



# Welcome to Grades 10 to 12



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## Welcome

The personalized and flexible grade 10-12 program at SelfDesign® Learning Community offers a new comprehensive approach to high school that is fully theme and relationship-based and is aligned with the B.C. Ministry of Education curriculum.

The philosophy of SelfDesign is woven through the program's foundation to support a personalized way of learning where the learner is always at centre.

Grade 10 to 12 learners can meet all the requirements they need to get their B.C. Certificate of Graduation (*Dogwood Diploma*), Adult Graduation Diploma, or School Completion ("*Evergreen*") Certificate.



# Themes

Because the learner is always at the centre of their learning journey, their interests and passions are, too. Courses are grouped and integrated into a theme such as travel and adventure, storytelling, entrepreneurship, or STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math). For example, if a learner loves photography, they'll move through the program taking integrated courses that support the growth of their competencies, academic skills, and more through the personalized lens of photography.



# Relationships

Grades 10-12 learners have the opportunity to interact with other youths who have chosen the same theme. There is a weekly theme meeting, where learners can participate in group-building experiences and interact with their peers online through video conferencing tools.

There are also two online Learner Showcases as well as a variety of other real-time opportunities to connect throughout the year. These are optional and any level of participation is acceptable.

Opportunities exist for learners to build relationship through common goals and interest through the avenue of Learner Council, GSA (Gender Sexual Orientation Alliance) and Open Spaces.



# Observing for Learning

At Self Design Learning Community, our B.C. certified educators (or learning consultants) participate in ongoing weekly conversations with families and learners. We call this type of communication and dialogue “Observing for Learning”.

In grades 10-12 SelfDesign learners collaborate directly with their learning consultant in the Observing for Learning process, with parent or educational assistant support as needed. This fosters and allows the learner to form a deepened awareness of their own integrated learning, goals, interests and skills related to learning to learn such as time management, flexible thinking, and organizational skills.

“ I find with SelfDesign I can learn at my own pace while expanding my knowledge of subjects I may not explore on my own.

- SelfDesign Learner



## A Personalized Journey

Throughout the learning journey at SelfDesign, there is a strong emphasis on creating space for children and youth to step forward onto their own unique learning path. In grades 10-12 learners will encounter a myriad of opportunities in which to truly tailor their learning experience based on what is important to them. All learner goals are valued at SelfDesign.

## What motivates you?

All motivations are valued and respected at SelfDesign.



I am open to learning new things and being surprised by my discoveries. I love to learn!

It's important to me that I can personalize my learning as I have many specific interests.

I have a clear picture of what I would like for the future.

School doesn't interest me as much as other things. I just want to finish up highschool.

My final grades are important to me and I have high expectations of myself.

# Learning at home, online, and in your community

We provide learners with digital technologies and resources to complement their real-world learning. This includes access to subscriptions such as Discovery Education and BrainPop, which we provide free of charge.

Learners will have the option to access to real-time online connections with their peers and B.C. certified educators using web conferencing technology. They also work with their educators on our digital learning platform for communication, as well as access resources and extend their learning through the SelfDesign Learning Experiences Library.

The SelfDesign Learning Experiences Library is a dynamic collection of resources, questions, suggestions and inspirations sparked by the curiosity of our learners and offered in integrated interest-based experiences.

We also support learning through relationships and in the community by providing various optional group learning opportunities and in-person events such as:

- Online workshops for grades 6 to 12
- Online forums for learners and parents
- Seasonal, fun-filled in-person camp opportunities for grades 9 to 12, when offered
- Opportunities for families and youth who identify as Indigenous to be in community with one another
- Opportunities to explore and connect with learners with common interests



## Our B.C. certified educators

Learners choose from one of nearly 170 B.C. certified educators who guide learning in your home environment. They work with you and the learner, one-on-one, to co-create individualized goals, interacting on a weekly basis with curiosity and inspiration. They provide direction and resources to the learner while validating learning for academic credit.

The role of the educator evolves as the learner develops, from providing direct educational support for parents of younger learners to being a mentor and guide for youth as they enact their personalized learning.

## Learning consultant

The learning consultant is the learner's support and guide as they complete their Career Life Courses. Learners connect with them weekly. The structure of communication is the Observing for Learning process (outlined above). The learning consultant supports the learner in developing and achieving personal goals. They'll also support learners in organizing and managing their time, reflecting and responding to guiding questions, building two personal projects, guiding them through theme selection and course registration and will share in the assessment of learning portfolios with the learning specialist on a seasonal basis.

## Learning specialist

The learning specialist is the learner's theme or course facilitator. Learners also connect with them weekly. They facilitate real-time meetings and have office hours where they can meet them one-to-one or in a small group. They guide learners through course competencies and content, and support artifact creation. They comment on and assess your learning artifacts weekly, and support and assess the development of a learning portfolio.

## Additional educators

Learners may be supported by additional support providers such as an educational assistant or tutor, who may connect with their learning consultant and learning specialist to support them.

## Other learners

Learners have the opportunity to join peers in weekly real-time meetings in the themes, learning consultant-hosted group video chats, seasonal Learner Showcase celebrations, discussion forums and other online interactions, participate in shared interest groups such as learner council, Gender-Sexuality Alliance (GSA) club, or Open Spaces and take part in live camps and gatherings across the province, when offered. All of these are highly encouraged, but learners can find ways to connect that feel most comfortable to them!

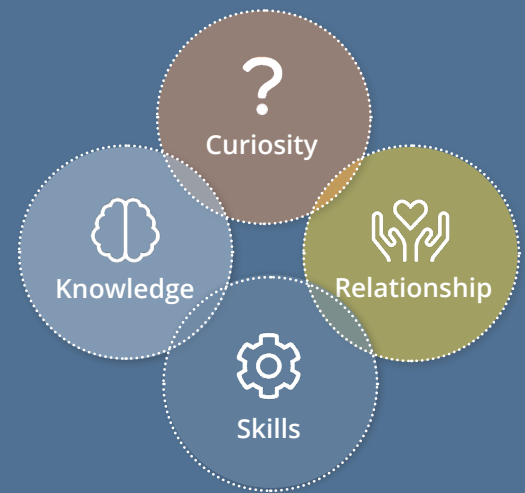
There are also ongoing learner call-outs for newspaper submissions, photography collections and learner contributions to various fun projects and offerings.



# Program goals

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- Inspire learners to be excited and curious.
- Assess and grow core skills at the grade 10-12 level.
- Support knowledge growth rooted in critical thought.
- Learn in relationship.
- Support learners to be prepared for and curious about future possibilities.
- Develop and curate a learning portfolio that demonstrates competency and personalization in various course subjects.



*I am open to learning new things and being surprised by my discoveries. I love to learn!*

Learner motivation

# Program overview

From kindergarten to Grade 5, learners are supported to follow their curiosity and to grow skills and knowledge organically. In grades 6 to 9, learners have opportunities to connect with peers, a new mentor in the themes and circles, and some grade-level curricular content to begin growing their skills as independent learners.



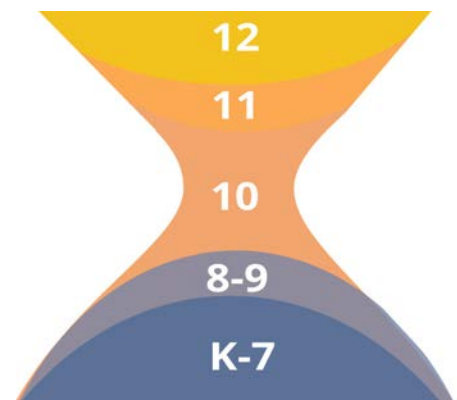
## GRADE 10

The Grade 10 foundational program is learning through relationship (learning consultant + learning specialist + peers) with two themes of interest explored through integrated courses over the year. The Grade 10 program supports learners to meet their future goals with core skill development essential to learner success in future grades.

## GRADE 11

In Grade 11, learners have opportunities to expand their integrated and non-integrated course options, with their well-established Grade 10 foundations supporting them.

Learners are also supported in exploring a greater number of theme and elective options, advancing their critical thinking and applied skills as they work steadily toward their future goals.



## GRADE 12

Grade 12 is a culminating gesture of expanding skills and is a progression of our SelfDesign program in K-9 and grades 10 and 11.

In Grade 12, learners will apply your advanced organizational and content-based skills to meet personal goals. Learners are supported through relationships with educators to set objectives, grow, and skillfully demonstrate their depth of knowledge as they prepare to meet their future goals.

# Overview

Imagine a high school program where learners can focus on what they care about, get the support of dedicated educators, and explore a wide range of interests. This is what the SelfDesign Learning Community is all about.



## What to expect in grades 10-12

- ✓ Courses are grouped and integrated into interest-based themes, with optional additional courses of the learner's choice.
- ✓ Advanced courses are focused on specialization in science, math, and humanities.
- ✓ 20-plus hours of course-based learning take place each week, including 17-plus hours of coursework, one hour of weekly connection with a learning consultant, and two hours of connection with a learning specialist who shares the learner's interests.
- ✓ Opportunities to personalize to suit the learner's interests and goals with the ongoing support from a dedicated learning consultant.
- ✓ Creation of two Personal Projects each year - passion-led projects with the learner's own personal interest as the focus.
- ✓ Possibilities to participate in camps throughout the province throughout the year, when offered.
- ✓ Opportunities to connect with peers through group-based learning, various interest groups and online live offerings
- ✓ (Grade 12) Learners create a capstone project, a year-long personal project about the learner's interests, where they really get to shine!
- ✓ (Grade 12) Year-end commencement celebration marks learners' achievements and Digital Commencement Scrapbook!

# WHAT TO EXPECT IN GRADES 10-12

## 6+

COURSES



## 2

THEMES



## 20+

 HOURS  
per week



- 15-18+ hrs course work
- **Connect** with your LS +LC
- **Connect** with peers in your theme class (optional)



### OBSERVING FOR LEARNING

Weekly connection with your learning consultant



### LEARNER RESPONSIBILITIES:



Learn how to make your thinking visible.



Engage with books videos, articles and activities  
- amazing and relevant resources at your fingertips



Build a foundation for interest based personal  
challenge projects.



Complete challenges that co-inspire and support development  
of the skills you need.



Curation of a learning portfolio

### CONTENT

Be responsible for real-time weekly meeting, either through participation (highly encouraged) or through other online engagement opportunities such as discussion forums.

# Pathways to completion

We offer several pathways for learners to achieve their learning goals – the B.C. Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma), the Adult Graduation Diploma (Adult Dogwood Diploma) and the School Completion (Evergreen) Certificate. Decisions about which [pathway to completion](#) is appropriate for your learner are supported by your learning consultant, unique learning team and our Support Services and Guidance teams.



“ *SelfDesign has offered me a new and effective way to approach learning. It has taken education from the hands of the teachers to the motivation of the learners.*

- SelfDesign Learner



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