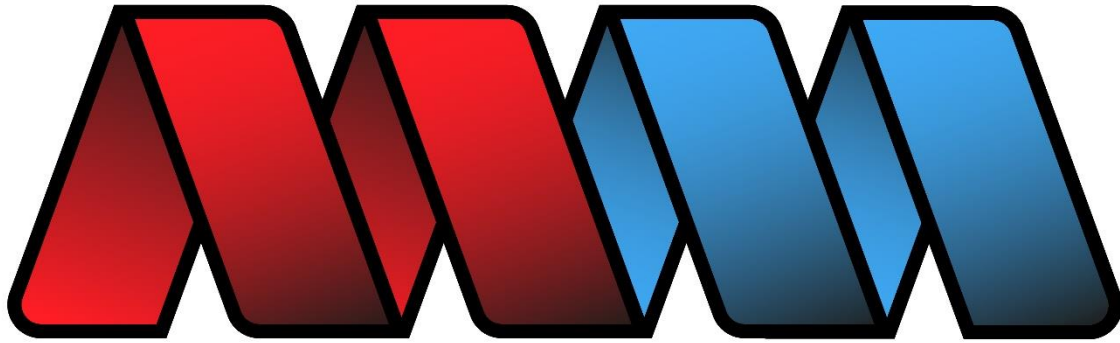


# WELCOME TO ÉCOLE MOODY MIDDLE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS



**École Moody Middle School of the Arts**

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**ORIENTATION  
FOR NEW STUDENTS  
2022 – 2023**

**EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO  
KNOW ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL...**

## WELCOME TO ALL THINGS MOODY!

Middle School is an energetic, active, friendly place full of opportunities that are just right for young adolescents. It is also a place full of learning opportunities, a place where you will have a chance to try out many new activities in your new school. We are positive that your middle years will be a time of personal and intellectual growth and a time for making new friends. When you join École Moody Middle School of the Arts, you become a Moody Maverick. In addition to being a Maverick, you will also become part of one of the teams or pods of students. The Pods at Moody for 2022-2023 are:

<b>Earth</b>	Grade 6-8	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
<b>Wind</b>	Grade 6-8	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
<b>Fire</b>	Grade 6-8	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
<b>Water</b>	Grade 6-8	3 <sup>rd</sup> floor

Pod lists will be posted in early September when students are back in school. Student placement is not communicated to families before this time.

### WHAT DOES ÉMMSOTA STAND FOR?

ÉMMSOTA is short for École Moody Middle School of the Arts. This is our full and official school name.

### WHEN CAN I VISIT MY SCHOOL?

Grade 5 students at ÉMMSOTA were invited to join us for our École Moody Middle School of the Arts Grade 5

Student & Parent Night Open House in May. We also sent via email to parents of new students coming to our school, a virtual tour of our school! Grade 5 students with special circumstances will be welcomed individually in June and August, or when they register to assist them with their transition to middle.

### WHAT TYPES OF ACTIVITIES ARE OFFERED AT MIDDLE?

Middle school has many teams, clubs and before or after school activities. There is a wonderful variety of athletic teams to choose from if you like team or individual sports. There are also activities such as Band, Choir, Games Club, Leadership and a school musical to name a few. Middle Schools also work with community partners like the Parks and Recreation department and the Arts Centre to coordinate exciting after school activities. Listen to the daily announcements or receive updates from your teachers or our *Moody Matters* school newsletter!

### WHAT IS SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY?

Middle school students take their responsibilities seriously, and exhibit qualities to build a positive learning community. ÉMMSOTA students are team players, who embrace a "You Make a Difference!" attitude. They are supported as they learn, grow and progress from grade 6 to 8:

- Model and support appropriate behaviours with themselves and others
- Assist in peaceful resolutions to solve problems and seek adult help regarding unacceptable behaviour
- Demonstrate increased self-regulation and implement conflict resolution strategies

## BELL SCHEDULE

2022-2023\*

Monday - Thursday		Friday	
Band Monday to Thursday	7:50	STAFF Collaborative Learning Time	8:15 - 9:00
Prime Time	8:35	Prime Time	9:00
Period 1	8:40	Super Block 1	9:05
Period 2	9:30		
Nut Break	10:20	Nut Break	10:35
Period 3	10:35	Super Block 2	10:55
Period 4	11:25		
Lunch	12:15	Lunch	12:25
Period 5	12:55	Super Block 3	1:05
Period 6	1:45		
<b>BRICK</b> (Wed. only)	<b>2:20</b>	<b>BRICK</b>	<b>2:20</b>
Dismissal	3:00	Dismissal	3:00

\*subject to change due to COVID-19 pandemic

### MIDDLE SCHOOL 101 ...

#### What Is Middle School and How Does It Work?

The Pillars of Middle School are:

**Advisory – Wednesdays and Fridays include BRICK after lunch.** BRICK groups are thematic classes designed around student passion areas relating to the arts. There is also a focus on school culture, building relationships & social and emotional learning under the guidance of one of our teachers. BRICK stands for **Building Respect, Innovation / Inquiry, Creativity and Knowledge.**

**Teaming** – You will be part of one of four Pods and will share classes with the same students and teachers.

**Integrated Curriculum** – Promotes making connections among areas of knowledge and inquiry in order to help students understand and relate to the world around them.

**Inquiry Based Learning** - All Pods focus on our school theme to support student learning through an integration of the arts.

**Explorations** - Provide students with the opportunity to learn with specialist teachers in classes such as Art, Music, Drama, Digital Literacy & Media Arts, and Tech Ed (Shop). All students take explorations courses and this helps them discover their interests and skills.

#### What will the first day of school be like?

The first day of school will be Tuesday, September 6th. It will be a fun and exciting start to your middle school life. Relax. We'll help you every step of the way. Generally, the first day of school in September will only be 1 hour long and you should leave your supplies at home. There will be lots of teachers and student leaders to help you find where your Pod is located. **DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR HELP.** Note: Due to COVID-19, parents are asked to check their email in early September for updates about the start of our school year.

#### What should I bring to school on my first FULL day?

Your first full official day will be Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. No, you don't need to bring your supplies until

Monday but you will need a lunch and a snack, daily except for Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **What time will school start?**

Music begins Prime Time at 8:35 am Monday to Thursday. At the sound of the tunes you should get your supplies together for the morning and move to your classroom so you arrive before the official start time, which is 8:40. At that time, you should already be in your classroom sitting down and be ready to learn. On Friday we have a late start and Prime Time begins at 9:00 am.

### **What do I do if I am late to school?**

Try to arrive at school by at least 8:25 am, so you can go to your locker, get prepared and be in your first class on time. If you do happen to arrive late, please go to the office to sign in and get your hand stamped. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT WE KNOW YOU HAVE ARRIVED.

### **Will there be a recess break?**

There is a short nutrition break (Nut Break) every morning from 10:20-10:30 on Monday to Thursday and 10:35 to 10:50 on Fridays. This is the time to use the washroom, eat a snack, go to your locker, and get a breath of fresh air.

### **What is the lunch routine?**

Students must bring a lunch regularly. We do have vending machines where you may purchase bottled water, juice, and snacks for \$1.00 - \$2.50. These should not replace a nutritious meal but can be a snack or treat in addition to a healthy meal. Please bring your own change as there is no change

available at school. You may eat in the building, the cafeteria or outside and please always clean up your litter and recycle your waste appropriately.

### **Can I leave school for lunch?**

Middle schools are a 'closed campus'. You can't leave for lunch unless you have permission from your parents indicating that you can go home for lunch. Additionally, if you live close enough to walk home for lunch without an adult, we need to have a note on file in the office saying you have your parents' permission and remember to actually sign in at the office when you return.

### **What is a student agenda/planner?**

A planner is a daily organizer where you will keep track of assignments, due dates, special events and other information. At Moody, all students will get an agenda which is provided because of the school fees you pay. Be sure to carry your planner with you to each of your classes and to take it home daily.

### **What do I do if I am going to be absent from school?**

Your parent or guardian should call the school, email the school at [moodymiddlesecretary@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:moodymiddlesecretary@sd43.bc.ca) or complete the Absence Report on our website to report your absence. Someone is available to answer the phone from 8:00 am, however there is an answering machine to take your calls when the office is closed.

### **How do I get to School?**

We encourage students to carpool, walk, bike or use transit to get to school. Please travel safely, responsibly and punctually.

**What do I do if I have a doctor's appointment or have to leave school early?**

Let your teacher know first. A parent needs to phone or e-mail the school or you need to have a note from home. Make sure that you show this note to your teacher. When it's time to leave, please take your note and check out at the office before you go.

**Is it safe at Middle School?**

At all schools you may encounter students who are learning how to treat others appropriately. Most students you will encounter at Middle are great people who are a lot of fun to get to know. There will be many opportunities for you to make lots of new friends from different elementary schools. At École Moody Middle School of the Arts, your teacher will teach you positive ways to interact with your peers and teach you strategies to deal with any students who may bother you. There are lots of helpful adults at ÉMMSOTA you can talk to if you are having any problems, including your teacher, the counsellor, youth worker, Vice-Principal, or Principal. Please come and talk to us if you are feeling uncomfortable or having any problems at school.

**Will we be taking P.E.? Do we have to change for class? Where do I keep my belongings?**

At Moody Middle you will have P.E. three times a week throughout the year. You will have to change for P.E. so keep running shoes, sweatpants or shorts and a t-shirt in a gym bag in your locker. Your regular clothes are left in the change room, so you should make sure you lock all valuables in your locker during natural breaks before your scheduled gym time.

**Does everyone get a locker? What if I forget my locker combination?**

Yes, everyone at ÉMMSOTA usually gets a locker. Make sure you record your combination privately, and keep it a secret. Your locker is the best place to keep valuables. Throughout the year you will be responsible for cleaning your locker. If you happen to forget your combination, ask your teacher or go to the office and they'll remind you what it is.

**Does my new Middle School have a band or choir?**

Yes, we have 2 bands: junior and senior – we also have a vocal choir. Each music class meets at 7:50 am on designated mornings. You have to sign up for these classes so if you are interested, listen to the morning announcements about when to meet. At the beginning of the year, there will also be an important meeting for parents so they can learn what they need to know about band as well. Once you have made a commitment to band, you should be conscientious about practicing, taking care of your instrument and coming to every class on time.

**Will I have homework?**

Some days your teachers may ask you to continue your learning at home. This is an opportunity to add to your learning and help you do your best learning. Some days will have more learning tasks than you are used to while other days will seem easier than grade 5.

**Are there expectations around your dress at Middle School?**

Students are responsible to dress appropriately for school. Clothing must properly cover your body and

not contain suggestive or offensive messages. Hats and sunglasses are not permitted to be worn inside the school but may be worn outside. Mask wearing has been a daily part of our routines and this will be addressed as necessary. You can visit our website (Student Handbook) or speak to a teacher throughout the year for more details about policies like this one.

### **How do I make friends with students from other elementary schools?**

You may already know some students from other schools or community teams, clubs or events. Other students may just introduce themselves. Regular classes and exploration classes are great places to make friends. The best thing to do is be yourself and you will make new friends. ÉMMSOTA has many great school teams and clubs where you can get involved and meet all kinds of people with similar interests.

### **How many classes will I attend each day?**

Your day is spent with your core teachers for at least 4 blocks. Your schedule is not complicated but looks different from elementary school. Each day your classes could include: Science, Math, Humanities, PE and an exploration.

### **What classes will we be taking at Middle School?**

At Middle School you will take Core subjects (Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, Math, French and P.E.) and your Explorations Classes: Art, Music, Drama, Digital Literacy & Media Arts, and Tech Ed. At École Moody Middle School of the Arts, Late French Immersion Grade 6, 7 and 8

students will learn with their Core class in the French language.

### **Can I bring electronic devices to school?**

Yes, you may bring hand-held technology which can include personal electronic devices like iPods, iPads and phones. Students may use these personal devices in a responsible way before 8:40 am and after 3:00 pm anywhere on campus.

Additionally, as a BYOD (bring your own device) school, students are expected to bring to class a charged and working laptop for learning throughout the day as instructed by their teachers to **support and empower their learning during supervised class time.**

This means that between the hours of 8:40 am and 3:00 pm students may have their (small) devices with them **in their locker**. Students are not to use their devices or wear headphones or ear buds during nutrition break or lunch. Students are also not to use external speakers on the premises at any time.

We cannot guarantee the safety of expensive electronic equipment so students who bring devices do so at their own risk. \*Reminder: There is always a phone at the office!\*

### **Can I chew gum during school?**

No, you are not allowed to chew gum at school. No gum means no sticky mess on sidewalks, hallways, seats or under desks. Thank you!

**Enjoy your 30 months at  
ÉMMSOTA!**



**IN OUR ELEMENT**