



Calgary Board
of Education



Rideau Park School

829 Rideau Road SW, Calgary, AB T2S 0S2 t | 403-777-7480
e | rideaupark@cbe.ab.ca

cbe.ab.ca

Complementary Courses for 2025-2026 Grade 8

We hope to offer the following courses for the fall and winter of 2025-2026. The middle years between elementary and high school are an excellent time for students to take some risks as learners and try new learning experiences. We encourage all students to take new risks and expand their thinking and perhaps uncover a passion or talent.

Students entering Grade 8 are encouraged to think about the advantages of continuing with **Band** and **French** as you prepare for high school. Both courses offer many opportunities and can open many doors for you in high school. Students often get to Grade 10 and wish that they had taken these courses, or at least one, of them in junior high.

We encourage ALL Grade 8 Rideau Students to continue with at least one of Band or French, if not both.

Pre-requisite: Students who have not previously enrolled in Band or French at Rideau Park (or another middle school) will require previous experience or permission of the teacher / school administration to be enrolled in these courses.

As students consider their choices, other than French and Band, it is not necessary to have any previous experience for any of the course offerings. Our teachers are dedicated to helping our students as new learners and to supporting our students as they grow and take risks with new experiences.

We always do our best to enrol students in the courses they have selected. Course scheduling will be based on an appropriate number of students requesting a course, teaching staff and master schedule constraints.

- Students are to choose 3 or 4 complementary course choices depending on their full year course choice. Alternatively, if choosing 2 full-year courses – French and Band – these 2 courses are the only ones to be selected
- ***Consider choices carefully*** as students can be enrolled in any of the courses entered in PowerSchool.

Course selections must be entered into PowerSchool by
Wednesday, May 28

Planning Course Selections – Grade 8

It is recommended that each student plan their complementary course selections before entering them into PowerSchool.

Student Name: _____

Choosing Band OR French	Choosing Band AND French
1. <u>French or Band (circle)</u>	1. <u>Band</u>
2. _____	2. <u>French</u>
3. _____	
4. _____	
5. (_____)	

Grade 8

- Band (full year)
 - (pre-requisite = Band 8 or previous instrumental music experience, or teacher permission)
- French (full year)
 - (pre-requisite = French 8 or previous French experience or teacher permission)
- Art
- CTF Communications Technology: Photography
- CTF Construction
- CTF Design Studies
- CTF Electro-technologies: Coding & Robotics Intro
- CTF Fashion Studies
- CTF Foods
- CTF Marketing & Management
- Leadership & Service



Complementary Course Descriptions

Rideau Park School is committed to offering all our students' equal opportunity. Program fees should not impact student choices.

☐ Band (Full Year Course)

The Grade 8 concert band brings together students of all experience levels and will explore exciting and challenging music including popular and movie music. Extra fun activities include band clinics with professional musicians, several performance opportunities, some off-campus experiences and a band camp. Rideau Park works with schools to accommodate instrument rental. **A student new to band at Rideau Park will require permission to enter the program.**

☐ French (Full Year course)

Students gain confidence in their abilities to comprehend written and spoken French through an interactive communicative approach based on storytelling, music, games, film and cultural study. French is a three-year program beginning in Grade 7 that culminates in a Grade 9 trip to Québec for those students who have remained committed to language development in the program and allows students to earn 5 credits for French 10 in high school, enrolling immediately in French 20.

****Pre-requisite: French 7, or previous French experience, is a pre-requisite for grade 8 French. If no previous experience, students will require permission for enrollment.**

☐ Art

Designed for students with various abilities who wish to develop their creative skills and express ideas through several forms of visual art. The course will begin with a study of basic drawing techniques required to draw, paint and sculpt, using a variety of artists as inspiration. More advanced mediums will be introduced, such as acrylics and 3-D media.

☐ CTF Communication Technology - Photography

The Grade 8 course will focus on photography including the uses of photography (ie. marketing & advertising, it's importance in social media, how and why to enhance a photographic image, creating artwork, commemorating a memory, etc). The characteristics of what makes a memorable photograph will be explored, including balance, emphasis, proportion (scale), repetition (rhythm/pattern), proximity, colour, texture, depth (perspective), light, direction (motion), tone (black and white) and space (positive and negative). Students will discover and develop skills related to technologies used to design, construct and relay a message for the purpose of connecting, informing, entertaining or selling products.

☐ CTF – Construction

Construction allows for students to apply a variety of skills and concepts in a project-based program. Students will develop skills in the use of tools and materials used in construction processes and safely transform common wood materials into useful products; and learn the various skills of the respective trade. In this course, students will develop appropriate shop tool safety. They will have an opportunity to design objects through drafting different views and 3 dimensional orthographic projections. As a student moves through the various projects they will design, create and appraise their work.



□ CTF Design Studies

Design studies will focus on design practices that influence the people and environment around students. In this course, students will develop an understanding of the design thinking process through research, planning and creating from start to finish. Students will learn about the creative process from conception through to development in areas such as architecture, dramatic arts (ie set design), industrial design, engineering, interior design and landscaping. Students will learn about design related careers.

□ CTF - Electro-Technologies

The Grade 8 Electro-Technologies program will focus on an introduction to programming and/or robotics. Students will participate in curriculum related projects that may involve research, design, development, testing, production, service, repair and operation of electrical and electronic equipment and systems.

□ CTF – Fashion Studies

Students learn sewing and pressing techniques, the selection and care of fabric, and how to use sewing equipment. Students are encouraged to determine their own personal style in designing and deciding on the types of projects they will create based on their skill level. Students may have the opportunity to explore knitting, crocheting, quilting, making soft toys, making clothing, bags and other accessories.

□ CTF – Foods

Students will examine the role of food, looking beyond consumption to production, visual appreciation, nutrition, meal planning, economics and preparation. Ultimately, they will learn tips and techniques for successful meal planning and cooking. They will apply their knowledge to plan, create and assess their own meals, keeping in mind the benefits of healthy food choices. No previous experience is required.

□ CTF Marketing & Management

Students will learn the processes associated with promotion for the sale of goods and services. Skills such as budgeting, exploring what interest rates mean, their impact and how to calculate it, benefits and consequences of using credit, services offered by financial institutions, and investing money. The exploration of careers, such as, a property or restaurant manager, a visual merchandiser and an advertising account consultant will be included.

□ Leadership & Service

Student leadership and service development is an important part to developing positive school culture, learning about collaborative teams, and focuses on the betterment of communities. Leadership and service experiences help students to understand that leadership includes both the ability to lead and to follow. In Leadership & Service, students will explore, apply and model leadership competencies in service of their class, school, and larger communities.

