

Welcome
to
Handsworth



Welcome to Handsworth Guide



ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE

HANDSWORTH



Handsworth Secondary School, 1033 Handsworth Road, North Vancouver, BC V7R 2A7

<https://www.sd44.ca/school/handsworth> Ph. 604-903-3600, Fx. 604-903-3601

Absence Reporting 604-903-3600, "2"

This is an important notice. Please have it translated.

این یک اعلامیه مهم است. لطفا ترجمه کنید.

이것은 중요한 통지입니다. 번역 해주세요.

這是重要的通知。請翻譯一下。

Ceci est un avis important. Veuillez le traduire.

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WELCOME TO HANDSWORTH

We are looking forward to having your students join us in September 2023. Starting at a new school is an exciting time for students and their parents/guardians. Students, typically, look forward to a new school, new friends, and new opportunities, and are quite hopeful and confident in their abilities to cope with the changes that a new school brings. While most students' perceptions of this life transition are positive, it is also quite normal for students AND parents/guardians to express anxiety and unease about the transition. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide students and their parents/guardians with information and resources that will help ease the transition into Handsworth. We look forward to working with you and your children in this next stage of their lives.

ABOUT HANDSWORTH

Handsworth Secondary School is a school of approximately 1400 students with a teaching staff of around 70 teachers. It is a vibrant, diverse learning community which develops empowered, innovative and compassionate learners who serve and lead with curiosity and integrity. At Handsworth Secondary, we

- honour diversity.
- welcome family and community involvement.
- encourage and support risk-taking.
- promote a respectful, high achieving environment.
- provide flexible program delivery.
- offer a broad range of educational programs.
- encourage students and staff to demonstrate leadership.
- value parents as co-educators.

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Mark Barrett – Principal & Grade 12 Administrator

Ms. Jagruti Desai – Vice-Principal & Grade 8 & 11 Administrator

Ms. Meghan Downie – Vice-Principal & Grade 9 & 10 Administrator

mbarrett@sd44.ca

jdesai@sd44.ca

mdownie@sd44.ca

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Welcome to our newest Royals!

Handsworth has a proud tradition of excelling in academics, arts and athletics, and as our newest students you are now a part of that legacy. Within the pages of this guide you will find a wealth of information about the supports and opportunities available to you now as a Royal. I encourage you to consider all the different ways you can be involved in your school community. An actively engaged student body contributes to creating a sense of belonging for everyone, and helps buoy our reputation as a school that welcomes everyone, and encourages each and every student to perform their best and share their talents. Whether you are joining us for a semester, a year, or are just beginning your five-year journey as a grade 8, you will be responsible for authoring the next chapter of Handsworth's history. Remember our school motto, 'Ducimus', which is Latin for 'We Lead'. So, step forward and embrace the opportunity!

Mr. Mark Barrett
Principal & Grade 12 Administrator

STUDENT COUNCIL WELCOME

Welcome New Royals!

On behalf of the Student Council, we would like to welcome you to our community!

Handsworth is a school filled with many amazing opportunities including a wide variety of clubs and sports teams. Our goal as your 2022/2023 student council Co-Presidents, is to make your first year of high school fun and memorable. We plan to put on loads of fun events such as sports tournaments, theme days and festive activities. The Student Council is always open to hearing students' ideas for new events. Furthermore, we would like to put emphasis on school spirit this year in order to come together as a community, especially after the hard times we have faced recently with COVID-19. Finally, we, and the entire Student Council would also like to let you know that we are always here to support you in any way needed.

Your 2022/2023 Student Council Co-Presidents,

Duncan Murch & Nargess Shokouhian

[Meet Your Handsworth Student Council](#)

WHAT TO EXPECT AT HANDSWORTH

COMMUNICATIONS

In order to provide families and students with timely and accurate information Handsworth utilizes several methods of communication. Handsworth regularly sends out targeted emails, aimed at specific grades or programs, providing families with information pertaining to their particular student(s). The most up to date source of information is often our website, which is constantly being updated with everything from upcoming events and deadlines, daily announcements, contact information for staff and staff websites. We are also on social media.

Our Website:

<https://www.sd44.ca/school/handsworth>

Check out our monthly newsletter.

<https://www.sd44.ca/school/handsworth/About/newsletters>

Find us on Social Media to see spotlights of what is happening at Handsworth and for reminders of important dates and deadlines.

Twitter: @HandsworthHSS (<https://twitter.com/HandsworthHSS>)

Instagram: @handsworthhss (<https://www.instagram.com/handsworthhss/>)

Student Council Instagram: @handsworth_royals (https://www.instagram.com/handsworth_royals/)

Course offerings and programming information is posted to the “Courses & Programs” page of the Website.

<https://www.sd44.ca/school/handsworth/ProgramsServices/Courses>

Absence Reporting

Please call **(604) 903-3600 Extension 2** to report your child's absence. We do not accept attendance reporting via email.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Typically, on the first day of school students report to the theater by grade for a welcome assembly with their Grade counsellor and administrator. Students will then be given their timetable for the year and have their photo taken. An expanded program is offered for our incoming Grade 8 students to help them get acquainted with their new surroundings at Handsworth.

CURRICULUM

GRADE 8

Our Grade 8 students are expected to take a wide range of academic and elective courses throughout the school year. All Grade 8 students take the following courses:

Grade 8 English Program	Grade 8 French Immersion Program
Humanities 8: English	English Language Arts 8
Humanities 8: Social Studies	Sciences Humaines 8
French 8	Français Langue 8
Science 8	Science 8 or Sciences Naturelles
Mathematics 8	Mathematics 8
Physical & Health Education 8	Education Physique en Santé 8 or Education Physique & Santé En Plein Air 8
Applied Design Skills and Technology	Applied Design Skills and Technology
Careers 8 (Delivered Off Timetable)	Careers 8 (Delivered Off Timetable)
And one of the following electives	
Fine Arts 8 (Drama/Art)	
Concert Band 8	
Strings 8	
Choir 8 (Optional can be taken as a 9 th course)	

Applied Design, Skills and Technology 8 includes four courses that each run for one quarter the duration of a typical course. Students will be introduced to courses in the applied skills area: Robotics, Sustainability & Environmental Studies, Technology & Business, Woodwork.

GRADE 9 – 12

Our Grade 9-12 students are provided with a wider variety of course options as more electives become available in their senior years. It is important for students to consult with parents and counsellors to ensure that they meet provincial graduation requirements, as well as any entrance requirements for Post-Secondary institutions.

TIMETABLE

Handsworth will be operating on the semester system during the 2022-2023 school year. Students will complete up to four courses in each of the two semesters moving on to new courses in the following semester. While the pace of learning in a semester is accelerated from a Linear (whole year) system it does allow students to focus on only four courses at a time rather than the eight of a linear system.

SCHEDULE AND BELL TIMES:

Under the Semester System each day is divided into four 70 minutes classes, a dedicated 42 minutes of tutorial/meeting time at the beginning of each day, and a 60-minute lunch. The three morning classes rotate, while the afternoon class does not change.



ÉCOLE HANDSWORTH SECONDARY 2022-2023 Timetable					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:30-9:12	TUTORIAL	TUTORIAL	TUTORIAL	TUTORIAL	TUTORIAL
9:12-10:22	BLOCK 1	BLOCK 2	BLOCK 3	BLOCK 1	BLOCK 2
10:22-10:26	TRANSITION	TRANSITION	TRANSITION	TRANSITION	TRANSITION
10:26-11:36	BLOCK 2	BLOCK 3	BLOCK 1	BLOCK 2	BLOCK 3
11:36-11:40	TRANSITION	TRANSITION	TRANSITION	TRANSITION	TRANSITION
11:40-12:50	BLOCK 3	BLOCK 1	BLOCK 2	BLOCK 3	BLOCK 1
12:50-1:50	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
1:50-3:00	BLOCK 4	BLOCK 4	BLOCK 4	BLOCK 4	BLOCK 4



EXTRA CURRICULAR

Joining an extracurricular club, team or group is a great way to have fun, meet new people, and gain and improve skills. Students who are involved in activities do better academically and they enjoy high school more. Certainly, extracurricular activities play an important role in the whole school experience. At Handsworth students have the opportunity to choose from a wide range of extracurricular activities, meeting a variety of student interests. We are proud of our extracurricular opportunities and hope that Grade 8 students choose to become involved with many of these diverse activities.

CLUBS

Handsworth students have the option to join a wide variety of clubs covering many topics and interests. Membership in a club, a team or a volunteer group, is guaranteed to enhance any students experience during their high school years. The benefits are endless, from making multi-grade friends, to helping our community thrive, to just having more fun. See the “Clubs” page on our website for more information on which clubs are offered at Handsworth, when they meet, and who to contact for more information. Don’t see a club you are interested in? Consider starting one.

[Handsworth Clubs / Contacts / Meeting Times](#)

SPORTS

In a typical year Handsworth offers a wide range of sports at both the Junior and Senior levels for students enjoy including: Field Hockey, Cross Country, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Ski/Snowboarding Volleyball, Swimming, Rugby, Football, Badminton, Mountain Biking, Ultimate, Tennis, Track & Field, and Golf.

For more information about the sports offered at Handsworth, please visit our [Athletics Page](#) or contact our Athletic Co-ordinator Mr. Thomas Gallant @ tgallant@sd44.ca.

CULTURAL EXPERIENCES / TRAVEL

Handsworth has a long history of providing students with a variety of cultural experiences a different grade levels and with different areas of focus. These experiences help our students to grow as individuals and gain an appreciation for other peoples and cultures. Visit the “Trips” page of our website for more information on past and upcoming experiences.

[Handsworth Trips and Exchanges](#)

GRADE 8 RETREAT

The Grade 8 Retreat Program at Handsworth focuses on experiential learning and emphasizes connectedness to the places we travel, and the people we meet. With over 98% of incoming grade 8s participating in this Program, the aim is to build a sense of belonging for students in the first few days they enter high school. In September Grade 8s are welcomed to Handsworth by over 66 student leaders who range in grade from 10-12. In the following two weeks, these leaders help them get prepared for a 2-day retreat that involves a day visit to the Cheakamus Outdoor School and a day of activities at Handsworth during which they will participate in team building activities. Leaders devote 80+ hours to design, plan, and deliver activities that encourage pro-social behaviours like helping, sharing, and cooperating. Every activity at both locations is designed to create a sense of belonging for students, to help them make friends, and to emphasize our First Peoples Principles of Learning.

RETREAT LEADERS

Our Grade 8 Retreat Leaders are grade 10–12 students who participate in a year-long mentorship of our incoming Grade 8 co-hort. Leaders design, plan, and deliver activities during the 3-day Grade 8 Retreat in September and maintain their contact with the grade 8s throughout the school year. The focus of these activities is to create an immediate sense of belonging in the school community for our new students and to set up specific mentorship groups that will allow for regular contact and support between each Grade 8 and a senior student throughout the school year.

LOCKERS

In a typical year Grade 8 students are assigned a locker (and lock) for their own use, Grade 9-12 students can sign-up for lockers on an as needed basis. Students can purchase locks from the main office for \$10.00 or bring one from home. It's important that students keep their lock combinations private and their valuables at home. Please remember that lockers are school property and administrators can check your locker at any time.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical & Health Education is a component of the graduation requirements thru Grade 10. Students are required to have a change of clothes (PE strip) and athletic shoes every class. Be prepared to go outside—students often bring sweatshirts and sweatpants, in addition to shorts and t-shirts for their PE strip.

LUNCH

Students have many different options for lunch. Whether you bring a lunch from home or buy a lunch from the cafeteria, students can eat in our Grand Commons, breakout rooms, collaboration spaces, any of the open classrooms, hallways or even outside on nice days. Students also have the flexibility of leaving the school and grounds for lunch. Many activities are also happening at lunch. Students are encouraged to join these extracurricular opportunities.

CAFETERIA

Handsworth is currently not offering cafeteria service during Semester 1; service will resume in Semester 2.

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

HPAC is operating our hot lunch program at Handsworth as a fundraiser for the athletics program, for more information see the Handsworth website [HERE](#).

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

On the first day, students should just bring basic supplies like binders, dividers, pens, pencils and lined paper. Individual teachers will let students know on the first day of classes of any additional supplies specific to their class.

FOR OUR NEW GRADE 8's – HOW IS SECONDARY SCHOOL DIFFERENT?

- Secondary school is a lot bigger than elementary schools.
- Students will have more than one teacher and will move to different classrooms and areas of the school over the course of the day.
- Teachers will have different requirements and expectations.
- Classes are longer than they were in elementary school—lasting approximately 140 minutes per block.
- Secondary schools have time between the bells and a lunch break each day, but no “recess.”
- Homework and workload expectations may increase from elementary school.
- Because secondary schools have bigger facilities and more resources, students are given opportunities to try more areas for exploration and development.
- As students progress through secondary school, they will have more courses to choose from and more opportunities to tailor their school program to their interests and goals.
- There are usually more extracurricular activities than at the elementary schools.
- There is more independence and responsibility at the secondary school. Students are expected to be mature and responsible enough to handle the extra freedoms they're given.
- There are different kinds of school activities and events at secondary school (social events, games, dances, etc.).
- Check out a video our Student Council has prepared to introduce you to life at Handsworth:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZXbuT1qWok>

KNOW YOUR RESOURCES

There are many people, services and resources available at Handsworth Secondary to help make the secondary school experience a positive and successful one for all of our students. There are teachers, administrators, librarians, coaches, school counsellors, and educational assistants, to name a few, all here to help students have the best secondary school experience possible. If you have a question, concern, or problem, talk to the appropriate person. If you're unsure of who to talk to, contact a school counsellor. They will help connect you with the right people, information, and resources.

SCHOOL COUNSELLORS

School counsellors are available for consultations with students and/or parents/guardians. The aim of the school counselling program is to support the educational, personal, social, emotional and career development of all students at Handsworth Secondary. The school counsellors are here to ensure that our new Grade 8s feel safe and comfortable in their new environment, develop or maintain positive attitudes toward school and learning, and develop or maintain confidence in their ability to succeed in school. We provide a wide range of individual and group counselling services and workshops, including academic goal setting, study and test taking, career planning, post-secondary planning, peer relationships, and stress management and coping strategies.

2022-2023 GRADE COUNSELLORS

Grade	Counsellor	Email	Grade Administrator
Grade 8	Mr. D. Craik	dcraik@sd44.ca	Ms. Desai
Grade 9	Ms. T. Infanta	tinfanta@sd44.ca	Ms. Downie
Grade 10	Ms. J. Wong	jawong@sd44.ca	Ms. Downie
Grade 11	Ms. R. Renwick	rrenwick@sd44.ca	Ms. Desai
Grade 12	Ms. S. Schwegler	sschwegler@sd44.ca	Mr. Barrett

SCHOOL AGENDA

Each grade 8 student is given a student agenda planner at the beginning of the year that has information for both students and parents/guardians about the school calendar, school rules, code of conduct, reporting periods, attendance policies, etc. Students are recommended to have their agenda planner with them at all times, while at school. It is used for recording homework, tests, and due dates.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our school website contains a wealth of information and resources for students and their parents/guardians. In addition to news and announcements, current publications, such as newsletters and the school calendar, there are also links to individual departments and programs. Check the website often for the latest information: www.sd44.ca/school/Handsworth

THE MAIN OFFICE

The Main Office staff are here to support parents and students.

Best, Ms. Sarah	sebest@sd44.ca	Secondary School Asst/ Attendance/TOC'S
Murdock, Ms. Arlene	amurdock@sd44.ca	Secondary School Asst/ Website/Volunteers/Medical
O'Bryan, Ms. Kelly	kobryan@sdd44.ca	Administrative Assistant
Powell, Ms. Nina	npowell@sd44.ca	Secondary School Asst/ Attendance/Volunteers

LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS

Our Library Learning Commons is a hub of the school, offering spaces for students to collaborate and complete homework individually and in groups. We have three breakout rooms that are available for student use for private and small group work. Computers are available for coursework, including a dedicated print station. The space is open throughout the day including Tutorial, lunch (for silent study), and afterschool until 3:15.

LEARNING ASSISTANCE

This is a program for students in Grades 8 to 12 who need individual or personalized support with academic learning and improving their organizational and/or study skills. Students' progress in regular classes may be monitored, and teachers & counsellors are consulted about class adaptations. Students are referred to the program by teachers and counselors through the School Based Resource Team (SBRT) in consultation with parents.

LIFESKILLS PROGRAM

The Lifeskills program is designed to provide students with skills which encourage and support independent living through work experience, recreational activities and a focus on practical skills. Students are referred to the program by the elementary school and/or the Handsworth SBRT in consultation with parents.

CHOICES

The purpose of Choices is to support students with social/emotional and behavioural issues. These students need assistance to recognize, understand and create strategies to overcome challenges that create barriers to learning. They remain within the Handsworth community, engaging in academic and social activities that fit their learning needs. They also have the opportunity to connect to teachers, support workers and counsellors who are able to adapt their program without having to refer them to an alternate program. The Choices classroom is a place to facilitate connection and belonging to the school community. The ultimate goal is to have students maintain their educational experience here at Handsworth.

SCHOOL BASED RESOURCE TEAM

The School Based Resource Team is comprised of School Administrators, Counsellors, and Learning Support Teachers. The team is designed to provide wrap-around support for students requiring adaptation or modification to their learning environment and goals and meets on a regular basis.

The Grade Counsellor or Case Manager, if applicable, will be in contact if your student will be discussed at a meeting.

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

The transition to a new school is an important life event that affects different students in different ways. Students and their parents/guardians can be excited AND anxious; hopeful AND doubtful about entering a new school. Parents/guardians play a major role in ensuring a smooth transition to a new school. Indeed, a major protective factor for students during this major life change is family support and involvement in their school lives.

HPAC (Handsworth Parent Advisory Council)

Who We Are?

All parents and guardians of students registered in the school are able to participate and are members of the PAC.

The [School Act](#) gives parents the right, through Parent Advisory Councils (PACs), to provide feedback in their school. PAC is the officially recognized collective voice of parents of their school. A PAC, through its elected officers & adhering to the Constitution & Bylaws, may advise the school board, the principal and staff of the school respecting any matter relating to the education of the students and the school.

What We Do?

1. Meet regularly and advise the school principal and staff on parents' views and feedback about school programs, policies, plans and activities.
2. Organize PAC activities and events and endeavour to provide parent education.
3. Encourage parent involvement in the school, and to support programs that promote parent involvement.
4. Communicate with parents and promote co-operation between the home and the school in providing support for the education of children.
5. Assist parents in accessing the system and to advocate on behalf of parents and students.
6. Provide financial support for the goals of the PAC, as determined by its membership through the money we receive from the BC Gaming Commission & the Teacher Wishlist
7. Advise and participate in the activities of the [District Parent Advisory Council \(DPAC\)](#) and the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC).

How to Participate?

- Come to regular monthly meetings
- Follow us @handsworthPAC on FB, Twitter & Instagram
- Become part of the executive – every May we elect new members
- Volunteer for sub committees (New School, New Track, Hot Lunch, Staff Appreciation, etc.)
- Email chair@handsworthpac.ca

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Please call **(604) 903-3600 Extension 2** to report your child's absence. We do not accept attendance reporting via email.

When reporting your child's absence to the Main Office, please provide the following information:

- Last name of the student (please spell clearly)
- First name of the student
- Grade
- Date of absence
- The time the student will be absent. (E.g. "1st class of the day", "last class of the day", "am only", "all day")
- Reason: Excused, Appointment, Illness, Vacation etc.

NOTE: We do not record "may be in later" "will be in if he/she feels better".

TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Talk to your child before the school year starts about the differences between their previous school and Handsworth and what to expect.
- Attend our Parent Course Programming Evenings in January.
- Volunteer, meet teachers, attend school conferences or events and read school newsletters.
- Keep up to date about school activities and opportunities. Our website is updated regularly for students and parents/guardians. www.sd44.bc.ca/school/Handsworth
- Join the Handsworth Parent Advisory Council, information can be found on the school website at <https://www.sd44.ca/school/handsworth/Parents/PAC/Pages>
- Encourage your child to be involved in school activities. There are many activities during lunch and before/after school (extra-curricular).
- Encourage the use of agendas for homework and check them regularly for assignments, projects and tests.
- Set a regular time and place for homework to be done. Give and reinforce clear expectations.
- Work together with the school. If you have a question or concern about a class, make a phone call or send an email to the teacher. For other concerns contact your child's school counsellor or grade administrator.
- Encourage and model time management strategies. Help your child balance school work with their outside activities and interests.

STUDENT'S TIPS FOR PARENTS

Excerpted from "Getting the Most Out of High School" by Linda O'Brien

- "Don't be overprotective, but do be involved in your child's life." ~Josh~
- "Make sure that you know how your child is doing in school, but don't pressure them too much." ~Sophia~
- "Go to your child's games or concerts or whatever. Sometimes we act like we don't care if you go, but we do." ~John~
- "Make sure they do their homework and that their attendance is good—they'll appreciate it later." ~Megan~
- "All high school kids make mistakes. Try to help your kids learn from their mistakes." ~Owen~
- "Be supportive and be patient." ~Greg~
- "Trust your children to make their own decisions, but let them know that you are there to help them." ~Emily~

STUDENT TIPS FOR STUDENTS

We asked some Handsworth Grade 8 students what advice they would give new Grade 8 students:

- “Make sure that you stay organized and get your work done on time.”
- “Be yourself!”
- “Ask questions in class and talk to your teachers if you are having trouble. They want to help you.”
- “High school isn’t as scary as it may seem, so don’t worry yourself silly over the summer.”
- “Put aside time each day for homework and studying. Rushing at the last minute never works.”
- “Don’t panic if your friends aren’t in your classes ... you’ll meet new ones and you’ll see your old ones at lunch.”
- “Don’t be nervous about the big kids. They are just fluffy teddy bears.”
- “Join clubs and teams. It’s an awesome way to meet new people and feel good about your school and to have fun.”
- “Keep your locker organized and don’t tell anyone your combination.”
- “Pay attention in class and work during class time. It’s frustrating for others when people goof off and try and waste time.”
- “Be respectful of others in the school. That means act maturely, pick up after yourselves at lunch and don’t stand in the middle of the hallway.”
- “Make school and school work a priority. Your friends are important, too, but not when they distract you from your school stuff.”
- “Ignore all of the negativity and pay attention to the good stuff.”
- “Use strategies to keep organized and manage your time, it helps a lot!”
- “Go to your school counsellor if you’re feeling upset or stressed out. They are really good to talk to and help you figure things out.”