

Give your child the
gift of a second
language



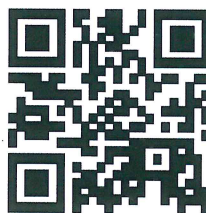
Benefits of learning french

- Children who learn a second language show either comparable or enhanced first-language literacy.
- Children receiving second-language instruction often show higher achievement in a range of subject areas, including mathematics, science and language arts.
- Learning a second language enhances creative ability by promoting unique problem solving, flexibility and creative thinking.
- Second-language learners demonstrate enhanced empathy, awareness of diversity, tolerance of difference and a greater sense of social justice.
- It provides students with more choices for advanced education and career opportunities.

Source: Canadian Parents for French

Why École Laurier?

- French education, Jr. K - 8
- Free Junior Kindergarten Program
- Gr. 7 & 8 vocational programs offered: Industrial Arts, Home Economics, Automotive & Electrical Construction
- Band and music programs - no rental fees
- Technology advanced classrooms
- Strong family partnership
- Small teacher-student ratio
- Effective home-school communication
- Supportive learning environment
- Restorative approach to discipline
- Participation in french cultural events
- Engagement with our community
- Divisional sports
- Educational school trips
- Free daily breakfast program
- Outdoor classroom
- Active Comité de parents
- Laurier Playzone - fully licensed daycare within the school
- Canadian Parents for French Member



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École Laurier

French Immersion
Jr. K-8



Mon Français m'ouvre les
portes du monde.

French Immersion - A program of choice for all students

What is a French Immersion Program?

The goal of the French Immersion Program is to develop proud, confident, engaged, plurilingual global citizens.

The French Immersion Program enables students to interact spontaneously, autonomously, and confidently in French with pride and ease. They seek opportunities to engage in the francophone community. Their identity as Canadian citizens, competent in both French and English, creates lifelong opportunities and fosters openness to other languages and cultures.

French Immersion Program integrates language instruction with content-area instruction. Students learn to communicate in French while learning all subjects in French, except for English Language Arts and music/band, which are taught in English. French is used as the language of instruction and as a means of communication in the classroom and throughout the school.

If I choose French Immersion, how will my child learn?

Learning French will be natural and spontaneous, much like learning a first language. In a French Immersion classroom, teachers speak French all the time using gestures, mimes, visual, auditory and concrete materials. The teacher only speaks English if the child's health or safety is at risk or if a child has a problem and is emotionally distraught. As in learning a first language, understanding French will come much earlier than being able to speak it. Very quickly, your child will understand words and phrases and will respond appropriately.



"Learning a language is like giving a gold deposit to your children, but without risk, because while gold may decrease in value, knowledge will not. Gold can be stolen, but knowledge always grows."

Dr. Roseann Runte

Is French Immersion appropriate for my child?

This is an inclusive program intended for ALL students with various abilities and needs whose first language is not French and who have little or no knowledge of the French language. Parents need to support their children and have a positive attitude towards whichever program they choose for their child. Research continues to show that learning in a bilingual setting has more advantages than disadvantages. Students have all to gain and nothing to lose.

Can I transfer my child into French Immersion in Grade 1?

Entry in the Early Immersion program is possible in Kindergarten and Grade 1. Students may transfer from a similar French Immersion program at other grades.

I don't speak French. Will this be a problem? How will I help with homework?

Help with concepts can be given regardless of language, and is always beneficial. It is not necessary for parents to speak French. All children should have a quiet place and a regular time for doing their homework. Teachers are always willing to work with families regarding homework. The Canadian Parents for French website (www.cpf.ca) also has valuable resources for parents.

What can parents do to help their child?

Encourage good study habits and provide French reference materials for use at home. Enjoy French TV, radio, music, games, software and videos with your children. Read to and with your children in English. Encourage them to read to you in French. Keep in touch with the teachers. Check out summer camps and exchanges. Try taking a French class yourself. You'll enjoy it!