- Knowledge
- Motivations





INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS PLAN



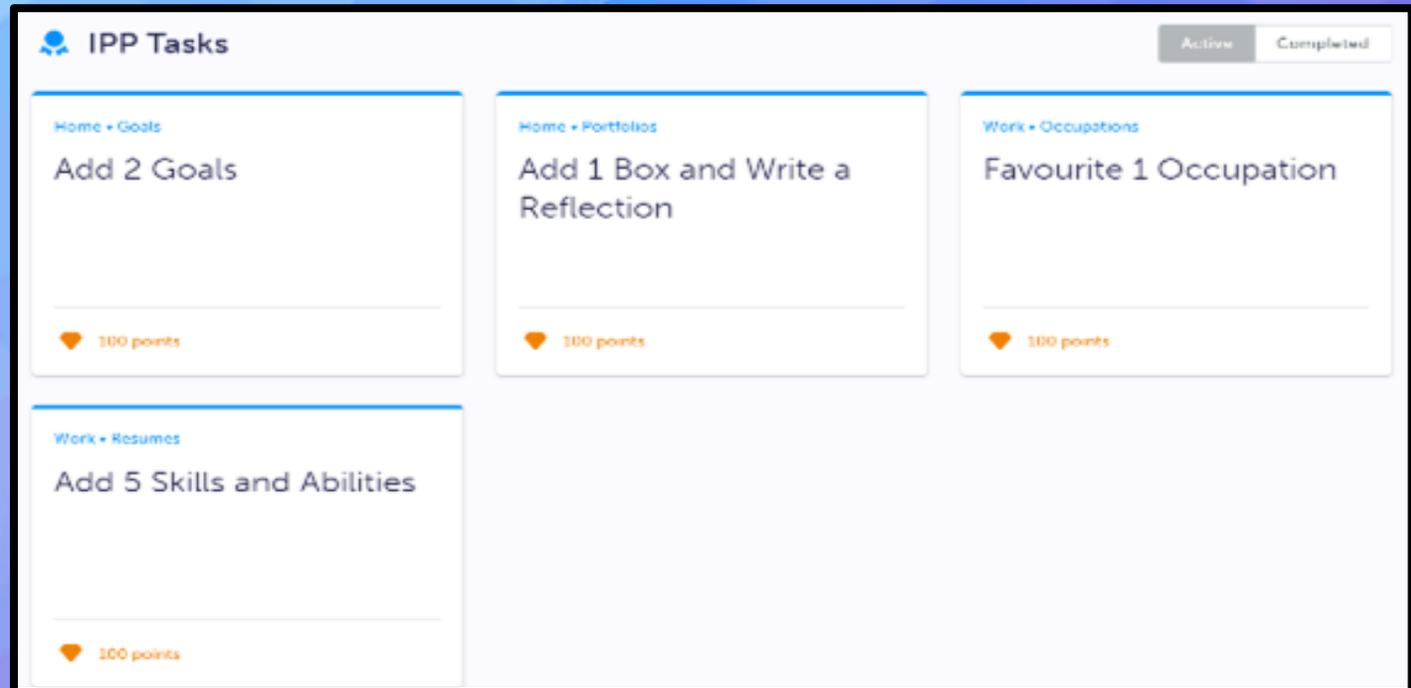
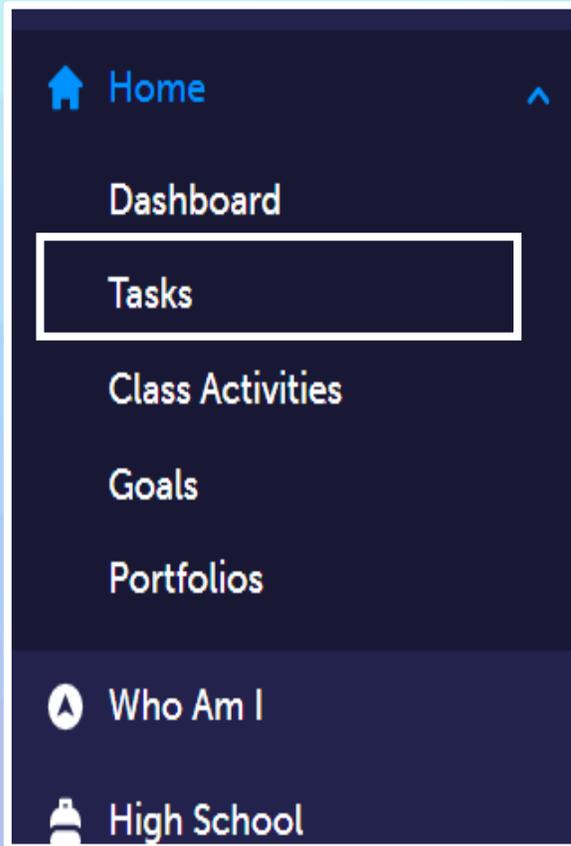
After completing surveys, click on **“Match Results”** near the top of the page and review **“Occupation Matches”**, **“Post-Secondary Matches”** and high school **“Course Matches”** based on your survey answers.





INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS PLAN

To complete your IPP, click on **Home** and then **Tasks** on the left side navigation pane. The boxes displayed indicate the IPP Tasks for your grade.





OSSD REQUIREMENTS

ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA



- **30 credits**
 - **19 compulsory credits**
 - **11 optional credits**
- **40 hours of community involvement**
(Volunteer hours can be accumulated starting summer 2024)
- **Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (Gr. 10)**
- **Earn at least 2 Online Learning Credits**





OSSD REQUIREMENTS

ONLINE LEARNING GRADUATION REQUIREMENT



As per the Ministry of Education, all students must earn a minimum of **two online learning credits** as part of the requirement for the **Ontario Secondary School Diploma**. The elearning courses are available in grades 11 and 12.

HOWEVER, there is a process for families to **OPT-OUT** of this graduation requirement.

More information about these grade 11 and 12 courses can be found in our course calendar at <https://app.myblueprint.ca/public/courses/ddsb/ajaxhs> (change Discipline Filter to **"ELEARNING"**).





OSSD REQUIREMENTS

ONLINE LEARNING GRADUATION

REQUIREMENT: OPT-OUT



Families who wish to **opt-out** of this new graduation requirement **must** complete the **DDSB Online Learning Opt-Out form**.

This form will be available in your Google classroom, the Ajax HS website, and in paper format at the Ajax HS. **This graduation requirement cannot be waived without completion of the form.**



 **Online Learning Graduation Requirement Opt-Out Form**

About the online learning graduation requirement

Students are required to earn two online learning credits to graduate from secondary school, beginning with every student who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year.

The ministry recognizes the extraordinary circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. (As a result, up to one secondary school credit completed by Grade 9 students in the 2020-2021 school year during the province-wide school closures (from April 2021 to June 2021) will be counted towards the graduation requirement).

Adult learners entering the Ontario secondary school system in 2023-24 or later will be required to meet this graduation requirement and may opt themselves out of the requirement. The graduation requirement is intended to support students in developing familiarity and comfort with working and learning in a fully online environment, as well as developing digital literacy and other important transferable skills that will help prepare them for success after graduation and in all aspects of their lives.

Meeting the online learning graduation requirement should not pose a barrier to graduation for students. As with all learning, students taking online courses will have access to the supports they need through their school, (e.g. guidance, extra-curricular activities and services for English-language learners), if a publicly funded school has an Individual Education Plan, the plan should be shared, when appropriate, with an educator instructing an online course delivered by another publicly funded school board, with the necessary consent.

Parents/guardians may choose to opt their child out of the mandatory online courses required for graduation. Students age 18 years of age or older or students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control can also opt out of the graduation requirement. School boards must also allow for students and parents/guardians to opt back into the online learning graduation requirement should their decision change.

If you would like to opt-out, please read the following and complete the reverse side.



Parent/Guardians complete this page if your student is under the age of 18

I agree with the following statements:

Having reviewed the online learning graduation requirement and the availability of supports for online learning through my child's school, I would like to opt my child out of this requirement.

The benefits of online learning have been shared with me by the school, including how the development of digital literacy and other important transferable skills are intended to help prepare students for success after graduation and in all aspects of their lives.

I understand the following statements:

Upon receipt of this form by the school, my child will not be required to earn two online learning credits to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

My child will face no academic penalties for opting out of this graduation requirement.

My child will continue to complete all other applicable graduation requirements.

This will be recorded on my child's transcript as "Online Learning Graduation Requirement - Non-Applicable".

Student's First Name **Student's Last Name**

Parent/Guardian First Name **Parent/Guardian Last Name**

Parent/Guardian Signature

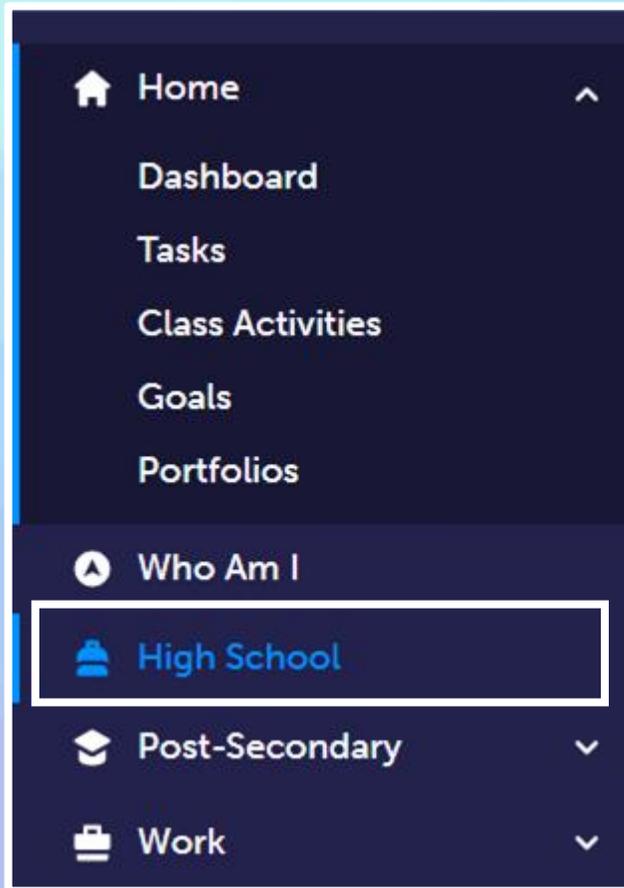
Date



CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

To complete your course selections, you can create your first high school plan (if you have not already!).

Click on **“High School”** on the left side navigation pane and you will be taken to your High School Course Plan.

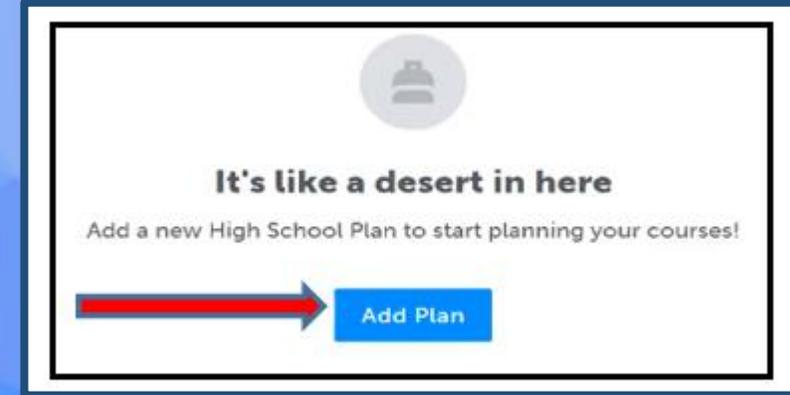




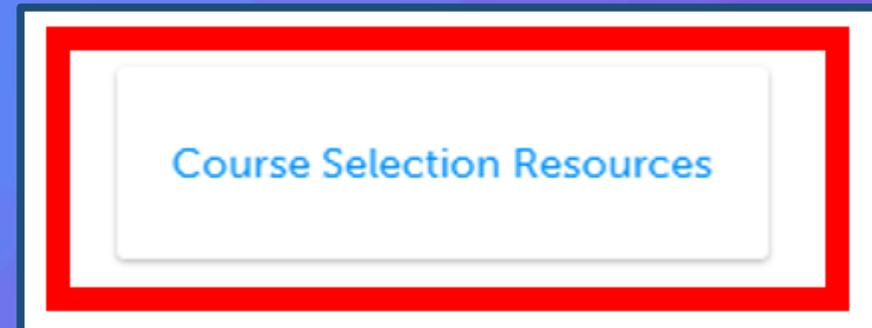
CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

Click on “Add Plan”

If you already have created a plan, you will be taken directly to your Course Plan.



At the top right of your screen you can click on “Course Selection Resources” to access the Ajax H.S. Course Calendar and website.





CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

There are 5 compulsory and 3 optional courses for Grade 9.

COMPULSORY COURSES:

English
Mathematics
Science
Canadian Geography
French

Click on a course discipline's box to select a course.



Grade 9 Next Year
+ English
+ Mathematics
+ Science
+ Geography
+ French as a Second Lan...
+ Course
+ Course
+ Course
Alternates
+ Alternate



CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

Click on **Grade 9** filter and search for the various subject disciplines.

High School Course Selection Resources

Plan Courses

Search Courses...

Filters

Grade 9 English



You must choose 1 course from the following disciplines: **English, Math, Science, Geography, and French.**

English

ENG1L1 - English - Locally Developed
Grade 9 • ENG1L1 • 1 Credit • Locally Developed

ENL1W1 - English - Destreamed
Grade 9 • ENL1W1 • 1 Credit • Destreamed

English as a Second Language

ESLAO1 - Beginning Communication in English - Open (Semester 1)
Grade 9-12 • ESLAO1 • 1 Credit • Open

ESLBO1 - English in Daily Life - Open (Semester 2)
Grade 9-12 • ESLBO1 • 1 Credit • Open



CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

If you are in French Immersion, there are three classes that you must take in French.

Science (SNC1DF)

Geography (CGC1WF)

French (FIF1DF)



Grade 9 Next Year
+ English
+ Mathematics
+ Science
+ Geography
+ French as a Second Lan...



CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

Make sure to read the course description and note any course fees that may be associated with individual course. Click on **“Add Course”** to add to your course planner.



ENG1D1 - English - Inclusive Academic

ENG1D1 - English - Inclusive Academic

Grade 9 ENG1D1 1 Credit Academic

This course is designed to develop the oral communication, reading, writing, and media literacy skills that students need for success in their secondary school academic programs and in their daily lives. Students will analyse literary texts from contemporary and historical periods, interpret informational and graphic texts, and create oral, written, and media texts in a variety of forms. An important focus will be on the use of strategies that contribute to effective communication.

Guidance Message

This course is delivered using the Inclusive Academic course curriculum and is intended to prepare students for the Grade 10 academic and/or applied English course, which leads to university or college preparation courses in Grades 11 and 12.

Course Status

Planned In-Progress Completed

Add Course



CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

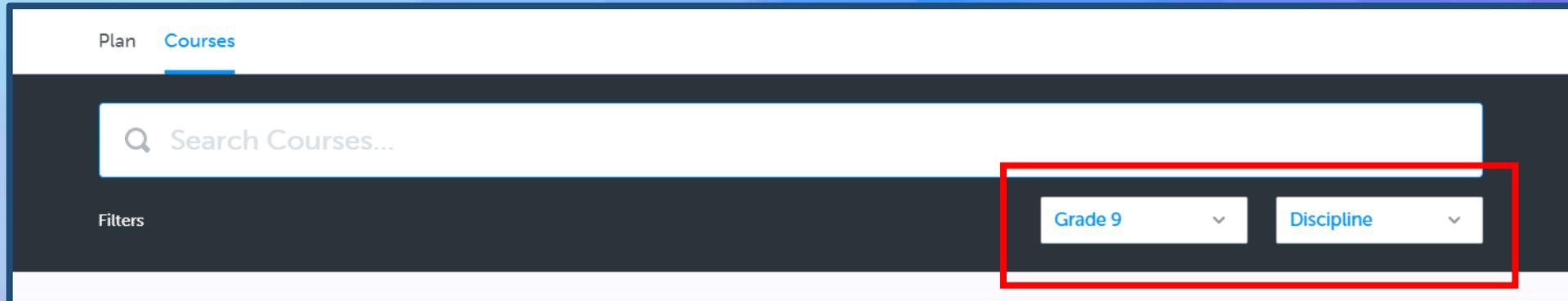
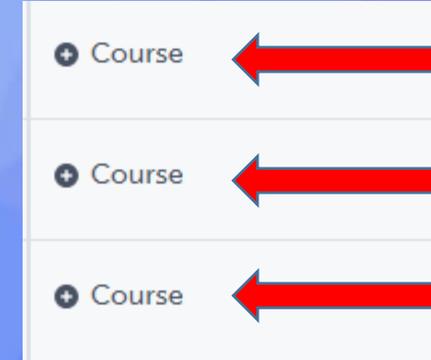
- **All students must choose Core French (FSF1D1) unless you are enrolled in French Immersion or (FSF101) if you have not accumulated 600 hours of French Instruction**
- **At your IPRC meeting in the spring, another course may be substituted for Core French, if applicable**





CHOOSING YOUR ELECTIVE COURSES

- Choose your three **Elective** courses by clicking on each box labelled “**Course**”



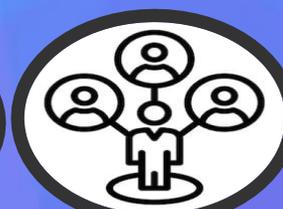
- Ensure the filter at the top right of the screen reads **Grade 9** then choose a Discipline to search for elective courses



CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

Choose your **Elective** courses from the disciplines of:

- **Arts**
- **Business Studies**
- **Physical and Health Education**
- **Social Science and Humanities**
- **Technological Education**





IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING COMPULSORY COURSES:

- Ajax HS recommends that in order to complete the compulsory credits, students should choose at least 1 course from each of following subjects during either their Grade 9 OR Grade 10 year:



- **Health and Physical Education**

- **PPL101, PPL103, PPL104, PAF203, PAF204, PPL203, PPL204, PAD201**

- **Arts**

- **AVI101, ADA101, AMI101, AMG101, AVI201, ADA201, AMI201, AMG201**

- **Technological Studies**

- **TAS101, TAS10J, TGJ101, TCJ201, TDJ201, TEJ201, TGJ201, THJ201, TMJ201, TTJ201**



CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

Choose 3 of the following courses for your grade 9 year

PAGE 1

ADA101 – Drama

AMG101 – Guitar

AMI101 – Instrumental Music

AVI101 – Visual Arts

BEM101 – Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset

HIF101 – Exploring Families Studies – Individual and Family Living

Please review the Optional/Elective Courses document for more detailed course information





CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

Choose 3 of the following courses for your grade 9 year

PAGE 2

PPL101 – Healthy Active Living Education (Inclusive of All Student Identities)

PPL103 – Healthy Active Living Education (for Identifying Males)

PPL104 – Healthy Active Living Education (for Identifying Females)

TAS101 – Technology and the Skilled Trades (for all students)

TAS10J – Women in the Skilled Trades (Technology and the Skilled Trades)

TGJ101 – Communications Technology



Please review the Optional/Elective Courses document for more detailed course information



CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

Click on the subject discipline, then click on the courses you would like to add as your **3 Electives**.

Grade 9 ▾ Arts ▾

Arts

- > Dramatic Arts
- > Music
- > Visual Arts

Grade 9 ▾ Health and Physical Education ▾

Health and Physical Education

- PPL1O1 - Healthy Active Living Education - Inclusive of all Student Identities - Open
Grade 9 • PPL1O1 • 1 Credit • Open
- PPL1O3 - Healthy Active Living Education for Identifying Males - Open
Grade 9 • PPL1O3 • 1 Credit • Open
- PPL1O4 - Healthy Active Living Education for Identifying Females - Open
Grade 9 • PPL1O4 • 1 Credit • Open

Grade 9 ▾ Business Stud... ▾

Business Studies

- BEM1O1 - Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset - Open
Grade 9 • BEM1O1 • 1 Credit • Open

Grade 9 ▾ Social Scienc... ▾

Social Sciences and Humanities

- HIF1O1 - Exploring Family Studies - Open
Grade 9 • HIF1O1 • 1 Credit

Grade 9 ▾ Technologica... ▾

Technological Education

- TAS1O1 - Technology and the Skilled Trades - Open
Grade 9 • TAS1O1 • 1 Credit • Open
- TAS1OJ - Women in the Skilled Trades - Technology and the Skilled Trades - Open
Grade 9 • TAS1OJ • 1 Credit • Open
- TGJ1O1 - Exploring Communications Technology - Open
Grade 9 • TGJ1O1 • 1 Credit • Open

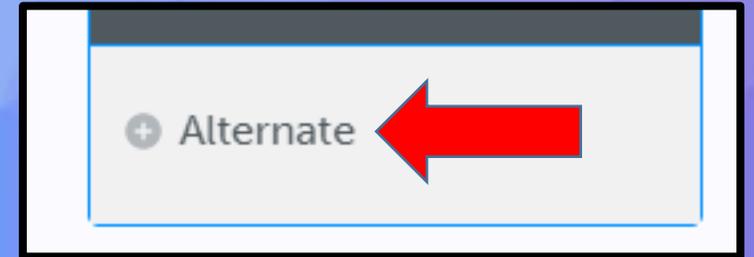




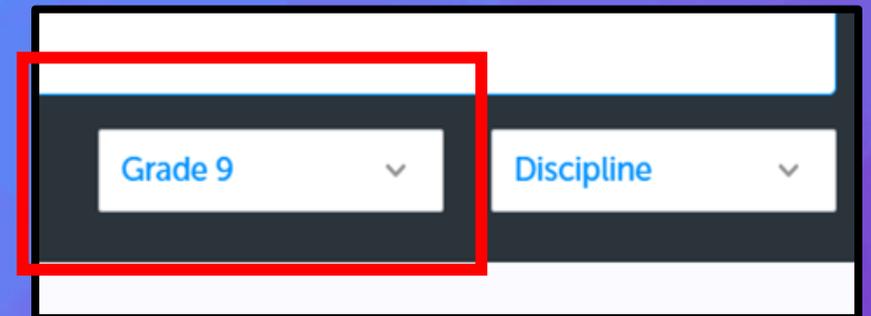
CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

Select **2 Alternate** courses.

These courses will be used if one of your **Elective** courses is unable to be scheduled. **PLEASE CHOOSE CAREFULLY**



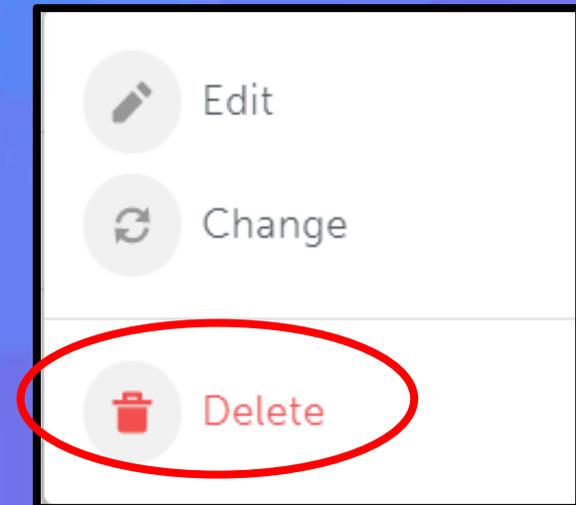
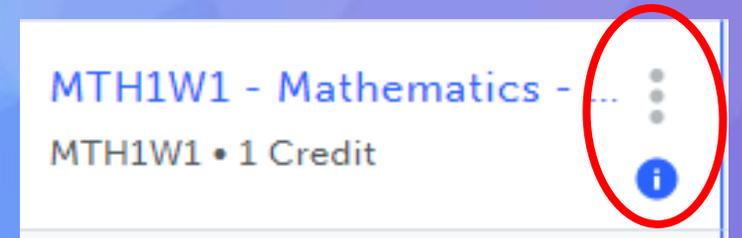
Ensure the **filter** at the top right of the screen reads **Grade 9**. Choose a Discipline to search for a course.





CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

- To change a selection **made in error**, click on the **three dots** beside the selected course
- Click **“Delete”** and then click on this discipline box again in order to update your selection





CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

Grade 9 Next Year	Grade Plan A
ENL1W1 - English - Destr... ENL1W1 • 1 Credit	+ English
MTH1W1 - Mathematics - ... MTH1W1 • 1 Credit	+ Mathematics
SNC1W1 - Science - Destr... SNC1W1 • 1 Credit	+ Science
CGC1W1 - Exploring Cana... CGC1W1 • 1 Credit	+ History
FSF1D1 - Core French - In... FSF1D1 • 1 Credit	+ Careers
PPL1O3 - Healthy Active L... PPL1O3 • 1 Credit	+ Civics
ADA1O1 - Dramatic Arts - ... ADA1O1 • 1 Credit	+ Course
TAS1O1 - Technology and... TAS1O1 • 1 Credit	+ Course
Altern...	Guidance Message: Students must obtain a Grade 9 OR 10 Technology credit as per the new Ministry Compulsory credit requirement. COURSE NOTE: Students may only take one of TAS1O1 and TAS1OJ, but they may also take TGJ1O1 (Communications Technology).
BEM1O1 BEM1O1	
HIF1O1 HIF1O1	

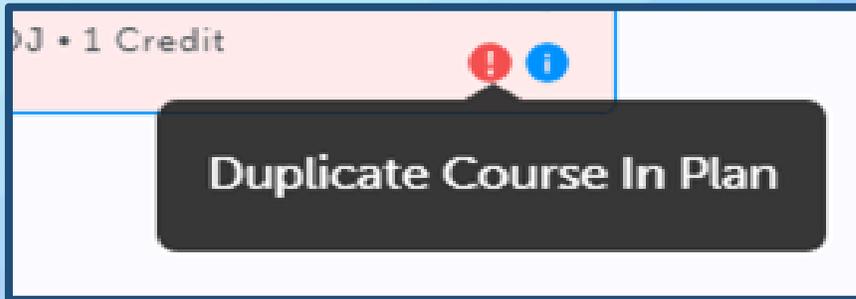
Please read important **notes** about the courses that you selected by hovering over the blue circle





CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

- Error messages will appear as a **RED** circle in your course planner
- Hover over the message and change your selection(s), if necessary





CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

SUMMER SCHOOL

Grade 8 students now have the option to complete a full “NEW COURSE” in summer school prior to grade 9 (compulsory courses only).

If you wish to “reach ahead” and complete a full “NEW COURSE” in summer school, you will include this information in the “ADD COMMENT” box when you “review your courses” in myBlueprint.

In your comment, please indicate that you are going to take **summer school** and include the **specific course** that you plan to take.

This course will **NOT** be in your schedule for next year.



In myBlueprint you will **NOT** choose this course, but instead will choose another course to fill this course slot in your Course Plan.

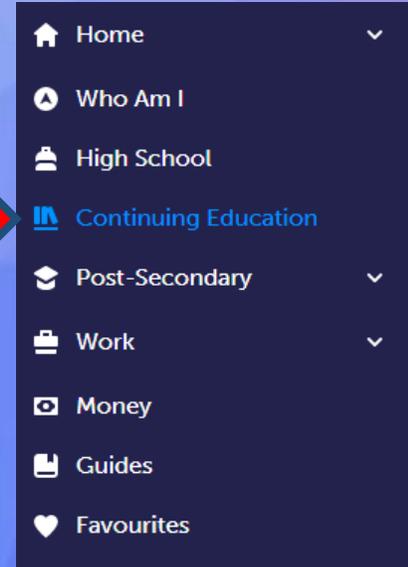


CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer School will open for official registration on **February 13th, 2024.**

You will use your myBlueprint account to register for your course under the **“Continuing Education”** tab.



Continuing Education

Durham Continuing Education (DCE) provides credit and non-credit programming for students age 4 to adult. Students can earn new credits, upgrade previously taken credits, strengthen language skills or learn a new language. DCE provides various methods of delivery to help students find the program and schedule that works for them. Come Live, Learn and Achieve with Durham Continuing Education.

[Explore Courses](#) [Learn More](#)





GETTING READY FOR HIGH SCHOOL:

- **This program is open to all students entering grade 9 in the Fall 2024 and provides student with a brief introduction to the grade 9 English and Mathematics curriculum, as well as study skills, time management, and steps to success.**
- **The program also allows students to become familiar with their new school and prepares them for the transition from elementary to secondary school.**
- **It is especially helpful for students who are experiencing some anxiety related to the upcoming transition. This program will be delivered by qualified teachers and where possible, teachers from the school in which the program is held.**
- **It is recommended that students attend the program at the secondary school they will be attending in Fall 2024 as the programs will be tailored to that school.**





REVIEW YOUR COURSES

⊗ Your courses are **Not Submitted** Not returning next year?

1 Step 1
Add Courses

2 Step 2
Review Courses

3 Step 3
Submit Courses

Review Course Selections

- Once you have selected all your courses, click on **“Review Course Selections”** of your 
- Carefully review your plan with your caregiver(s)/guardian(s)





REVIEW YOUR COURSES

1 Review Course Selections

✓ ENL1W1
ENL1W1 - English - Destreamed

✓ MTH1W1
MTH1W1 - Mathematics - Destreamed

2 Add Comments

Add comments you would like to include

If applicable, use the “**Add Comments**” section to explain any issues we may need to be aware of with your course selections (**as well as any summer school courses**).





SUBMITTING YOUR COURSES

Click on **“Submit Course Selections”**. It will indicate that you have successfully submitted your course selections.

1 Step 1
Add Courses

2 Step 2
Review Courses

3 Step 3
Submit Courses

Submit Course Selections

Note: Once you **“Submit Course Selections”** you will be unable to go back in to modify courses on this site.





SIGN-OFF SHEET

Students must obtain official approval for their course selections from their caregiver/guardian by **EMAIL**

 Email your parent/guardian so that they may confirm your selections

1 Step 1
Add Courses

2 Step 2
Review Courses

3 Step 3
Submit Courses

Send Approval Email 





SUBMITTING YOUR COURSES

EMAIL OPTION

Click on **Send Approval Email** and carefully type in your caregiver/guardian's email and then click "**Send Approval Email**"

Send Approval Email





SUBMITTING YOUR COURSES

EMAIL OPTION

Caregiver/guardian(s) will receive an email that shows your course selections.



Caregivers “Approve Course Selections” or “Reject Request” via this email.



Ajax H.S. will receive this response and it will be stored in our system.



IMPORTANT DATES

Course selections will open on:
February 13th, 2024 @ 10am

**Course selections must be completed and
submitted by:**
February 26th, 2024





QUESTIONS?

If you have questions, you can also reach out to your grade 8 teacher, grade 8 pathway counsellor, or an Ajax HS guidance counsellor via email:



brett.pakosta@ddsb.ca
jennifer.hendry@ddsb.ca
farisa.santos@ddsb.ca
jacqueline.callis@ddsb.ca



elizabeth.twomey@ddsb.ca (admin assistant)



We look forward to seeing all our future Rams in September!