

North Peace Secondary School Senior Alternate Program (2026 - 2027)

Application Package

Contact Information

9304 86th Street
Fort St. John, B.C.
V1J 6L9

(250) 785-4429

Submit your application to Brenda Birley at NPSS:

- digitally by sharing it with bbirley@prn.bc.ca
- or physically by dropping it off at the office for Brenda

If you have any questions, contact Brenda at extension **335**

Teachers:

Mark Giesbrecht Extension 345 mgiesbrecht@prn.bc.ca	Tyler Mika Extension 340 tmika@prn.bc.ca	Christopher Neufeldt Extension 224 cneufeldt@prn.bc.ca
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Philosophy

The Senior Alternate program supports diverse students aged 15–19 who are experiencing social, emotional, and/or behavioral challenges. It focuses on building resilience, confidence, and life skills to help students successfully transition to graduation, employment, trades, apprenticeships, or post-secondary education. Participation in the program does not negatively impact a student's school record.

Program Goals

- Provide flexible, caring support for students' social, emotional, behavioral, and academic needs
- Help students build self-awareness, confidence, and personal growth
- Support positive pathways to graduation (BC Dogwood graduation or Adult graduation), further education, or employment
- Encourage resilience through strong, lasting relationships in school and the community

Program Objectives

- Build self-awareness, resilience, and empathy
- Support social, emotional, and behavioral well-being, including self-regulation and positive decision-making
- Develop healthy relationships and strong work habits
- Provide flexible, individualized learning to help students achieve their academic goals

Program Components

The program offers:

- Required academic courses toward the BC Dogwood Diploma, along with a selection of electives
- Options for students to also take courses through mainstream classes, work experience, apprenticeship, or dual credit programs, and online learning during supported tutorial time
- Smaller classes paced to meet individual needs, with flexible scheduling, academic support, and opportunities to build community through group activities
- A dedicated Social/Emotional Learning Support teacher and Youth Support Workers who provide additional support, including emotional guidance, advocacy, and connections to community resources, as well as access to nutrition programs.

Program Prerequisites

The Alternate Education candidate should:

- Be 15-19 years of age;
- Have a documented history of social, emotional, and/or behavior difficulties that have interfered with normal school progress and for which intensive intervention is required
- Be involved with or be willing to be referred (as needed) to agencies or organizations that specialize in particular areas of need, such as:
 - Saplings
 - Community Bridge
 - Youth/Adult Mental Health
 - Child and Youth Mental Health
 - Ministry of Children and Family Development.
- Be willing to examine and improve social, emotional, and behavioral aspects of self
- Be willing, motivated, and desirous of the placement
- Sign a performance contract upon entry, which articulates academic and behavioral expectations

Referral and Admission Process

- Referrals may come from parents/guardians, students, school staff, counselors, or outside agencies
- A completed application and recommendation form (from a school or agency professional) is required
- Applications must be submitted before the school-based team reviews for placement
- An intake interview is held with the student and their parent/guardian or a trusted adult/support person (e.g., caregiver, social worker, or advocate), along with the program team
- The school-based team reviews each application and determines placement or waitlist status
- Students and their parent/guardian or support person are informed of the decision and, if needed, supported in exploring other options

SENIOR ALTERNATE PROGRAM APPLICATION
North Peace Secondary School

A. Student Information

Student Name	
Date of Birth	
Current Address	
Name of Parent/Guardian	
Parent/Guardian Phone	
Parent/Guardian Email	
Student Phone	
Student Email	
Who recommended you to the program?	
Who helped you complete this form?	
Date	

Are you currently living with the parent or guardian listed above?

- Yes
- No

Have you ever received academic help from the Learning Assistants in the schools you attended?

- Yes
- No

B. Health

In general, your health is

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Not Very Good

How often are you involved with the use of drugs for recreational purposes?

(be honest, the question is not meant for discipline purposes)

- Every day
- Two or three times per week
- On weekends
- Not Very Good
- Never

Do you have any allergies or medical concerns?

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Do you have a diagnosis or any medical concerns we should know about?

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I am currently pregnant:

- Yes
- No

C. School History

Last School Attended	
School Year	
Location of the School	
Last Grade Completed	
Reason for Leaving	

Problems you have had in school include (check all that apply):		
<input type="checkbox"/> history of failing <input type="checkbox"/> hassles with teachers <input type="checkbox"/> hassles with students <input type="checkbox"/> switched schools often	<input type="checkbox"/> work was too easy <input type="checkbox"/> work was too difficult <input type="checkbox"/> was not interesting <input type="checkbox"/> skipping classes <input type="checkbox"/> sensory challenges	<input type="checkbox"/> parents didn't care <input type="checkbox"/> drugs and/or alcohol <input type="checkbox"/> couldn't follow the rules <input type="checkbox"/> class size was too large
Other?		

D. Family Background

Mother/Guardian Name	Occupation	Work Number
Father/Guardian Name	Occupation	Work Number

Describe your current living situation (ie., who you live with, brothers and/or sisters, whether you are okay living there)

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If you could change things at home to make it a better place to live what would you do?

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E. Outside Agency Involvement

Are you currently involved with an outside agency?	
If yes, what agency?	
Name of the person you connect with?	

F. Learning Plan

The main focus of the North Peace Secondary Senior Alternate Program is to provide a supportive environment that allows you to meet your social, emotional, behavioral, and academic goals. Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability and as honestly as you can.

What are your personal and social strengths?

What are your educational strengths?

What are your personal interests?

What are your educational interests?

What is something you are proud of?

What is challenging to you personally and/or socially?

What is challenging at school?

Who supports you outside of school?

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Who supports you within the school?

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What do you need to help navigate challenges outside of school?

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What do you need to help navigate challenges within the school?

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If there were no expectations or barriers and you could do anything, what would that look like for you?

Now	
In 2 years	
In 10 years	

What are 3 goals that you have, or would like to achieve, in the following areas?

Personal Goal	
Social Goal	
Academic Goal	