

Blyth Academy – Academics

Parent Role

Parents play an important role in the academic success of their children. Blyth Academy has high expectations of its students, and consistent home support is essential. Parents are asked to ensure that their child:

- Is prepared for class with homework and assignments completed.
- Wears the proper school and PE uniform.
- Has adequate sleep to manage the school day effectively.
- Understands they are valued members of our school community.
- Knows that ideas and suggestions from home are welcome and appreciated.
- Receives consistent support from parents who maintain communication with the school and reinforce expectations at home.

Parent-teacher interviews may be requested by either party at any time. Parents are welcome to contact teachers or administration to arrange meetings as needed. Parental involvement is a vital part of student achievement.

Homework

Blyth Academy recognizes the need for a well-balanced approach to learning that allows time for academics, family, and personal development. Homework assignments are designed to reinforce classroom learning and develop good study habits while remaining manageable for each age group.

The length of time spent on homework will vary by student ability and grade level. Assignments should be completed independently, though parents are encouraged to monitor and provide support as appropriate. All homework must be submitted by the due date set by the teacher.

Typical Homework Expectations:

Kindergarten – Grade 3: 15 minutes

Grades 4 – 6: 30 minutes

Grades 7 – 9: 1 hour

High School: 1-2 hours

When no specific homework is assigned, students are encouraged to review notes, read, or work on upcoming projects. For further details, please refer to the Student Assessment and Evaluation Policy in the Blyth Academy School Policies Handbook.

Tests and Exams

Midterm and final examinations are scheduled for Junior High and High School students each semester. Exam timetables are published on the school website, and attendance is

mandatory. **A student who misses an exam due to illness must submit a doctor's certificate.** Failure to write an exam without valid documentation will be reflected on the progress report. Make-up exams are permitted only under exceptional circumstances, approved by administration.

Student Assessment and Evaluation

Assessment is a continuous process designed to measure progress, guide instruction, and improve student learning. Blyth Academy follows Alberta Education's Programs of Study and associated assessment standards. For details about grading, academic integrity, and reporting, please refer to the Student Assessment and Evaluation Policy in the School Policies Handbook.

Progress Reports

Students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 receive four formal progress reports each academic year:

1. October / November – Semester 1 Midterm Report
2. January – Semester 1 Final Report
3. April – Semester 2 Midterm Report
4. June – Semester 2 Final Report

Teachers also communicate regularly through Google Classroom, email, and scheduled parent meetings.

Alberta Education Graduation Requirements

To graduate with an Alberta High School Diploma, students must earn a minimum of 100 credits, including the following:

Compulsory Courses:

- English Language Arts 30-level
- Social Studies 30-level
- Mathematics 20-level
- Science 20-level
- Physical Education 10
- Career and Life Management (CALM 20)

Additional Credits (any combination from):

- Fine Arts
- Second Languages
- Physical Education 20 and/or 30
- Career and Technology Studies (CTS)
- 10 additional credits at the 30-level beyond English and Social Studies

Student Procedures for Ordering Official Transcripts and Diplomas

School Responsibilities:

1. Support students in setting up and using Alberta Education's MyPass account.
2. Provide report cards and unofficial transcripts upon request.
3. Schools cannot order official transcripts or diplomas on behalf of students.

Student Responsibilities:

1. Maintain an active MyPass account.
2. Order official transcripts and diplomas through MyPass.
3. Pay any fees related to document requests.
4. Ensure mailing addresses are current for accurate delivery.

Academic Accountability

As an Alberta Accredited International School, Blyth Academy participates in annual Alberta Education accountability surveys and diploma exam evaluations. Results guide school improvement planning and are reviewed with the School Advisory Council (SAC) and Alberta Education annually.

The Parent Satisfaction Survey, conducted by Alberta Education, gathers input from parents, students, and staff about the quality of education and school operations. Results are published on the Alberta Education website and shared with the SAC.

Guidance Counselor

The Guidance Counselor supports students in achieving their full potential—academically, emotionally, and socially. They collaborate with teachers and administration to ensure that every student receives appropriate support, encouragement, and access to necessary resources.

Services include:

- Individual and small-group counseling.
- Academic planning and post-secondary preparation.
- Leadership and character development.
- Referrals to external professionals when required.

Students and parents may request appointments at any time.

Field Trips and Athletic Events

Participation in school-organized trips, events, or athletic activities requires written parental consent. Students must return a signed permission slip prior to attending any off-campus activity.

For safety reasons:

- Students may not leave an athletic event, field trip, or off-site school activity on their own.
- Students must travel to and from events with the school group (e.g., on the bus) unless **written permission** from a parent has been approved by the Head of School or Athletics Director.
- Failure to comply with these expectations may result in disciplinary action or exclusion from future events.