

**Ridgetown District High School**

**9 Harold Street N.**

**Ridgetown, ON**

**519-674-5449**

**Welcome to the Royal Family**

Every year we look forward to welcoming and meeting our new Royals. We hope that this welcome package will answer some frequently asked questions about the Grade 7 and 8 program at RDHS and provide you with important information for the upcoming school year.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**What are the advantages of attending Grade 7&8 at RDHS 7-12?**

* Our Grade 7 and 8 program provides opportunities that do not exist in K-8 schools. Our program focuses on preparing students for secondary school by instilling responsibility, self-advocacy and academic experiences that will give students skills to draw upon when they reach high school. We have unique opportunities which include physical education classes in the gym, use of the fitness room, technology shops, foods room, science labs, Eelŭnaapéewi Lahkéewiit room and a greenhouse. Curricular activities have also occurred in partnership with some of our secondary staff, which allows students to build relationships prior to their transition to the secondary panel.

**Where do I enter the school?**

* Grade 7 and 8 students enter the school through the back doors located on Harold Street across from the parking lot.

**When should I arrive at school?**

* Students who walk or are dropped off by a parent, can arrive at RDHS anytime after 9:05am.

**What time does school start?**

* Classes begin at 9:20am.

**What do I do if I am late?**

* All students arriving at school after the 9:20am bell need to enter the school at the main doors on Cecil Street and report to the office so that staff can verify safe arrival.

**Where do I put all my belongings?**

* You will have a locker that you will use to store all your things in. RDHS provides all students with a lock so that your belongings are secure.

**When do I find out who my teacher is?**

* This information is included in your report card package. Please know this classroom organization is based on current information. It may change if additional students enrol into or move from our school.

**I don’t know how to use a combination lock, and what if I forget my combination?**

* This is a very common concern! Don’t worry, teachers will show you how to use the locks and will be there to assist you. Our office has a record of combinations, so we can also help you if you forget it. The locks we have can also be opened with a key that staff members have if you are having difficulty with your lock. Locks are one of the things that we hear from students that they are most worried about. With a little practice it becomes easy very quickly, and there is always someone to help!

**Where are the washrooms?**

* Washrooms are located just across the hallway from the 7&8 classrooms. These washrooms are for Grade 7&8 student use only. We also have an all-gender washroom located at the end of the hallway.

**Can we leave at lunch? Will the cafeteria be open? Are there food days?**

* Students eat in the cafeteria. During the first break, students with permission from parents can leave school property to purchase food or go home to eat. Additionally, on occasion, RDHS offers food days as well.

**What is the timing of the day?**

* The daily schedule is very similar to what you are used to at NRPS. We have three instructional blocks and two nutrition breaks and recesses, 11:20am – 12:00pm and 1:40pm – 2:20pm. The school day begins at 9:20am and ends at 3:40pm.

**Where do I get picked up at if I am leaving school?**

* If you are being picked up after school by a parent, you will be meet them at the Harold Street doors where teachers dismiss their classes. If you are leaving school before the end of the day you will need to be picked up from the office via the front doors on Cecil Street.

**What if I have additional questions?**

* Please don’t hesitate to reach out to the school at anytime using the contact information on the first page.