

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is my child a good candidate for French Immersion?

Your child should:

- have good oral skills
- have good auditory skills
- follow instructions well.

Will my child be bilingual?

By the end of their secondary school studies, students who do well in the program will be able to communicate competently in oral and written French.

How can I support my child even if I don't speak French?

Many parents of French Immersion students have few or no French Language skills.

Regardless, you can:

- read to your child regularly
- have your child read to you in both languages
- continue to communicate regularly in your first language
- help your child develop a solid knowledge of sounds, vocabulary and mathematical concepts
- invest in a good French/English dictionary and a book of verbs
- have your child explain homework and share what he or she has learned
- expose your child to French outside of school (books from the library, theatre, T.V., etc.)
- consider taking a French course for adults
- volunteer in the classroom
- support Canadian Parents for French (www.cpfont.on.ca).

Will my child's English skills be affected?

Research shows that bilingual children are flexible thinkers and have a well-developed sense of language. Beginning in Grade 3, your child will receive formal English Language instruction for 20% of the day. Your child should leave elementary school with a thorough rounding in both languages.

What if my child is experiencing difficulties in French Immersion?

Since students learn at their own pace and in their own way, you can:

- encourage your child to approach the teacher for help
- consult the teacher on a regular basis to discuss progress and remedial strategies
- consider tutoring.

The French Immersion program is open to all, however, some students may experience difficulty. The school may suggest that your child would be more successful in an English program where the focus is on one language.

How will my child benefit?

There are many benefits to learning a second language such as:

- a deeper understanding of various languages and cultures
- enhanced creativity and problem solving ability
- a facility for learning other languages
- a greater range of career options
- enriched travel experiences, in Canada and abroad.

For more information, contact the Principal of Program at 519-941-6191.

FRENCH IMMERSION IN THE UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



Preparing children for the future

Meeting diverse needs

*An experience which
will last a lifetime!*

The Program

French Immersion is an optional program designed to provide students with opportunities to acquire a high level of proficiency in French and at the same time maintain and develop English language skills. French will be the language of instruction in the classroom and students are expected to attempt to use French whenever possible. Both the French Immersion and the English programs follow the expectations set out in the Ontario Curriculum (www.edu.gov.on.ca). The difference between the two programs is the language of instruction.

Admission to French Immersion

The French Immersion program begins in Kindergarten and is available to any student in the Upper Grand District School Board. Admission to the program in subsequent grades is available only to students from other jurisdictions with an Early Immersion program or to those students who have a comparable proficiency in the French language.

Registration

French Immersion Kindergarten registration coincides with the regular English Kindergarten registration. Parents interested in enrolling their child in the Immersion program should contact their neighbourhood school. Dates for Kindergarten registration and Immersion Information Nights will be publicized in local newspapers and school newsletters well in advance.

Time Allocation

Panel	Grade	Instructional Time in French %
Elementary	K	100
	1	100
	2	100
	3	80
	4	80
	5	75
	6	70
	7	40
	8	40
Secondary	<p>A French Immersion certificate is used by the Upper Grand District School Board upon successful completion of ten Ontario Secondary School Credit Courses: four French language courses and six other courses conducted in the French language.</p> <p>Schools may grant a certificate in Extended French if the student has successfully completed the sequence of four courses in Extended French and a minimum of three courses in other subjects taught in French.</p> <p><i>(Ministry of Education, 1999, 2000)</i></p>	

French Immersion Sites

Elementary French Immersion Schools	Phone:	Level:
Brisbane P.S. RR2 9426 Wellington Rd. 124 Erin N0B 1T0	519 833-9621	K - 6
Edward Johnson P.S. 397 Stevenson Street North Guelph N1E 5C1	519 763-7374	K - 6
Erin P.S. 185 Daniel Street Erin N0B 1T0	519 833-9685	7 - 8
J.D. Hogarth PS 360 Belsyde Street East Fergus N1M 1Z5	519 787-0151	5 - 8
James McQueen P.S. 365 St. George Street West Fergus N1M 1J4	519 843-1700	K - 4
John McCrae P.S. 189 Water Street Guelph N1G 1B3	519 824-0028	K - 6
King George P.S. 72 Lemon Street Guelph N1E 2H5	519 822-1911	7 - 8
Paisley Road P.S. 406 Paisley Road Guelph N1H 2R3	519 822-0675	K - 6
Palmerston P.S. 530 Prospect Street Box 430 Palmerston N0G 2P0	519 343-2520	K - 8
Princess Elizabeth P.S. 51 Elizabeth Street Orangeville L9W 2L6	519 941-0220	K - 6
Victory P.S. 135 Exhibition Street Guelph N1H 4R4	519 822-6931	K - 6
Secondary French Immersion Schools:		
Centre Wellington D.H.S. 905 Scotland Street Fergus N1M 1Y7	519 843-2500	9-12
John F. Ross C.V.I. 21 Meyer Drive Guelph N1E 4H1	519 822-7090	9-12
Erin D.H.S. 14 Boland Drive Erin N0B 1T0	519 833-9665	9-12
Secondary Extended French Schools		
Norwell D.S.S. 135 Cumberland Street, Box 160 Palmerston N0G 2P0	519 343-3107	9-12