

What to Know About Choosing Courses

FNESC and FNSA have created Career Journeys First Nations Career Role Model Resource Guides to raise awareness about career possibilities, and to show examples of how to navigate education and training pathways to those careers. See <http://www.fnesc.ca/careerjourneys-2/> for more information.

The courses your child takes in school are very important. Your child's choice of courses will impact their future options after high school – including their access to a range of jobs, training programs, and post-secondary opportunities.

Parents have the right to know what courses their children are taking and if those courses are going to be changed for any reason.

Remember:

- ▶ The courses children take in early grades affect which courses they are able to take later. When your children are still young, ask school staff if they are on track to take the right senior level courses.
- ▶ Your support at the high school level remains invaluable. Teens continue to need help from their parents as they navigate school and prepare for their next steps after graduation.
- ▶ Students must take specific courses in grades 10, 11, and 12 in order to receive the BC Certificate of Graduation, usually called the “Dogwood Diploma”.
- ▶ A Dogwood Diploma is the high school graduation certificate students receive if they complete all of the provincial graduation requirements. The Dogwood should be the goal for almost all students.
- ▶ Parents should regularly check whether their children are taking courses that will lead to the Dogwood Diploma.