



## **Riverside Secondary School Honours Program for Grade 9's – 2022/2023**

# **INFORMATION**

### **WHAT IS HONOURS AT RIVERSIDE**

Riverside Honours refers to versions of English, Science, and Math courses that provide more enrichment into the concepts at each level. They are not connected from grade to grade, and can be entered at any grade level provided they are recommended based on prior work done, as well as assessments. Following Grade 10, there are many options in the school in all the subjects to allow for a deeper study into subjects.

### **GRADE 9 HONOURS COURSES: AN OVERVIEW**

Grade 8's entering Grade 9 at Riverside have the option applying for one, two or all three of our honours Grade 9 classes: English, Math, and Science. We have a strict cap on the number students admitted to each section, and so there is a selection process including an application form, teacher reference (from middle school) and a test. This program provides extra challenge and depth over and above the regular curriculum.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

#### *SCIENCE*

The format of this course provides students an opportunity to complete Science 9 in an enriched, extended and varied setting. A typical honours student has a good understanding of how they learn and is has the ability work both independently and collaboratively. The outcomes of the course remain the same as a regular Science 9 class but with opportunities to enhance their learning further. Grade 9 students will have the further opportunity to apply for Science 10 Honours. Assessment test and teacher recommendation required.

#### *MATH*

This is the first course of Riverside's math honours program, which provides an opportunity for like-minded students to develop a community of peers and together nurture their passion, creativity, enthusiasm, and confidence in mathematics. There is an application process which includes an assessment. The Mathematics 9 curricular content will be covered in depth with basic concepts covered at an accelerated rate to allow more time for analyzing, evaluating, and applying knowledge. Learning activities will be structured to provide enrichment beyond the grade 9 curriculum with a focus on enhancing problem-solving and fostering higher levels of thinking. Enrichment may also be driven by the interests and passions of the students. Students are expected to be self-motivated and enthusiastic about enhancing their creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving skills as well as having a solid work ethic and an aptitude for math. Students should enjoy challenges and be comfortable with risk-taking. Students are expected to participate in math contests. The core and curricular competencies will be addressed throughout the course. Assessment is aligned with the BC Ministry of Education Grade 9 curricular outcomes and extensions. Students are expected to maintain a high standard of academic achievement.

## *ENGLISH*

This course is intended for students who demonstrate exceptional skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. This class is for the student who shows a keen interest and passion for English and the art of communication. The course emphasizes the development of academic writing, in-depth reading, and critical class discussions through an inquiry process. The discovery of thematic connections across genres is emphasized. As this class will be at an accelerated pace, students should be self-motivated and responsible learners. Opportunities for writing to a wider audience will be offered through blogging and self-publishing. Student selection is based on a questionnaire and a short writing assignment.

## **PROCESS & DATES**

January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 ..... Applications available online on Riverside's website.

January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 ..... Honours applications due

January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 ..... Honours entrance assessments