

# PETER SKENE OGDEN SECONDARY SCHOOL – ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE

[www.peterskeneogden.ca](http://www.peterskeneogden.ca)

*Our mission is to provide supportive educational and social opportunities for students to be successful and thoughtful citizens.*

## Grade 8 Course Selection Guide

2018-2019



### *PSO: Providing Students Opportunities*

**Principal:** Mr. Geoff Butcher - ext. 226

**Vice Principal:** Shawn Meville - ext. 227

**Counsellors:** Mr. Ian Watson - ext. 234  
Mrs. Crystal Dawn Langton - ext. 230  
Mrs. Angela Peters - ext. 233 (First Nations)

## Welcome to Peter Skene Ogden Secondary



To Grade Seven students and their parents,

We are looking forward to having you join us at Peter Skene Ogden. Grade eight is an exciting and challenging time in your life. It is the beginning of your time at a new secondary school. It is exciting because you will meet many new friends and also experience new and interesting elective courses. It will be challenging because you will have a variety of different teachers and courses, which will require you to be well organized. To be successful, it will also be necessary to establish a daily home study schedule. The teachers are also excited about your coming to Peter Skene Ogden. We hope you will have a great and successful year, as you embark upon a five year secondary program.

All grade eight students must take English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Physical Education, and a language. Grade eight students will have an equivalent of two full blocks of electives. The intention of these blocks is to give each grade eight student a sampling of some of the electives offered. There are 6 electives lasting approximately 7 weeks. The electives are in the areas of Fine Arts, Tech Ed., Home Ec. and Computers.

If you require assistance or more information, please contact one of the school counsellors.

Sincerely,

Peter Skene Ogden Administration and Counselling Staff

## TIMETABLE

Peter Skene Ogden's timetable is based on a linear/semester system. Please read the prerequisites for each course as some of the courses must be taken in a specific order.

## GRADING AND REPORTING PROCEDURES

Grading in a subject is based on Ministry of Education standards and validated contemporary practices. Evaluation is based on homework exercises, reports, project work, oral work, short quizzes and formal examinations. Participation is critical to all of these areas and success requires good attendance. There will be a total of four (4) report cards in addition to interim reports issued throughout the school year as the need arises.

School contacts are made periodically by letters or telephone calls as is necessary to keep parents aware of any developing problems. Parents are invited to phone the teacher for updates and progress reports.

## "I" (INCOMPLETE) REGULATION

A requirement of the Ministry of Education is to notify students who are not achieving a minimum pass in a course be issued an "I" letter grade before being assigned an "F". This grade serves as a warning that must be communicated by the teacher to the student and parent. It must contain the reason for the failing grade, the work that must be done to bring the grade to a passing level and a deadline by which the work is to be done. While an "I" can be issued any time during the term, there will be sufficient time for students and parents to be notified and for the work to be completed. The notification will almost always be no later than two (2) weeks prior to the end of a term or end of the course.



## LEARNING SUPPORT PROGRAMS

### LEARNING SUPPORTS

#### **Learning Assistance**

This course is offered to students who have had a history of learning difficulties and who need daily support to be successful. The student's history is reviewed to determine how much support is required and to determine if any adaptations to the regular program need to be implemented. If adaptations are deemed necessary for the student's success, these adaptations are put

in place and maybe recorded on an Individual Education Plan or Service Plan.

This class includes instructional sessions on such skills as organization, time management, study techniques and test writing skills. Communication is maintained between the classroom teachers, the L.S. students, the L.S. teacher and the parent/guardian. Grade 7 intake forms will be reviewed to determine if learning support placement is appropriate for each student.

## LEARNING AND BEHAVIOURAL SUPPORTS

### Special Education

The Junior and Senior Resource (Life Skills) programs at Peter Skene Ogden offer assistance to students who have been identified as having significant learning difficulties.

#### Junior Resource Room:

-Grades 8 & 9  
-Support for Math 8/9, Science 8/9, Humanities 8/9

-Regular curriculum with adaptations leading to a Dogwood Diploma

#### Senior Resource Room/ Life Skills Program:

-Grades 8-12  
-Modified curriculum significantly different from the regular learning outcomes;  
-Leads to an Evergreen Certificate at graduation;  
-Students can only be modified with parental consent and usually have significant identified disability;  
-Inclusion is encouraged whenever possible to foster both learning and social opportunities.

#### Regular Program with Adaptations:

-Students take all required courses and must meet the learning outcomes of the regular curriculum.  
-Adaptations can be made to support the individual needs of the student in a regular classroom setting.

Students who have been identified with a disability or who are completing a modified program require an Individual Education Plan (I.E.P.). IEPs are developed in consultation with parents, students and the School Based Team. Goals and learning outcomes are established to address the student's strengths and areas of difficulty.

WEBSITE: [www.peterskeneogden.ca](http://www.peterskeneogden.ca)

### S.P.A.R.C.S.

(Skills, Potential, Attitude, Responsibility,  
Capability for Success)  
(Grade 8/9 Alternate)

S.P.A.R.C.S. is a program available to students who need an opportunity to improve their emotional health, social skills, and academic performance so they can:

- meet their goals
- re-enter the regular school
- undertake other training
- gain employment.

A number of regular academic and elective courses are offered at the Grade 8 and 9 levels. Courses are similar to correspondence but are guided by a teacher and Youth Worker. Regular attendance is required.

Entrance to The Alternate is by application. A student can obtain an application from S.P.A.R.C.S. Student application forms will be reviewed to determine if a S.P.A.R.C.S. placement is appropriate. Reviews are conducted by Administration, a Counsellor, and S.P.A.R.C.S. Staff as openings occur in the program.

#### PSO COUNSELLING DEPARTMENT

Students in Grade 8 receive counseling assistance from;

Mrs. C.D. Langton (ext. 230) Surnames A-L

Mr. Ian Watson (ext. 234) Surnames M-Z

Mrs. A. Peters (ext. 233) First Nations students

### Roles and Responsibilities of School Counsellors

- Problem-solving and planning for students
- Academic programming for all students
- Personal counselling for social and emotional issues
- Post-secondary and scholarship planning
- Academic advising

*PSO – Providing Students Opportunities*

- Career Exploration

### **Making Counselling Appointments**

Counsellors are available for counselling appointments from 8:30 until 3:30 on most school days.

### **Referrals to Outside Agencies**

Occasionally, students will require support for personal issues that go beyond the scope of a school counselling role. PSO school counsellors will be happy to assist students and their families in making referrals to outside agencies. Please do not hesitate to

ask for information about counselling support outside of school.

### **Course Changes**

In addition to regular counselling duties, counsellors also assist students with course selection and course changes. Course selections are done in the early spring (usually in a group format) although individual one-on-one sessions are also available. Once timetables are complete and the new semester begins, students may change courses only within the time outlined in the school calendar.

## **GRADE 8 CORE AND ELECTIVE COURSES**

### **GRADE 8 REQUIRED COURSES**

1. Mathematics
2. English
3. Physical Education
4. Science
5. Social Studies
6. Language 8 (French, Shuswap or German)
7. Explorations Package  
(Equivalent of 2 full blocks. Woodwork, Metalwork, Art, Computers, Foods and Power Mechanics)

### **FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM**

Only open to students who were enrolled in a French Immersion Program in Grade 7. In grade 8, French Immersion students are required to take 3 French Immersion courses. They are:

French Immersion Language 8  
French Immersion Socials 8

French Immersion Phys. Ed. 8

Additionally French Immersion students are required to take Math 8, English 8 and Science 8 as well as the Explorations package.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGES

At the Grade 8 level the study of a second language is mandatory. At the grade 9 level second language study is no longer compulsory. Please note: **Many universities require French or another second language for entrance requirements.** Second language proficiency also makes Government, military, police and some industrial jobs more accessible. Students who plan to go to university are advised to maintain a second language course in their secondary school years.

### FRENCH

This course is designed to teach basic communication skills through reading, speaking, listening and writing. Students will also read easy reader style books in French. Special vocabularies and expressions for holidays or cultural events will be introduced throughout the year.

### FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGE (SHUSWAP)

This course will offer an-depth study of the Shuswap language, history, culture and issues of the First Nation people. The language is spoken as far south as the Okanagan and as far north as Quesnel. This

introductory course will give students a broad view of the oral dialogue of the Shuswap people and then move into studying sentence structure – written and oral.

### GERMAN

Herzlich willkommen zu ...  
DEUTSCH FÜR Achtklässler

(= Grade 8 German)

In this course you will be introduced to some Basic German such as:

- experiencing basic vocabulary necessary if you ever wanted to explore a German speaking country or being able to talk to German speaking folks here in Canada
- being able to have simple conversations in a variety of scenarios
- getting to know some of the culture of German speaking people
- looking at the lifestyle of young German speaking people, their music, fashion, their way of talking and their attitudes

In this interactive course students learn to express themselves in relevant and meaningful situations. You will learn to speak, write and read German. Join this dynamic class and learn this wonderful language.

## ELECTIVE PACKAGE



### COMPUTER EDUCATION

#### COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

This completely revamped computer studies course is an intense hands on programming presented in a visual and stimulating manner (angry birds and evil pigs are involved). Students will learn to create and present their work through the use of animation, simple programs, and group projects. Programs, such as Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, will be covered. No computer experience is needed to take this course.

### FINE ARTS

#### ART

In this course students will explore art ranging from cartooning to printmaking to airbrushing. Developing ways to create and express interesting personal images in the form of drawing and painting will be the emphasis of this course. Creating ideas on canvas with various types of paints will help students develop a unique form of artistic expression. Depending on ability and interest of the students, projects may also include 3D art creations or mural projects.

#### BAND

Students will be involved in listening to, creating and performing music as well as studying music theory and history. Students are expected to practice regularly. Attendance is mandatory for all rehearsals, concerts and festivals. If you do not already own an instrument, there are school-owned instruments available for a very low rental fee. Band 8 is an elective but we are planning on offering the full elective package with band so that the band students get to experience all the same electives their grade 8 colleagues do. The difference is that the electives will be shorter in length to allow for the time taken by Band. Band 8 students will meet every other day and then go to their elective on the opposite day. Therefore Band 8 will run all year in 2017-18 as opposed to its current semester format.

### HOME ECONOMICS



#### FOOD STUDIES

Foods is an introduction to basic, healthy cooking and baking skills. Students will be able to cook/bake a variety of items such as breakfasts, pasta, soup, muffins and cookies.

## TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

*Please note, in all technology courses, the cost of materials over and above basic course requirements is the responsibility of the student.*

### METALWORK

*Not just for boys*, this fast-paced, “make-and-take” course is for anyone who wants to get up out of their chair and get busy! Pouring, pounding, welding and sculpting. You will discover fresh new tools and learn stimulating skills that will be in high-demand when you graduate. Plus, you will take home stunning, long-lasting projects that your parents will hardly believe you made! Join us and discover why so many students find this fun course to be their favorite at PSO.

### POWER MECHANICS

In this course, you will go inside real engines to understand what makes them tick. You’ll start with two stroke airplane engines which will lead to four stroke lawnmower engines. Next, you’ll build a real, working steam engine to take home. The skills you learn here will help you understand how to fix your own car, as well as anything mechanical.

### WOODWORK

This is a hands-on course that introduces students to the basic principles of carpentry. The safe and correct use of both hand and power tools is a major component of the course. Students will learn the basic skills involved in wood joints and joinery, gluing, clamping and project finishing. Projects will vary by course, student ability/motivation and interests.

