

WHAT DO I WANT FOR MY CHILD?



FRENCH-LANGUAGE EDUCATION IN MANITOBA SCHOOLS

FRENCH FIRST LANGUAGE
FRENCH IMMERSION
BASIC FRENCH

FRENCH FIRST LANGUAGE

WHAT DO I WANT MY CHILD TO ACHIEVE?

- The objective of the Français Program is to develop francophone, bilingual students who will
 - ▲ have achieved a high proficiency in French as a first language;
 - ▲ have achieved a high proficiency in English;
 - ▲ be committed to build on a positive French identity;
 - ▲ identify with and be part of the francophone culture and community;
 - ▲ be better able to appreciate other francophone cultures at local, regional, national and international levels;
 - ▲ be better able to appreciate other languages, cultures, and communities throughout Canada and around the world.

WHAT APPROACH IS USED?

- ▲ French first language education is offered from Kindergarten to Senior 4.
- ▲ School environment, programming and extra-curricular activities provide your child with a solid and dynamic focal point for the French language and francophone culture as an extension of family and community life.
- ▲ English Language Arts is introduced in Grade 3 or Grade 4.
- ▲ The language of communication between the school or the school board and the home is normally French. In the case of exogamous families, assistance may be provided by the school to the parent who does not speak French, to help the parent support the child's learning and school experience.

IS IT FOR MY CHILD?

- Intended for a francophone child or, as described in Section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, for a child
- ▲ of a parent whose first language learned and still understood is French; or
 - ▲ of a parent who received primary school instruction in French anywhere in Canada; or
 - ▲ whose sibling has received or is receiving primary or secondary school instruction in French anywhere in Canada.

And, in the spirit of Section 23 of the Charter, for a child of a parent:

- ▲ with francophone roots who wants to reintegrate the French language and francophone identity and culture into his or her child's life; or
- ▲ who wants his or her child to retain French language skills and francophone identity and culture (e.g. francophone immigrants who are permanent residents of Canada).

AT WHAT GRADE LEVEL CAN MY CHILD BEGIN?

- ▲ Eligible students may enter at any grade level.
- ▲ If your child speaks little or no French, a variety of programs and strategies will be used to help him or her learn French and integrate the francophone culture into everyday living.

FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

FRENCH IMMERSION

- The objective of the French Immersion Program is to develop functionally bilingual students who will
- ▲ have achieved a high proficiency in English;
 - ▲ have acquired a functional knowledge of the French language to communicate on personal and professional levels;
 - ▲ demonstrate an appreciation for the French language, and the cultural diversity of the French-speaking world;
 - ▲ consider that learning French is a tool of personal, intellectual, and social growth;
 - ▲ be better able to appreciate other languages, cultures, and communities throughout Canada and around the world.

- ▲ French is used as the language of instruction for a significant part of the day.
- ▲ In Kindergarten, the language of instruction is totally in French, except when the emotional well-being of the child warrants the use of English.
- ▲ From Grade 1 to Grade 6, the subjects are taught mostly in French, for a minimum of 75-80% of total time.
- ▲ From Grade 7 to Senior 4, some courses are taught in French, for a minimum of 50% of total time.
- ▲ Extra-curricular activities in French may be used to support the development of language skills outside of the classroom setting.
- ▲ The language of communication between home and school is English.

- ▲ Designed for a child who belongs to the linguistic majority group (English) or whose family heritage is other than French and who aspires to become functionally bilingual.

- ▲ According to the Curriculum Policy for the French Immersion Program, there are three recognized entry points to the Program: Early Immersion (Kindergarten or Grade 1 entry), Middle Immersion (Grade 4 entry), and Late Immersion (Grade 7 entry).
- ▲ The majority of schools offer Early Immersion. Few schools offer Late Immersion. Some schools could offer Middle Immersion.

BASIC FRENCH

- The objective of the Basic French Course is to develop students who, after many years of study, will
- ▲ acquire a good foundation in French from which to pursue fluency;
 - ▲ have a better chance at becoming bilingual in future years;
 - ▲ have gained insights into and an appreciation of the francophone culture;
 - ▲ be better able to appreciate other languages, cultures, and communities throughout Canada and around the world.

- ▲ French is taught as a subject. The Department of Education, Citizenship and Youth recommends 30-35 minutes of instruction in French per day.
- ▲ French is used as the language of classroom communication.
- ▲ French language knowledge and skills are developed through the use of themes and projects geared to the interests, maturity, and life experiences of your child.

- ▲ Designed for a child who belongs to the linguistic majority group (English) or whose family heritage is other than French and who is interested in keeping an open door to other languages.

- ▲ In general, in schools where it is offered, Basic French begins in Grade 4. Some schools begin as early as Kindergarten or Grade 1.
- ▲ In a few schools all students study Basic French at certain grade levels, typically Grade 4 to Grade 8.

DID YOU KNOW?

Some 6.7 million Canadians speak French as their first language; of these, some 48 000 live in Manitoba. Nearly 5 million Canadians speak both French and English; of these, some 103 000 live in Manitoba.

DID YOU KNOW?

French and English are the main languages of world diplomacy. French is an official language of the European Economic Community, the United Nations, and the International Olympic Committee.

DID YOU KNOW?

More than 156,000 students outside Quebec are enrolled in French first language; more than 317,000 Canadian students are in French Immersion and some 1.8 million are in Basic French

DID YOU KNOW?

English and French are truly international languages, spoken by an estimated 800 million and 250 million people respectively around the world.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

- ▲ The Department of Education, Citizenship, and Youth recognizes the following Kindergarten to Senior 4 School Programs: English (which includes Basic French), Français, French Immersion and Senior Years Technology Education. The Bureau de l'éducation française, a division of the Department, develops the curriculum documents for the Français and the French Immersion Programs, and for the Basic French courses.
- ▲ After learning more than one language, your child will have an enhanced facility to learn additional languages. The ability to understand a variety of languages broadens your child's cultural world. To have the skills to reach others is a source of personal wealth.

MORE QUESTIONS?

For French First Language...

Le français, sois de la partie! Une brochure destinée aux parents en français langue première, document available on the Web site at: www.edu.gov.mb.ca/frpub/fc/fl1/partie/

Tu peux compter sur moi : Guide à l'intention du parent pour l'accompagnement de l'enfant dans son éducation en français langue première and I'm with you! Exogamous families' guide to the world of francophone education

Documents available on the Web site at:

<http://collections.ic.gc.ca/FPFA/ressources/guides.html>

For French Immersion...

French Immersion in Manitoba, available through the Department of Education, Citizenship and Youth, or on the Web site at:

http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/docs/french_imm/fr_imm_mb.html

Curriculum Policy for the French Immersion Program, available through the Department of Education, Citizenship and Youth, or on the Web site at: <http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/docs/policy/frenchimm/>

French Language Education in Manitoba: French First and Second Language Compared and

Reduce Homework Stress: A Parent's Guide, available through Canadian Parents for French, or on the Web site at:

<http://www.cpfmb.com/articles.html>

For Basic French...

Basic French Guidelines: A Handbook for School Divisions/Districts, available through the Department of Education, Citizenship and Youth, or on the Web site at:

http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/ks4/docs/support/b_french/index.html

Core French Canada: FAQs and

Core French: An Overview for Parents, available through Canadian Parents for French

WHO CAN I TALK TO?

For information regarding French first language education in Manitoba, contact:

DIVISION SCOLAIRE FRANCO-MANITOBAINE (DSFM)

Box 204

1263 Dawson Road

Lorette MB R0A 0Y0

Phone: (204) 878-9399

Fax: (204) 878-9407

E-mail: dsfm@atrium.ca

Internet: www.dsfm.mb.ca

FÉDÉRATION PROVINCIALE DES COMITÉS DE PARENTS (FPCP)

1075 Autumnwood Drive

Saint-Boniface MB R2J 1C6

Phone: (204) 237-9666

Fax: (204) 231-1436

E-mail: fpcp@fpcp.mb.ca

Internet: www.entrepents.mb.ca

For information concerning French as a second language education (French Immersion and Basic French) in Manitoba, contact your local school division/district, or:

CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH – MANITOBA

2nd floor - 264 Taché Avenue

Winnipeg MB R2H 1Z9

Phone: (204) 222-6537

Toll free: 1 877 737-7036

Fax: (204) 222-8180

E-mail: cpfmb@cpfmb.com

Internet: www.cpfmb.com

For information regarding French Education in Manitoba or if you would like additional copies of this brochure, contact

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