

# Kindergarten online Resources



Ministry of Education  
B.C.'s New Curriculum



CPF  
Canadian Parents for French  
Saanich Chapter



Please visit our District website at [www.sd63.bc.ca](http://www.sd63.bc.ca) to access online resources on **Early Learning** and **Language Programs**.

Saanich Schools



# French Immersion Schools in Saanich



**Deep Cove Elementary**  
(250) 656-7254

**Keating Elementary**  
(250) 652-9261

**Bayside Middle School**  
(250) 652-1135

**Stelly's High School**  
(250) 652-4401



Please contact the school principal if you have any questions about the French Immersion program or to make an appointment for a visit.

# La Maternelle



## FAQs

*for Kindergarten parents  
who are considering the  
French Immersion  
Program in Saanich*



The French Immersion program offers the opportunity for non-francophone students to become bilingual in both English and French and to learn about another culture.

In the French Immersion program, French is not only a subject, but a language of instruction and a means of communication.

All Kindergarten children, in the English and in the French Immersion program, follow the same curriculum as prescribed by the Ministry of Education.

### **WHEN DO CHILDREN LEARN ENGLISH?**

It is important to remember that your child is only immersed in French five hours a day. In Saanich, English Language Literacy is introduced in the later part of Grade 3.

Grade	% of French Instruction	% of English Instruction
K-(2 or 3)	100	0
(3 or) 4-7	80	20
8-10	50-75	25-50
11-12	no less than 25%	no more than 75%

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **What will my child learn in French Immersion Kindergarten?**

A new language is acquired by listening to and reproducing the models introduced by the teacher. Your child will learn French letters and their sounds, read names of their peers and basic sight words, sing French songs and understand poems, be able to respond in sentences and ask questions.

### **HOW MUCH FRENCH IS SPOKEN IN KINDERGARTEN?**

100% French ....eventually! The amount of French spoken in September is very different than the amount spoken in June. Educators use gestures and visual cues, rather than translating, to help with comprehension. English is used at the outset to establish routines, and in the event of safety issues.

### **HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD?**

You can help by reading in English, playing number and alphabet games and encouraging any printing or fine motor skill attempts. Listen to children's music by French artists, watch some French television programs, and find ways to expose your child to French (e.g. French summer camps, activities sponsored by Canadian Parents for French)

### **WILL MY CHILD START SPEAKING FRENCH IN KINDERGARTEN?**

Yes! The following elements in our instruction allow children to comprehend and communicate in French quickly: gestures to teach using a pared down language for high frequency vocabulary (verb based), the use of key words and sentences that are most useful for communicative competence.

### **OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT MY CHILD...**

Practice removing and putting on their own shoes, tie laces, button and zip clothing, putting lunch kit in and out of backpack by themselves, practice printing their names in lowercase, counting groups of objects, read picture books daily, play card games (Go Fish, etc.) to practice number recognition and counting.

### **CAN MY CHILD JOIN FRENCH IMMERSION IN GRADE 1?**

Yes, your child can enter the F.I. program in Grade 1 since the Kindergarten program is optional in British Columbia. However, if you know you are considering the F. I. program, it is recommended that your child be part of a Kindergarten classroom experience because children in F.I. kindergarten receive a significant amount of French oral language instruction (approximately 900 hours!). Grade One offers a more focused Literacy and Numeracy program. Having a strong French language base provides young learners with increased confidence and communication skills.