



American School of Doha 2026-27 Grade 8 Course Selection

***This form cannot be filled out directly. Please print or make a soft copy, complete it, obtain the parents' and the student's signatures, and return it to us at your earliest convenience.**

STUDENT LAST NAME: _____ **STUDENT FIRST NAME:** _____

Welcome to the American School of Doha Middle School. All grade 8 students will be taking a total of **8 (eight) Credits** of classes: 6 mandatory and 2 elective credits.

Please note that course selections are different depending upon which Math course you take:

Grade 8 Schedule			
Courses for students taking Math 8	Credit	Courses for students taking Algebra 1	Credit
Math 8	1	Algebra 1	2
Language Arts	1	Language arts	1
Science	1	Science	1
Social Studies (US History)	1	Social Studies (US History)	1
Physical Education (PE)	1	Physical Education (PE)	1
Exploratories for Math 8 Students only (Computer 8 Exploration, Learning Service 8, Money & Markets 8, and DIY)	1	Electives (students select 2 credit hours from the following): • Music (1 credit hour) • World Language (1 credit hour) • Electives (0.5 credit hours for each elective)	2
Electives (students select 2 credit hours from the following): • Music (1 credit hour) • World Language (1 credit hour) • Electives (0.5 credit hours for each elective)	2		
Total Credits	8	Total Credits	8

Math 8: This course prepares students for Algebra 1 in Grade 9. The emphasis in Grade 8 Mathematics is the study of proportional thinking, solving problems algebraically and graphically, and understanding mathematical operations. This course counts as 1 credit and meets every other day, like all other core subjects.

Algebra 1: This accelerated Math class is a complete Algebra 1 course that includes the standards from Grade 8 math. Students will cover both the skills and concepts of the Common Core Grade 8 Math and the Algebra 1 curriculum. This course counts as 2 credits and meets daily. Students taking Algebra 1 will not take exploratory classes.

Math Placement: We believe that a student's ability level is something that is dynamic as he or she grows and learns, and we want our students to be continually challenged. ASD seeks to have our



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placements be both appropriate and flexible enough to provide the greatest amount of support for our students to help ensure their success.

To place students in a math course that matches their developmental and academic level in our school, we use three primary instruments to identify student strengths and gaps in their knowledge to help determine course placement:

- Current academic performance
- Learning habits
- Performance on the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment

Note: All incoming students will be scheduled in Math 8 until we are able to administer an Algebra readiness test to help provide additional data on a child's current level of academic achievement. This test will most likely take place on New Student Orientation day, before the start of the school year. Even after placements have been made, it is the goal of the MS to monitor and adjust placements as needed, in consultation with students, teachers, and parents.

Grade 8 Exploration Rotations (for Math 8 students only):

Part of the middle school ethos is to introduce students to new experiences while empowering them to follow their passions and develop their interests. All grade 8 students are asked to select two exploratory blocks of the four optional offerings. Grade 8 exploratory blocks are **mandatory** for students enrolled in Math 8. Each block runs for a semester.

Please rank the remaining exploratory courses from 1 to 4 (1 = most preferred):

_____ **Computer 8 Exploration:** *NextGen Tech 8 is a project-based technology course where students take the lead in designing, building, and exploring exciting tech projects. Using a Technology Project Matrix, students can choose from hands-on options such as 3D pen creation, circuitry, VR experiences, coding challenges, and more, giving you the freedom to follow your interests and creativity. Through these projects, you'll develop real-world computer skills, problem-solving, critical thinking, and creativity. Every project is interactive, engaging, and connected to everyday life, helping you see how technology shapes the world around you. Get ready to learn by doing, experimenting, and innovating. NextGen Tech 8 is all about bringing your ideas to life with technology.*

_____ **Global Movement and Community Leadership Exploration:** *Global Movement & Community Leadership is an inquiry-based, movement-centered course that explores how physical practices from around the world express culture, identity, and well-being. Through hands-on mini-units, students participate in global games, fitness traditions, mindfulness practices, and leadership challenges, developing essential skills in communication, collaboration, and problem-solving. Students not only participate but also design and lead movement experiences for their peers or younger grades, thereby*



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strengthening their confidence, empathy, and connections within the community.

_____Money and Markets 8 Exploration: *The course's goal is to promote economic and financial literacy. This course will cover how money and finance intersect with history, business, government, and our personal lives through interactive, hands-on activities. This course will enable students to develop real-world skills for them to apply throughout their lives.*

_____Do It Yourself (DIY) 8: *This course aims to create more opportunities for students to invest in becoming 'Agents of Change' and make a difference both at ASD and in their community. Through project-based learning and hands-on activities, such as painting large walls, and columns/areas in the school, or even sanding down benches and tables to repaint and repurpose them, the students will bolster collaborative skills, technical skills with various tools, and a sense of accomplishment. A goal of the course is to provide the skills for the students who in turn, will develop a stronger intrinsic motivation for completing tasks and having the confidence to tackle larger D.I.Y (Do It Yourself) projects of their own.*

Note: If not ranked, selection will be made for you.

Elective Choices:

On the following pages, please select courses to total 2 credit hours. Music and World Languages are year-long courses, each worth 1 credit. Other electives are semester-long courses and are 0.5 credits each.

Course selections can be any of the following:

- 1 Music (Year Long) + 1 World Language = 2 credits
- 1 World Language + 2 Semester-Long Electives (0.5 credit each) = 2 credits
- 1 Music (Year Long) + 2 Semester-Long Electives (0.5 credit each) = 2 credits
- 4 Semester-Long Electives (0.5 credit each) = 2 credits
- 2 Year-Long Electives (1 credit each) = 2 credits

Section I: Music (Year-long Course; 1 credit)

- All students are able to sign up for Vocal Music and/or Instrumental Music.
- If you would like to take BOTH Vocal Music and Band, please check both classes. Occasionally, a music section can conflict with a World Language in the same block.



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☒		
	Vocal Music	1
	Instrumental Music	1
	No, I do not want to take Vocal Music or Band	0
		Total Music Credits:

****If you have checked 'No' above, please move on to Section II.**

- **If you are taking band**, please indicate which instrument you would like to take. Where possible, ASD will provide an instrument for an annual fee of QR 600. However, it is recommended that students purchase their own instrument. **Please note that percussion requires permission.** Please contact Mr. Jim Kulpa jkulpa@asd.edu.qa directly.

☒	Please check one		
	Percussion (by approval)		Woodwinds (Clarinet)
	Trumpet		Low Brass (Trombone)
	Flute		

Instrument: _____

Years of Experience: _____

☒	Please check one		
	TAKE SCHOOL INSTRUMENT		OWN MY OWN INSTRUMENT

Section II: World Language Course Selection (year-long Course; 1 credit)

World Language Placement: Students wishing to take a world language in 8th grade should have prior experience taking that world language in their previous school.

- Please check only **ONE** of the following languages.
- Indicate any prior levels of experience in the language.
- Students are not allowed to take a World Language course if it is their native language, with the



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exception of Modern Standard Arabic.

- o Modern Standard Arabic is for native Arabic-speaking students. All Qatari students are required to take MSA as part of their school schedule.
- o Arabic as a “second-language” course and is *not* available to students who can already speak and understand verbal directions in Arabic.

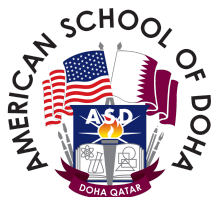
✓	SELECTION FOR GRADE 8 Please check one	
	FRENCH	SPANISH
	Experience Level: _____ 1 year _____ 2 years _____ 3 years or more	Experience Level: _____ 1 year _____ 2 years _____ 3 years or more
	ARABIC	Modern Standard Arabic (MSA)
	(For families new to Arabic)	(At least one parent should speak Arabic)
	Experience Level: _____ 1 year _____ 2 years _____ 3 years or more	Experience Level: _____ 1 year _____ 2 years _____ 3 years or more
	No, I do not want to take a World Language elective class	

In order to place students into the appropriate world language course that matches their developmental and academic level, we will administer a ***language readiness test*** to help provide additional data on their current level of academic achievement. Even after placements have been made, it is the goal of the MS to monitor and adjust placements as needed, in consultation with students, teachers, and parents.

Section III: Electives (Semester-long courses; 0.5 credit each)

- Please rank your preferences from 1 to 24 (1 = first choice, 24 = last choice).
- Descriptions of elective courses are located in the MS Program of Studies (included in the email)

Rank	Name of Elective	Credit
	Coding: VEX Robotics	0.5
	Coding: 3D Game Development	0.5
	Coding: Minecraft.edu	0.5



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	Coding: VR Development	0.5
	2D Arts & Design	0.5
	Ceramics	0.5
	Creative Writing	0.5
	Printmaking	0.5
	Digital Design	0.5
	Do It Yourself (D.I.Y)	0.5
	Dragon Lab Market	0.5
	Dragon Lab Design	0.5
	Film Making	0.5
	Forensics	0.5
	Readers Workshop	0.5
	Introduction to AI	0.5
	iPad Illustration	0.5
	Leadership Service (Application Only)	0.5
	Model United Nations	0.5
	Modern History of the Middle East	0.5
	Outdoor Education	0.5
	Photography	0.5
	Project Pioneers: Building for the Future	0.5
	Social Media Influencer	0.5
	Wearable Technology	0.5
	Global movement & Community Leadership	0.5

Note: If not ranked, selection will be made for you.

Section IV: Other Electives (Year-long courses; 1 credit each)

- All students can sign up for the courses below.
- If you would like to take both, please check both courses.



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☒		
☐	Yearbook	1
☐	Leadership Service	1
☐	No, I do not want to take Yearbook or Leadership Service	0
		Total Elective Credits:

Please return this form to the MS Office Manager, Ms. Diana Saputra, dsaputra@asd.edu.qa, at your earliest convenience to ensure your child's schedule is ready for the Orientation Day.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____