

# Steveston-London Secondary School Spectrum Program Application Package

Dear Applicant,

January 2021

Attached please find an application package for the **Spectrum Program of Enriched Studies for the 2021/22 school year**. This package contains a series of application forms that you will need to complete and submit to Steveston-London Secondary School on or before **Friday, February 19, 2021 at 3pm**. **Only COMPLETE applications will be considered**. Also included are some frequently asked questions about the Spectrum Program. Please complete the forms as carefully and accurately as possible, as the information requested here is an important part of the process for selecting successful candidates for this exciting learning opportunity.

Please review this package carefully and **make note of the due dates** for each phase of the application process.

## Spectrum Application Timeline

### **Student Application Package Due:**

**Fri., February 19, 2021**

Including the following items:

- Grade 7 Term 1 Assessment. Please see the application form for further details.
- Grade 6 Final Assessment. Please see the application form for further details.
- Photograph of the applicant with an accomplishment, and a brief written explanation
- Student Response Sheet
- Confidential Teacher Referral Form (Grade 7 teacher submits this directly to Steveston-London c/o Spectrum Admissions Process)
- Parent Nomination Form

### **Candidate Assessment of Skills**

**Wed., March 3, 2021**

Specific information about the time and location of the assessment is not available at this time, due to the uncertainty about future provincial health guidelines. Details will be communicated as soon as possible.

### **Candidate Interviews**

**Mon., April 12 to**

Interview dates and times for each student will be sent to elementary schools.

**Fri., April 16, 2021**

### **Offers of Admission sent**

**Mon., May 3, 2021**

Notification will be e-mailed home with acceptance contracts to be signed

**Acceptance Contracts returned to SLSS (by 3pm)**

**Due: Fri., May 7, 2021**

**The Spectrum Teaching Team looks forward to your application!**

**Steveston-London Spectrum Program of Enriched Studies**  
**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

**Please note: Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, some of the features of the program may need to be adjusted.**

**1. How many students do you accept?**

We enroll one full class of 29 students for each of grade 8, 9, and 10.

**2. How many students apply?**

There are, on average, 3 students applying for each opening in the program.

**3. What subjects do you take in Spectrum?**

You take Spectrum Math, Science, English and Social Studies on a linear schedule. This means you see each Spectrum teacher every other day, from September to June. The usual pattern is alternating e.g. Math one day, Science the next, with the schedule allowing for flexibility when it is advantageous. Your electives are taken with the rest of the school on the regular semester schedule. **IMPORTANT:** You may not take any of the Spectrum subjects (Math, Science, Socials, or English) for grades 8-10 outside of the Spectrum program. A student who has already taken Math 8 or Science 10, for example, is ineligible to apply for, or stay in, the Spectrum program.

**4. How is Spectrum different from other enriched classes?**

Some of the characteristics that make Spectrum different are the opportunities to participate in field experiences, to focus on leadership and teamwork skills, to serve the community, to pursue individual and mentor-led study, and to do all of this within a 'family' grouping. We also participate in outdoor education trips in grades 8 and 9, and in a major trip planned for the grade 10 year.

**5. So, how do I apply for the program?**

The first step is to fill out an application package to hand in to Steveston-London by the February 19, 2021 deadline.

Once the applications are received, they will be reviewed by the Spectrum teachers. Every student who hands in a complete application package must write the "Candidate Assessment of Skills" (2 hours). It is tentatively planned for Wednesday, March 3, 2021. Students will then interviewed between Monday, April 12 to Friday, April 16, 2021 (interview times for each student will be sent to elementary schools). The Spectrum teachers will then meet again to look at all of the information that has been collected to make final decisions. We may also make a waiting list of students who may be called in the summer and even up to September to fill an unexpected vacancy. The timeline of relevant dates is on the SLSS Spectrum website and the front cover of this application package.

**6. How do I know if I should apply?**

If you are interested in challenging yourself with a variety of activities, you have strong academic skills, and you enjoy working with others, you should apply.

**7. What kind of student are you looking for?**

Our website includes a "candidate profile" that describes the kind of student who would enjoy being part of the Spectrum Program.

**8. What if I do not live in the Steveston-London catchment area?**

In addition to submitting your application to the Spectrum Program, students living outside of the SLSS catchment must also submit a School Transfer form (RSB SA 23) to the School District. These forms are available in every school office. *Only students who have been accepted into SLSS via the district transfer process are considered for the Steveston-London Spectrum program.* This year, **School Transfer forms will be accepted starting February 8, 2021.** The sooner you submit these forms, the better. For a student to be included in the Spectrum application process, these forms need to be submitted by the District's Round 1 deadline: Friday, February 26, 2021.

**9. Are there any certifications I will need as a Spectrum 8 student?**

Yes! Every Spectrum 8 student must participate in our mandatory annual field experience at the Strathcona Outdoor Education Centre on Vancouver Island. To do so, according to School District policy, **every student must pass a Water Safe (formerly called Get Wet) swimming safety course.** *This requires some minimal swimming skills.* Every school year, the Spectrum Program organizes a Water Safe swimming course (one-day) for all Spectrum 8 students who don't already have certification. Once achieved, Water Safe certification is valid for five years.

# Spectrum 8 Application

This form should be completed by a parent or guardian of the applicant. Please print this document and submit it to the SLSS office.

Current school: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note: Students living outside of the SLSS catchment area must also submit a School Transfer form (RSB SA 23) available at every school office. Only students who have been accepted into the school via the district transfer process are considered for the Spectrum program. This year, School Transfer forms will be accepted starting February 8, 2021. The sooner you submit these forms, the better. For a student to be included in the Spectrum application process, these forms need to be submitted by the District's Round 1 deadline: Friday, February 26, 2021.**

**To be eligible for acceptance into, or to remain in the program, you may not take any of the Spectrum course subjects (Math, Science, Socials or English) outside of the program, at any of the Spectrum grade levels (8-10).**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_ Current grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
(month) (day) (year)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) or Guardian(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
(home) (work) (cell/other)

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(This address will be used to communicate the results of the application)

## **Attachments**

**Please complete the following section, and attach the documents described to this form.**

- 1. Please attach a photograph of the student holding a certificate, medal, trophy, school assignment or other accomplishment** of which the student is particularly proud. The student should also write a brief (one or two sentences) **description of the accomplishment** with the photograph.

## 2. **Grade 7 Term 1 Assessment**

I received information about my child's Grade 7 Term 1 learning (check only one):

A. \_\_\_\_\_ by Report Card

**Please attach a copy of the Grade 7 Term 1 report card to this form.**

OR

B. \_\_\_\_\_ on-line continuously by E-Portfolio

As the parent/guardian, I give permission for Spectrum Program administrators at Steveston-London Secondary School to be given access to this applicant's E-Portfolio between March 9 and May 3, 2021.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note that we consider E-Portfolios to be a very valuable method of assessment and reporting, of equal validity to report cards. No applicant will be at a disadvantage because they have either an E-Portfolio or a report card.**

Name of your child's grade 7 teacher(s): \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. **Grade 6 Final Assessment**

I received the final assessment report about my child's learning in Grade 6 (check only one):

A. \_\_\_\_\_ by Report Card

**Please attach a copy of the final Grade 6 report card to this form.**

OR

B. \_\_\_\_\_ on-line through an E-Portfolio

As the parent/guardian, I give permission for Spectrum Program administrators at Steveston-London Secondary School to be given access to this applicant's E-Portfolio between March 9 and May 3, 2021.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note that we consider E-Portfolios to be a very valuable method of assessment and reporting, of equal validity to report cards. No applicant will be at a disadvantage because they have either an E-Portfolio or a report card.**

Name of your child's Grade 6 School: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of your child's Grade 6 teacher(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Applicant,

We would like to know a little bit about you and your reasons for expressing an interest in the Spectrum Program of Enriched Studies. Please take a few minutes to read and reflect upon the questions listed below and write your responses in the space provided. All responses should be in **sentence form** and should be **handwritten** by the student applicant.

1. Tell us about your areas of interest, hobbies and extra-curricular activities.
2. What do you think are your greatest strengths as a person?
3. What do you think are some things you need to work on as a person?
4. How do you hope Spectrum will be different from a regular high school program?
5. Think of a recent endeavor of which you are especially proud. Explain why you feel this way.
6. Think of something you tried recently that resulted in disappointment. Why? How did you deal with it?
7. What is your favourite school subject and why?

Parent Nomination Form - To be completed by the parent or guardian of the applicant.

Steveston-London Secondary School  
**Parent Nomination Form**  
**Spectrum Program**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

As part of your child's application for the Spectrum Program of Enriched Studies, we would like to ask that you assist us by providing a profile of your child. Please take a few minutes to read and reflect upon the questions listed below and write your responses in the space provided.

1. Please describe the specific behaviours and attributes that you feel make your child a good candidate for the Spectrum Program of Enriched Studies.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Putting aside Spectrum for the moment, the transition from elementary to secondary encompasses many changes for students and their families. How do you feel your child will adjust to these changes?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Spectrum represents a heightened commitment within the parent - student - teacher relationship. How do you see yourself supporting this program?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Steveston-London Secondary School

## Confidential

# Teacher Referral Form

## Spectrum Application

The input you provide is very important in the placement decision for this student. This information is completely CONFIDENTIAL and must be returned the Steveston-London Secondary by inter-school mail, fax or e-mail to atovey@sd38.bc.ca on Outlook. **DO NOT RETURN OR SHOW THIS FORM TO THE STUDENT OR PARENTS.**

This a referral form for (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ in grade \_\_\_\_\_

at (School) \_\_\_\_\_ who is being considered for the

**Spectrum Program of Enriched Studies.** My referral is based upon my direct observation of the characteristics and behaviours of the student applicant.

### Section 1

In this section, please circle the number on the 5-point scale you think best indicates the degree to which that characteristic or behaviour is demonstrated by the student. (0 = not at all; 5 = all the time)

#### **Learning Personality**

Self-motivated	0	1	2	3	4	5	
Independent learner	0	1	2	3	4	5	
Seeks new challenges; takes risks	0	1	2	3	4	5	Total=
Enthusiastic	0	1	2	3	4	5	/25
Curious about many topics	0	1	2	3	4	5	

Further Comments (Optional):

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#### **Academic Strength**

Offers unique, complex or unusual ideas	0	1	2	3	4	5	
Learns content quickly	0	1	2	3	4	5	
Retains content well	0	1	2	3	4	5	Total=
Strong communicator	0	1	2	3	4	5	/25
Strong problem-solver	0	1	2	3	4	5	



**Academic Strength**

Further Comments (Optional):

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**Community Building Skills**

Contributes significantly to groups	0	1	2	3	4	5	
Open-minded to new ideas	0	1	2	3	4	5	
Makes an effort to build connections	0	1	2	3	4	5	Total=
Respects differences	0	1	2	3	4	5	/25
Supports the best in others	0	1	2	3	4	5	

Further Comments (Optional):

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**Personal Responsibility**

Accepts responsibility	0	1	2	3	4	5	
Behaves with maturity	0	1	2	3	4	5	
Sets high goals and standards	0	1	2	3	4	5	Total=
Stays on task	0	1	2	3	4	5	/25
Well-organized	0	1	2	3	4	5	

Further Comments (Optional):

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**SECTION 1 TOTAL = /100**

**Section 2**

Do you know of any ongoing issue (academic, behavioural, etc.) that might make this student a poor fit for, or present challenges within, the Spectrum Program? If so, please explain. (Please keep in mind this is totally confidential.)

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**Section 3**

I recommend this pupil to the Spectrum Program. (Please circle the appropriate term below.)

Disagree                      Agree

Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_  
(Referring Teacher)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Referring Teacher)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**Please forward completed forms by Friday, Feb. 19, 2021 to:**

Spectrum Program  
c/o Spectrum Application Process  
Steveston-London Secondary School  
6600 Williams Road  
Richmond, B.C., V7E 1K5  
FAX: 604-668-6672  
Email: atovey@sd38.bc.ca