

Comparison of the Characteristics of the Four French Programs Available in British Columbia

CORE FRENCH	INTENSIVE FRENCH	FRENCH IMMERSION	FRANCOPHONE PROGRAM
WHO CAN ENROLL IN THIS PROGRAM?			
All students	All students	<p>All students</p> <p>Students do not have to come from a French-speaking family to be enrolled in French Immersion.</p> <p>To learn more, see the Ministry of Education's French Immersion Program Policy.</p>	<p>The Francophone Program is designed for students whose parents' first language is French. Conditions apply. Please visit www.csf.bc.ca for more details.</p> <p>According to Section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Francophone parents have the right to have their children educated in French.</p>
WHAT IS THE GOAL OF THE PROGRAM?			
Students will develop effective communication skills in French and an openness to, and appreciation of, Francophone cultures.	In a relatively short period of time, students will acquire solid proficiency in French and an understanding of Francophone cultures.	<p>Students will become bilingual and acquire an understanding and appreciation of Francophone cultures.</p> <p>By the time they graduate, students will acquire sufficient language skills to be able to work or pursue post-secondary studies in either official language.</p>	Students will receive an education in French, in a Francophone environment.
WHEN WOULD YOUR CHILD START LEARNING FRENCH?			
In B.C., all students in grade 5 to 8 are required to learn a second language.	Intensive French is an optional program for students in grades 6 and 7.	The program is offered from Kindergarten to Grade 12, with two entry points: Kindergarten/Grade 1 (Early French Immersion) and Grade 6 (Late French Immersion).	The Francophone Program is offered from Kindergarten to Grade 12, and some schools even offer Pre-Kindergarten programs in this stream.



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WHAT IS THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT LIKE?			
<p>Core French is usually between one and three hours of instruction per week, depending on the school district's policies.</p>	<p>In Grade 6, in the first half of the year, the main language of instruction is French. In the second half of the year, the regular curriculum is taught in English.</p> <p>In Grade 7, students usually get about five hours of French instruction a week as part of their regular schedule.</p>	<p>French is the main language of instruction for all subjects, with English-language instruction added gradually over the course of the program.</p> <p>As evidence of their bilingualism, students enrolled in French Immersion graduate with two diplomas: the Dogwood Diploma and the <i>Diplôme de fin d'études secondaires en Colombie-Britannique</i>.</p>	<p>All subject areas (except English Language Arts) are taught in French, with a strong emphasis on Francophone cultures and developing a Francophone identity.</p> <p>As evidence of their bilingualism, students enrolled in Francophone Program graduate with two diplomas: the Dogwood Diploma and the <i>Diplôme de fin d'études secondaires en Colombie-Britannique</i>.</p>
IS THE PROGRAM AVAILABLE IN YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT?			
<p>Most school districts offer Core French courses.</p> <p>Contact your local school district to find out.</p>	<p>Intensive French is offered in the following four school districts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mission (75) - Vancouver (39) - Rocky Mountains (6) - Surrey (36) <p>To learn more about the program, contact one of the school districts above by visiting the website or the school district contact information page.</p>	<p>In all, 46 school districts throughout the province offer French Immersion. To find a school, see the map of French Immersion Schools.</p> <p>Some French Immersion courses are also available online. For more details, visit BC Learning Services.</p>	<p>The Francophone Program is only offered by the Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique (School District 93), a public school district present in many locations throughout the province. To find a school offering the program, see the map of Francophone Schools.</p> <p>To learn more, visit the website of the Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique.</p> <p>Some courses in the program are also available online. For more details, visit BC Learning Services.</p>