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

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<th>CORE FRENCH</th>
<th>INTENSIVE FRENCH</th>
<th>FRENCH IMMERSION</th>
<th>FRANCOPHONE PROGRAM</th>
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<td><strong>WHO CAN ENROLL IN THIS PROGRAM?</strong></td>
<td>All students</td>
<td>All students</td>
<td>All students</td>
<td>The Francophone Program is designed for students whose parents’ first language is French. Conditions apply. Please visit <a href="http://www.csf.bc.ca">www.csf.bc.ca</a> for more details.</td>
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<td>According to Section 23 of the <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/news/2018/02/27/section-23.html">Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms</a>, Francophone parents have the right to have their children educated in French.</td>
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<td><strong>WHAT IS THE GOAL OF THE PROGRAM?</strong></td>
<td>Students will develop effective communication skills in French and an openness to, and appreciation of, Francophone cultures.</td>
<td>In a relatively short period of time, students will acquire solid proficiency in French and an understanding of Francophone cultures.</td>
<td>Students will become bilingual and acquire an understanding and appreciation of Francophone cultures.</td>
<td>Students will receive an education in French, in a Francophone environment.</td>
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<td><strong>WHEN WOULD YOUR CHILD START LEARNING FRENCH?</strong></td>
<td>In B.C., all students in grade 5 to 8 are required to learn a second language.</td>
<td>Intensive French is an optional program for students in grades 6 and 7.</td>
<td>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).</td>
<td>The Francophone Program is offered from Kindergarten to Grade 12, and some schools even offer Pre-Kindergarten programs in this stream.</td>
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### Core French
Core French is usually between one and three hours of instruction per week, depending on the school district’s policies.

### Intensive French
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.

In Grade 7, students usually get about five hours of French instruction a week as part of their regular schedule.

### French Immersion
French is the main language of instruction for all subjects, with English-language instruction added gradually over the course of the program.

As evidence of their bilingualism, students enrolled in French Immersion graduate with two diplomas: the Dogwood Diploma and the Diplôme de fin d’études secondaires en Colombie-Britannique.

### Francophone Program
All subject areas (except English Language Arts) are taught in French, with a strong emphasis on Francophone cultures and developing a Francophone identity.

As evidence of their bilingualism, students enrolled in Francophone Program graduate with two diplomas: the Dogwood Diploma and the Diplôme de fin d’études secondaires en Colombie-Britannique.

### What is the Learning Environment Like?
- **Core French**: Usually between one and three hours of instruction per week, depending on the school district’s policies.
- **Intensive French**: 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. In Grade 7, students usually get about five hours of French instruction a week as part of their regular schedule.
- **French Immersion**: French is the main language of instruction for all subjects, with English-language instruction added gradually over the course of the program.
- **Francophone Program**: All subject areas (except English Language Arts) are taught in French, with a strong emphasis on Francophone cultures and developing a Francophone identity.

### Is the Program Available in Your School District?
- **Core French**: Most school districts offer Core French courses. Contact your local school district to find out.

- **Intensive French**: Intensive French is offered in the following four school districts:
  - Mission (75)
  - Vancouver (39)
  - Rocky Mountains (6)
  - Surrey (36)

  To learn more about the program, contact one of the school districts above by visiting the website or the [school district contact information page](#).

- **French Immersion**: In all, 46 school districts throughout the province offer French Immersion. To find a school, see the [map of French Immersion Schools](#).

  Some French Immersion courses are also available online. For more details, visit [BC Learning Services](#).

- **Francophone Program**: 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](#).

  To learn more, visit the website of the [Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique](#).

  Some courses in the program are also available online. For more details, visit [BC Learning Services](#).