



“Learning French was the best decision I ever made. It gives you more opportunities in life.”  
 – Noah, Grade 9 Student

“The Middle Immersion program is phenomenal! Our daughter has gone from limited French to full conversations. She loves teaching us French words and is excited to learn. There are excellent teachers who engage the students and make learning fun!”  
 – Lori and Dave Wilson, Parents



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## Learning Together The Middle French Immersion Program



### Contact Us

If you have other questions or need additional information, please contact the Principal at one of the French Immersion schools offering the Middle Immersion program or visit our website at [www.lrsd.net](http://www.lrsd.net).



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Speaking a second language is an important “21st Century asset,” and, “an invaluable added strength in life.”

– John Ralston Saul

## The French Immersion Program

- It is an officially recognized program of studies in the Manitoba public school system.
- The goals of French Immersion are to help young people proudly interact in French independently and spontaneously, and to see themselves as part of the Francophone community. Additionally, French Immersion empowers young people to engage as Canadian citizens in both official languages, thereby increasing their access to other languages and cultures.
- It has the same essential graduation requirements as the English program.
- French Immersion curricula are congruent in content and learning outcomes with English curricula.
- In keeping with peers in the English program, children in the French Immersion program acquire “academic, social, and career skills; and the life management skills that future citizens will need to develop their individual potential.”

## French Immersion Programs in LRSD

**Early Immersion** begins in Kindergarten or Grade 1 and is characterized by full-day French instruction until Grade 2, when French Immersion Schools introduce English Language Arts.

**Middle Immersion** is a second entry point for French Immersion in Grade 4. This program offers full-day French instruction in the classroom for Grade 4 and English is re-introduced in Grade 5. In Grade 7, Middle Immersion students unite with French Immersion students in their catchment school to continue their studies to the end of secondary school.



## What is the Middle French Immersion Program?

Middle French Immersion begins in Grade 4 after a student has had several years of primarily English language instruction. Grade 4 students receive intensive French instruction for the full day. Students learn all subjects in French, except for English Language Arts.

## Who may enroll in the Middle French Immersion Program?

Students who transition to Grade 4, and who are not already in French Immersion, are eligible for enrolment in the Middle French Immersion Program.

## What effect does the Middle French Immersion Program have on children’s basic skills in English Language Arts?

Decades of research confirm that French Immersion has no negative effect on the development of English language skills as measured by standardized tests. In fact, studies have proven that French Immersion education enhances students’ English language skills.

## What about achievement in other subjects?

On various system-wide tests, the overall tendency has

been for French Immersion students to perform as well, or better than, students of comparable potential in the English Program.

## What skills can a student demonstrate after successfully completing the Middle French Immersion Program?

A student who successfully completes the Middle French Immersion Program should communicate with ease in either language community and be well equipped for employment, training or further education in either language.

## How does participation in a French Immersion program affect general intellectual or cognitive growth?

A number of well-controlled studies suggest that becoming bilingual enhances cognitive and linguistic growth.

## How many Canadian students are enrolled in French Immersion Programs?

More than 377, 000 (2013) young Canadians are learning a second language in French Immersion schools.

“Choosing the Middle Immersion program was the best decision of my life. It has opened a whole other world for me. I have had so many opportunities that I wouldn’t have been given if I had stayed in English. I never felt out of place in this class because we were all the “new kids.” This program takes a lot of hard work, but it does pay off!”

– Emily, Grade 10 Student

## Parents Frequently Ask the Following Questions About Learning French

### Do parents of students in the French Immersion Program have to know or speak French?

No, it’s not necessary for you to know French, but be prepared to enjoy learning it from your child.

### What can I do to help my child if I don’t know or speak French?

You can support your child by listening to her or him read in French or by watching French programs on television together. You can also encourage your child to learn in French by talking about its value—an important message.

### Will my child have homework?

Yes, although much of the activity in the classroom is oral, homework generally consists of completing written work already begun in class, reading books, listening to appropriate TV or radio programs and organizing or collecting materials for projets.

### Will the teacher speak French all the time?

Yes. The teacher will use English for a very brief time at the beginning of the Middle Immersion Program, but will speak French for the majority of the time.

### What happens if my child cannot keep up with French language instruction?

All students learn and develop skills differently. The teacher will use many learning strategies to ensure that all students are supported as they learn French.

### Will my child receive school bus transportation to the Middle Immersion Program?

Transportation is provided to students who must walk more than 1.6 kilometers to attend the Middle Immersion School.