



TQS High School

Interventions. Business Literacy. Bright Futures

Your Guide to Grade 9 TQS Upper School Curriculum Overview



Welcome to Grade 9

Grade 9 is an important year for all adolescents, yet it is especially foundational for young adults with complex challenges. The first year in Upper School brings with it expanding responsibility; personal, social, and academic growth; and preparation for the future.

Here at The Quaker School at Horsham, 9th grade is about more than continuing your child's education -- it's about building their confidence as they transition into adulthood and begin exploring opportunities in the workforce, continued education, and independent living.

Our course curriculum is thoughtfully designed to support student progress and address individual skill deficits. Our goal: **to give every 9th-grade student the skills and support they need to shine bright in their future path.**



Grade 9 students learn to:

- Apply skills and strategies
- Creatively problem-solve
- Achieve individual success
- Embrace differences
- Engage in trusting relationships
- Be compassionate
- Have self-worth
- Advocate for themselves
- Feel secure in their future

A Day in 9th Grade

Sample Schedule

	9th grade							
	A	B	C	D		E	F	
9:00 - 9:20	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom		Homeroom	Homeroom	
9:20 - 10:30	Wellness & Movement 9	ELA or MATH	ELA or MATH	ELA or MATH		SS 9A / SCI 9B	Bus Lit 100 A/B	
10:30-11:30	ELA or MATH	SS 9A / SCI 9B	Bus Lit 100 A/B	Word Study		SCI 9A/SS 9B	Word Study	
11:30-12:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch	
12:00 - 12:30	ELA or MATH	Wellness & Movement 9	SS 9A / SCI 9B	SCI 9A	FACS 9B	Wellness & Movement 9	Wellness & Movement 9	
12:30-1:00								
1:00-2:00	Word Study	Bus Lit 100 A/B	SCI 9A/SS 9B	Yoga 9A	RT 9B	Word Study	ELA or MATH	
2:00-2:20	Movement Break	Movement Break	Movement Break	Movement Break		Movement Break	Movement Break	
2:20-3:30	MFW / MFB	SCI 9A/SS 9B	Yoga 9B/ FACS 9A	ELA or MATH		ELA or MATH	Rec Therapy 9A	SCI 9B
3:30-3:45	Homeroom / Advisory	Homeroom / Advisory	Homeroom / Advisory	Homeroom / Advisory		Homeroom / Advisory	Homeroom / Advisory	
3:45-4:00	Dismissal	Dismissal	Dismissal	Dismissal		Dismissal	Dismissal	

For 9th graders, every school day includes personal advisory, core academics, health and wellness, and business literacy instruction intermixed with safe and supportive social moments with teachers and peers.



Course Descriptions

CORE ACADEMICS

English: Literature and the Mechanics of English

This course focuses on the core components of the English language: literature, writing, speaking/listening, and presenting. It introduces students to literature through different genres, including poetry, short stories, nonfiction, dramas, novels, and fairy tales. Students use a variety of strategies to create written texts to inform, to persuade, to describe, and to entertain, as well as practice grammar, mechanics and paragraphing. Throughout the course, students give informal and formal presentations to the class, and even to the Head of School!

Science: Earth Science

The Earth Science course is designed to be an introduction to Geology, Astronomy, Meteorology and Oceanography. Emphasis will be placed on the interactions between humans and their environment. In this course, students also learn the process of scientific inquiry, such as hypothesizing, graphing, interpreting data, drawing conclusions, and applying scientific concepts. They also learn comprehension strategies that are specific to reading scientific texts.

Social Studies: Geography, The Study of the World's Places, People & Politics

This course helps students become more geo-literate citizens, more engaged in contemporary global issues, and more multicultural in their viewpoints. Students learn to read, use and analyze maps; identify regions and how they relate to other countries; connect places to people; and understand the impacts of change on the environment and sciences. They discover how maps are altered over time due to war, politics, revolutions, and natural phenomena, and they discuss the struggles for political power and control. Finally, students identify climates and biomes and investigate the impacts of technological innovation on transportation, communication, industrialization, and other aspects of human life.

MATH BRANCHES

Ninth-grade math is designed to meet the diverse needs of all students as they prepare to enter a world where mathematical skills are of increasing importance, especially for special needs students. TQS curriculum integrates new mathematics with the old to ensure that students acquire the fundamentals while becoming familiar with the rapidly expanding frontiers in this field, and within science and technology. Since TQS is student-centered, we offer two math branches. Students take 120 hours of math during their 9th-grade year.

Course Descriptions

Branch 1

Math Intervention
Functional Math
Financial Algebra
Business Math

Branch 2

Pre-Algebra
Algebra I
Geometry
Algebra II/Trigonometry

Branch 1

Math Intervention

A remedial math course (K-8) taught through concrete, pictorial, and abstract concepts.

Functional Math

A course designed for students who have had difficulties in math, need to fill in the gaps in their background, and refine skills they have learned but not mastered. The subject matter depends on students' needs and varies each year. Students use real-world applications to study skills and concepts.

Financial Algebra

Students build on and connect their prior knowledge of math concepts from other courses and apply them to real-life financial practices. Topics of study include investing, banking, credit, income taxes, insurance, and household budgeting. Students review and strengthen algebra mechanics and problem-solving skills, and better understand how algebra is used in daily life.



Course Descriptions

Business Math

Students master the skills necessary to solve business-related mathematics problems, review basic mathematics concepts, become proficient in checking and verifying data, and practice critical thinking and decision-making skills. Computerized spreadsheet applications and simulations help students apply math skills to realistic business situations that include accounting, budgets, insurance, investments, marketing, payroll, production, purchasing, sales, taxes, and warehousing. Students also learn to make graphs and tables using mathematical data.

Branch 2

Pre-Algebra

Students learn numeration, statistics, probability, computation, problem-solving and algebraic concepts. Topics include: rational numbers (fractions, decimals, and percents), operations, solving simple equations and inequalities, translating algebraic expressions, and manipulating monomials.

Algebra I

Students explore numeration, algebraic functions, introduction to geometry concepts, and problem-solving. Topics include: linear equations and inequalities, monomials and polynomials, factoring algebraic expressions, two-dimensional graphing, systems of equations, radical expressions, irrational numbers, and quadratic functions.

Geometry

Students learn geometric reasoning and proof, triangles and trigonometry, measurement, and problem-solving. Topics include: mathematical logic, points, lines and planes, parallel lines and planes, congruent triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, right angles, and circles.

Algebra II/Trigonometry

Algebra II is an advanced examination of number sense, graphing and equations, special functions, data analysis, and probability. A large portion of this course also covers trigonometry, including basic trig ratios, identities, trig equations, inverse trig functions, and the Laws of Sines/Cosines. Calculator use is explained and expected.



Course Descriptions

HEALTH & SOCIAL SKILLS

Social & Emotional Health

In this course, students learn self-management skills such as managing stress, gaining a positive body image, controlling impulses, setting goals, and becoming self-motivated. They learn to recognize and respond to social and emotional health issues like depression, self-injury, and eating disorders, and how to locate credible health-related resources. Students also gain relationship skills, learning how to identify positive and negative relationships, dating smarts, communication, refusal, and non-violent conflict resolution.

Personal Health & Wellness

This course emphasizes issues of human sexuality and interpersonal communications. It covers reproduction, ways to prevent pregnancy, sexual responsibility, sexual behavior and identity, gender identity and sexual orientation, decision-making processes for sexual behavior, the health benefits of abstinence, and how to respect individual sexual limits.

Infectious Disease & Prevention

Students learn the difference between communicable and noncommunicable diseases and examine the transmission, symptoms, prevention, and treatment of diseases such as STIs (including HIV/AIDS), flu, common cold, and more. They study non-communicable diseases such as congenital heart defects, cancer, heart disease, and diabetes, and they evaluate the impact of disease on the individual, family and society. Students study genetics, medical technology, and the environment, and learn the roles and responsibilities of health-related agencies for disease prevention.

Alcohol, Tobacco & Other Drugs

This course summarizes the physical, psychological, social and legal consequences of use, misuse, and abuse of prescription, gateway/illegal, and over-the-counter drugs. Students identify the factors that influence the use of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs, and access and evaluate current, accurate information for substance abuse and addiction. They learn strategies for refusal and intervention of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs, and how to advocate for rules, policies, laws and healthy choices.



Course Descriptions

Safety

In this course, students learn how to respond to emergency and nonemergency situations. They also study internet safety, and how to differentiate between healthy and unhealthy use of the internet, email, websites, direct messaging, and telephones/cell phones. Students analyze factors that influence risky situations and violent behaviors, such as bullying, child abuse, date rape, gang involvement, sexual harassment and human trafficking. They investigate resources for first aid, personal safety, and injury prevention, assess conflict resolution strategies and practice assertive communication. They also learn to advocate for an issue related to safety and injury prevention.

BUSINESS LITERACY

One of the biggest factors in a student's decision to dropout of high school stems from their inability to see how their education impacts their daily and future lives -- which is why employment literacy is a key component of our Upper School program. In 9th grade, students have direct instruction in business literacy, as well as the chance to meet various professionals from their community. This helps clarify the educational paths required for each profession, whether it be through community colleges, four-year colleges, or vocational programs. Business literacy skills learned include:

- Goal Development: management skills, such as the ability to independently plan, organize, create and execute; and how to set and recognize strategic goals to achieve success
- Communication: how to communicate in the digital age with future employers and coworkers; how to be a good listener; the impact of body language, eye contact, hand gestures, and tone of voice on the message you are trying to convey; and the difference between personal and professional voice
- Executive Functioning: soft skills, such as time management, organization, eye contact, using a firm handshake, listening, and using empathy to read people and situations, as well as how to adapt accordingly, build trust, and connect more effectively with others



Course Descriptions

- Technology: how to differentiate yourself as an employment candidate using technical skills, such as technical writing (including word processing and emailing), spreadsheeting and data analysis, web browsing, presentation skills, coding and programming and social media savviness
- Collaboration: how to assess and manage your own emotions, as well as build meaningful professional relationships, influence and motivate others, and foster trust and collaboration in the workplace

SPECIALS

Physical Education

Health-related fitness is a goal for all students. PE emphasizes knowledge, teamwork, cooperation, decision-making skills, sportsmanship, and leadership skills. Areas of study include: team and lifetime sports, cooperation activities, and physical fitness.

Family and Consumer Science

Students get hands-on farm-to-table experience by growing and harvesting crops, preparing food, and eating together in our state-of-the-art teaching kitchen. Students learn fine motor skills, planning, organizing, and measuring, along with nutrition and vital vocational skills.

Grade 9 students shine at The Quaker School at Horsham.



Come see for yourself! Contact us for more information or to schedule your visit.
admissions@quakerschool.org
215.674.2875, ext. 14