

PLANNING FOR A 5TH YEAR: COURSE SELECTIONS **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Common reasons to take a 5th year:

- Finishing the last credits needed to graduate from high school
- Upgrading marks required for college or university admission
- Changing an Individual Pathway Plan for a career and needing to take required courses for a newly discovered career interest
- Wanting to take Coop to try out a career choice in a work placement before heading to further schooling, an apprenticeship or work
- Feeling like you are not ready to leave high school yet
- Taking time to explore other courses that you have not been able to take up to this point

1. How do I indicate that I want to return for a 5th year?

- Simply add in courses into [myBlueprint](#) and that indicates that you want to return to PHS

2. How many credits can I take in my 5th year?

If you are a Graduate:

- you are allowed to return for a maximum of 4 credits in your fifth school year. The exception to this rule is if you have an Individual Education Plan which may allow you to go over the **34 credit maximum**.
- If you have changed your pathway plan and need to return for specific courses that are prerequisites asked for by a post-secondary institution, discuss your plan with your guidance counsellor.
- **As a graduate you are eligible to be a Part-Time Student** when you return to PHS. This means you can return and have only 1 credit in your timetable, 2 credits, 3 credits or up to 4 credits in your timetable. It is your choice.

If you are not a Graduate yet - you have 29 credits or less in June:

- You will be required to take at least 3 credits in your first semester. You must be a full time student until you have earned 30 credits.

3. How can I indicate that I only want to return for 1 semester, not both semesters?

- In the myBlueprint High School Plan you can add in the course code "S1ONL" (under the unlisted course codes) which will tell your guidance counsellor that you only plan to return for 1 semester.
- NOTE: Sometimes the courses that you want to take may fall in Semester 2, in August you will have a conversation with your guidance counsellor about where the courses are in the timetable to determine your school schedule.

4. How do I show that I want a spare?

- Simply by putting in less than four courses in *myBlueprint*, shows that you want a spare. There is no code to add to myBlueprint to show you want a spare; it is the total number of credits you choose that tells your guidance counsellor that you intend on taking 1 spare.

5. Should I add in courses at PHS (on *myBlueprint*) while I wait for a college or university acceptance?

- If you plan to say YES IF you get an offer to one of the programs that you applied for in post-secondary school, then NO do not put in a course selection at PHS in February. Wait until you make a decision on post-secondary school.
- If you end up deciding not to go to a post-secondary school, there will be time in June to tell you guidance counsellor that you have decided to return to PHS and together you can complete the course selections.

6. I am in Grade 12 and I know that I am NOT staying for a 5th year, how do I tell my guidance counsellor that I am NOT RETURNING TO PHS?

- During Course Selection Week, go on myBlueprint, click on the High School Planner and click Not Returning for next year. It asks you to indicate your pathway plan to say what you will be doing in September