

LATE FRENCH IMMERSION

TO REGISTER:

Call Armstrong's office during the month of February to arrange for a quick registration appointment.

Any Grade 5 student may register to start the program in Grade 6.

All students registered in February have first priority. If needed, a lottery will be held to determine successful applicants.

Given your current school, you are most likely in Armstrong and Cariboo Hill's catchment. Find your catchment at www.sd41.bc.ca/french or see the map on the reverse.

Late French Immersion is also offered at Capitol Hill and Marlborough Elementary Schools. Alpha and Moscrop Secondary Schools also continue the Grades 8–12 French Immersion program.

WHAT IS LATE FRENCH IMMERSION?

Late French Immersion is an exciting opportunity for students to learn the French language by studying all or most subjects in French, beginning in Grade 6, and continuing through to Grade 12.

In Grade 6, there is a strong emphasis on language acquisition, particularly in first term. Work habits and motivation to learn a new language may impact feelings of success in the first few months. During the remainder of the year, the Grade 6 curriculum is followed for all subjects. English may be used at the outset to establish routines. After this, instruction is in French, and English is used for exceptional circumstances.

In the Grade 7 year of Late French Immersion, 80 % of subjects continue to be taught in French, while 20% of subjects are taught in English.

In Secondary School, more courses are taught in English as the years pass, with a variety of academic subjects taught in each language. All Late French Immersion students (those who began in Grade 6), and Early Immersion students (those who began in Kindergarten), enter the Secondary French Immersion program in Grade 8 at Cariboo Hill Secondary.

COMMON QUESTIONS

Is it necessary for my child to know some French before enrolling?

No. Students are not required to have any background in French prior to entering.

How can I help my child with schoolwork if I don't speak French?

You may not be able to help with specific content, but you can provide guidance and support. The program is designed for families who do not speak French. All formal communication with parents, including report cards, is done in English.

Will my child learn the same things as students in English classes?

Yes. The curriculum is the same in both languages, except that French language learning is integrated throughout the French Immersion program.

What about English language skill development?

An increasing number of courses are taught in English from grades 7 to 12, with a majority of courses in English by grade 11.

WHY LEARN FRENCH THROUGH IMMERSION?

- ◇ Quickly progress past the basics, developing significant communication skills which can be applied to any subject.
- ◇ After English, French is the most frequently learned second or foreign language worldwide. It is the official language of more than 33 countries and is the only language other than English to be spoken on five continents.
- ◇ Immersion students learn a third or fourth language much more easily.
- ◇ The brain adapts to develop new skills, helping students become more flexible and creative thinkers.
- ◇ Immersion students gain access to a larger pool of information and to more educational and career opportunities.
- ◇ Knowledge of one's first language is enhanced.
- ◇ Students are able to view the world from a different cultural and linguistic perspective.
- ◇ Travel, literature, art, music and theatre experiences open new cultural worlds to students.