

# Frequently Asked Questions

1. When do students begin making course selections for 9th grade?  
Course selections are made during the 8th grade Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) parent/student conference. Middle schools have started scheduling these conferences now through the end of January.
2. How many classes do 9th graders typically take in a year?  
All 9th graders are enrolled in 8 classes per year.
3. What do you mean by alternate course?  
An alternate course is another elective course. In case something is full or does not fit into the schedule, we recommend students selecting two (2) alternate course choices.
4. Do parents have input in their student's schedule?  
Absolutely. All parents/guardians are invited to Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) meetings along with their student.
5. What happens to students that are currently enrolled in Algebra 1 and English 1 this year.  
The typical English progression after English 1 is English 2; therefore, students successfully completing English 1 will enroll in English 2. The typical math progression after Algebra 1 is Geometry; therefore, students successfully completing Algebra 1 will enroll in Geometry. There is also the opportunity to retake high school credit classes as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader per the SC Uniform Grading Policy. Your counselor can provide details during your IGP.
6. My daughter took Algebra 1 last year and is in Geometry this year, which I think is also a high school credit course. What math would she be taking next year?  
The typical math progression after Geometry is Algebra 2. There is also the opportunity to retake Geometry as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader per the SC Uniform Grading Policy. Your counselor can provide details during the IGP.
7. If my child took Algebra 1 Honors last year but did not take the State End-of-Course (EOCEP) final exam due to COVID-19, will they take it this year?  
No, students will not retake the final exam if they have completed the course. Only students currently enrolled in Algebra 1 will take the EOCEP final exam this year.
8. In Science, is there no Physics and Chemistry?  
Yes, we offer Physics and Chemistry in all high schools. The typical science progression is Earth Science then Biology then Chemistry then Physics.
9. My daughter has taken Spanish for two years. Will those carry over as credits for 9th grade?  
Only students enrolled in a CP course on their schedule (ex: Spanish 1 CP) will earn high school credit upon successful completion. This will count as a credit toward graduation requirements.
10. Which languages are available? Do we offer Greek or Latin?  
French, German, Spanish, and Latin (SHS only). We do not offer Greek.
11. Is there an ALS course? If so, does it count as a language?  
We do not offer ALS (American Sign Language) at this time.

12. If my student took three years of a Fine and/or Performing Arts course in middle school, will that be considered the student's fine arts elective credit for graduation requirements?  
Only students enrolled in a CP course (ex: Dance 1 CP) during the 8th grade year will earn high school credit upon successful completion.
13. If my daughter takes Marching Band for PE credit, can she take Steel Drums for fine arts elective in the 9th grade year?  
Yes, your daughter may request Steel Drums, but remember that space is limited.
14. My student wants to know if they need any photography experience to take Photography class.  
No experience is needed for Photography.
15. Do saxophones play in the orchestra?  
Saxophones are in Marching/Symphonic Band. The string instruments are in Orchestra.
16. What are the requirements for Art 3-D Design?  
There are no prerequisites for Art 3-D Design (sculpture/ceramics), so any 9th grader can request Art 3-D Design.
17. Can we just do gym in general?  
Yes. This course is PE1 for one credit, which is a required course for graduation.
18. Are there PE courses geared for one sport?  
No, they are not. General PE courses include multiple sports.
19. Do the AFJROTC extracurricular clubs count toward the Diploma of Distinction requirement #7?  
Yes, if taken in grades 10-12.
20. Will VirtualSC offer online PE during summer 2020?  
We cannot guarantee what courses VirtualSC may offer. Students taking PE during summer through VirtualSC, and then need to drop PE from their course choices during the school year must understand they will not be guaranteed a seat in the new elective of their choice.
21. Can High School 101 be completed virtually over the summer?  
No, High School 101 will not be offered virtually over the summer.
22. Is Freshmen Seminar in addition to High School 101?  
Freshmen Seminar and High School 101 are different courses. Freshmen Seminar is part of the English 1 class. Students are enrolled in Freshmen Seminar based upon teacher recommendations, test scores, and grades. High School 101 is a required 9th grade general elective for all 9th graders.
23. Do dual credit classes give students college credit?  
Yes, students will receive college credit from the approved college that the student takes the course along with high school credit. Other colleges may accept credit for these courses as well. We recommend verifying with any college you are interested in attending to see which courses may transfer.
24. Can a student take dual enrollment courses even if not in the "honors" class of English 2?  
Students are able to take dual enrollment courses in a variety of subjects starting their junior year if they meet the requirements of Trident Technical College (TTC).

25. My daughter wants to know if high school credits help for college.  
All high school courses are designed to build skills and prepare students for college and/or career.
26. What class does AP seminar/research replace in college?  
It will depend upon the college. They accept the AP credits for different courses. You can look at the college websites for specific courses. Typically, AP Seminar and AP Research count as a college elective course. We recommend verifying with any college you are interested in attending to see which courses may transfer.
27. What is the AP Capstone Diploma?  
No application is required for the AP Capstone Program. Students can be recommended for AP courses by core teachers. Students can talk with their counselors about AP Capstone during IGP meetings for more information.
28. Is the IB program being offered at any high schools in 2021–2022?  
All three high schools will offer the AP Capstone Diploma program. There will be no high schools offering the IB program.
29. Is the law enforcement program not available anymore?  
Currently, the law enforcement program is available at the Dorchester County Career and Technology Center (DCCTC). Students can attend DCCTC courses beginning in 10th grade.
30. Is there still a Career School where students can do nursing, mechanics, etc.?  
Yes, Dorchester County Career and Technology Center (DCCTC) has two campuses. One in Dorchester, SC and one on Trolley Road. Each site offers different courses. Students can attend DCCTC courses beginning in 10th grade. There are great opportunities at the Career School!
31. How do we get a copy of the information presented tonight?  
This meeting will be recorded and published on the middle school and high school websites.
32. How does this affect those who have an IEP?  
The IEP team will meet for a transition meeting in the Spring to discuss the 9th grade schedule. Students with an IEP will still meet with the school counselor for an IGP meeting this semester as well.
33. Is there a course catalog online that lists the electives?  
Yes. The district has released a new course guide for 2020-2021. The course guide is on the DD2 website under the parents tab (letter "c"). We will post the link to the [Course Guide](#) on the school web site as well. The [CTE Course Guide](#) may also provide details for CTE courses.
34. Is the College and Career Ready book available in hard copy?  
The [College and Career Guide](#) is available on the DDTwo website under the parent tab.
35. What if my student wants to do Agriculture Sci and Tech which is only at ARHS?  
The Agriculture pathway is only offered at ARHS. Students interested in this program would have to complete a [Student In-district Transfer Request Form](#) and be granted special permission to attend ARHS.

36. Can IT Fundamentals in 8th grade satisfy the CTE credit required for graduation?  
Successful completion of IT Fundamentals CP in middle school satisfies the computer science requirement for graduation.
37. Is Fundamentals of Computing the same as IT Fundamentals in the 8th grade?  
Both courses satisfy the computer science requirement for graduation, but they are different courses with similar content.
38. Is Child Development only offered at Summerville High School?  
Yes, Child Development is only offered at Summerville High School.
39. If a student does not get selected for the Early College Program, can they still take college courses?  
Yes. Students are able to take dual enrollment classes starting their 11th grade year if they meet TTC's requirements.
40. Is the Early College Program mandatory?  
No, it is an option to apply.
41. Will there be any virtual options?  
If you are referring to Virtual Academy, please stay tuned for more information from this district level managed program.
42. Will information be sent out about courses that can be done virtually during the summer?  
You will want to speak directly with your student's current counselor at the middle school concerning which courses are available to middle school students over the summer.