

# ACADEMICS

Notre Dame is on a semester system for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Marks are cumulative from September until January for Semester 1, and from February to June for Semester 2. Students in Grade 8 rotate through 3 terms of elective courses in one semester. Band is a full-year course.

## Academic Distinction

There are currently three levels of academic recognition at Notre Dame:

1. **Principal's List** – Overall rating of 89.5% or higher
2. **First Honours** – Overall rating of 85.5% to 89.4%
3. **Second Honours** – Overall rating of 79.5% to 85.4%

All courses on a student's timetable factor into the calculation of averages.

Students in Grades 8-11, with a minimum GPA of 80%, who are in good standing with their teachers regarding homework, effort, and in-class behaviour, may be eligible to apply for the First KLaS (Know Love and Serve) Award, if they also meet the extracurricular and service criteria for this distinction.

## Report Cards and Parent-Teacher Interviews

Notre Dame's practice is in accordance with the Ministry of Education's policy framework on reporting (last updated: May 2022), which calls for 5 "Learning Updates" – 2 written, 2 in a flexible format (including, but not limited to, email and conferences), and 1 Summary of Learning.

Formal report cards will be issued four times a year, and accessible during the viewing period to students and parents via the MyEd online portal.

There is a Mid-Term Report in each semester, as well as a Final Report. If a student is not meeting course expectations, the subject teacher will issue an Interim before the Mid-Term.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are held once per semester via Zoom. Instructions on how to book appointments will be posted on the school website. Teachers and parents by mutual agreement may make other plans to discuss student progress at any point in the term.

## Academic Probation

Any student who fails two or more subjects in any report period will be placed on Academic Probation. While on probation, the student may be required to attend after school support classes. In some cases, he/she may temporarily or permanently lose the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities at school.

Any student who continues to fail two or more subjects in any ensuing report period may lose the privilege of attending Notre Dame and/or reregistering for the following year.

### **NDEC Policy re: Failure in Christian Education**

Any student who has an overall failure in Christian Education at the end of the school's academic year will, in most cases, not be permitted to return to Notre Dame in the following year.

### **Role of the Grade-Level Coordinator**

Grade-level coordinators (GLCs) support students in their day-to-day challenges related to all areas of school life, from relationships with peers, teachers, and family, to matters of personal mental and physical health, to discipline and general questions or concerns.

Accordingly, academics is a key area of focus. GLCs act as important and persistent advocates for student success – in working with teachers to keep individual learners on track, in connecting students with necessary supports (like Personal Counselling and Academic Advising, as well as outside resources), in keeping channels of communications open with families, and in giving context to any issues which may come before the Administration.