

LEAP DAYS learning, exploration, and projects

As the needs of the world evolve, schools must reach beyond traditional learning and develop strategies that promote autonomy, critical thinking, research, and creativity. LEAP Days have been designed to teach our students to thrive – not in yesterday’s world, but in our current and future one. The schedule combines coursework and advisory with opportunities to develop through constructive adversity. As students move through the upper school, they progressively gain autonomy to devote towards their passions and build a unique and powerful story for college admissions. LEAP Days provide skills and confidence to ensure our students are successful beyond Wellington.

Morning Sessions

Freshman Survey 9	Global Engagement 10	Advisory
Wonderlab 11	College Counseling	

FRESHMAN SURVEY 9

This freshman course helps students develop the fundamental intellectual and learning tools to perform at their peak academically in Wellington’s diverse and challenging curriculum. Students explore and evaluate their skills related to executive functioning and make reasoned and researched goals for their future. Combined with a robust advisory program that focuses on each student’s social-emotional wellness, this course provides students with support as they make the leap into the upper school.

PREREQUISITE: 9th Grade

COURSE DURATION: LEAP Days

COURSE CREDIT: 1/3 Credit

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Tenth grade students take this course in preparation for their travels abroad during 11th grade as part of the Wellington International Student Experience. They work to develop an understanding of the logistical and intellectual preparation involved in successful global travel, build intercultural communication skills, and investigate contemporary global issues and how they connect to local realities. Readings and discussions, group activities, and live and virtual guest speakers help students begin to develop their projects exploring stewardship and sustainability; human rights and conflict prevention; identity, interculturality and well-being; and innovative and social entrepreneurship.

PREREQUISITE: 10th Grade

COURSE DURATION: LEAP Days

COURSE CREDIT: 1/3 Credit

WONDERLAB

Wonderlab is a research and creative works incubator that supports student projects. In this course, students are encouraged to follow their passions and develop products that provide solutions to problems, answers to questions, and purpose to inspiration. Wonderlab helps students define areas of study, then introduces tools to navigate and execute complex and collaborative projects. This course serves as a catalyst for Senior Independent Projects, Independent Science Research, Independent Humanities Research, and Advanced Studio.

PREREQUISITE: 11th Grade

COURSE DURATION: LEAP Days

COURSE CREDIT: 1/3 Credit

Afternoon Sessions

Wonderlab: Research opportunities, internships, student-led projects, art creation, independent studies, etc.

Engagement: Faculty office hours, math and science labs, writing workshops, college counseling, etc.

Community: Advisory, student clubs, Blue Notes, service programs, group studies, senior buddies, etc.

Scheduled Events: School concerts, school events, guest speakers, fieldtrips, PSAT, etc.

UPPER SCHOOL SCHEDULE

In 2015 Wellington Upper School transitioned to a new schedule to enhance educational opportunity and increase student engagement. Based on best practices research, the schedule is designed to have longer class blocks, fewer transitions, a later start to the academic day, and increased flex time.

	8–8:30 <i>Attendance at 8:30</i>	8:30–8:45	8:50–10:10	10:10–10:20	10:20–11:40	11:40–11:50	11:50–1:10	1:10–2:10*	2:10–3:30
A	Flex/Clubs	Morning Meeting	Period 1	Break	Period 2	Break	Period 3	Lunch/Break	Period 4
B	Flex/Clubs	Morning Meeting	Period 5	Break	Period 6	Break	Period 7	Lunch/Break	Period 8