



Alternative
Programs



Banff Trail School Open House

Early French Immersion Program

Thursday, January 9, 2025
5:45 pm – 7:15 pm

banfftrail.cbe.ab.ca

learning | as unique | as every student



Calgary Board
of Education



Acknowledging the Land Where We Gather

Oki, Dadánast'áda, Âba Wathtec, Tânisî, Taanishi, Bonjour, Hello

The Calgary Board of Education acknowledges the traditional territories and oral practices of the Treaty 7 Nations, including the Siksikaitsitapi, comprised of the Siksika, the Kainai, the Piikani, and the Amskapi Piikani Nations. We acknowledge the Tsuut'ina Nation, the Îyârhe Nakoda, comprised of the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney Nations, the Métis Nation within Alberta, and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of southern Alberta.

This land on which we gather is traditionally known as Moh'kinstsis (Blackfoot), Guts'ists'i (Tsuut'ina), Wîchîspa (Nakoda), and otôskwanîhk (Northern Michif & Cree).

As a learning organization, we are committed to advancing the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action focused on Education for ReconciliACTION.



Calgary Board
of Education

Language Program



AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions
- General Information – Alternative Programs
- Why French Immersion for your child?
- About our School
- School Council
- Transportation
- Kindergarten
- Grade 1
- Registration
- Questions & Class Visits

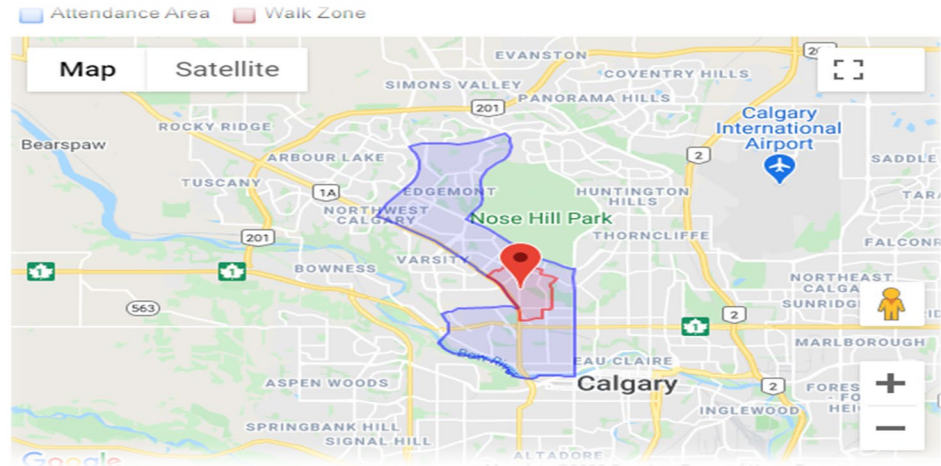
INTRODUCTIONS

Language Program



Banff Trail School

- Ryan Turner, Principal
- Nancy Toy, Assistant Principal
- K: Mme Nicole, M. Matthieu
- 1: Mme Kalpana, Mme Kim, Mme Rachel
- Christos Sagriotis Principal, W. Aberhart High School
- Sébastien Picard Principal, Branton School



Catchment:

<https://cbe.ab.ca/schools/find-a-school/Pages/default.aspx#>

Alternative Programs



We have 8 distinct alternative programs in multiple sites:

- Aboriginal Focus
- Arts-Centred
- All Boys
- All Girls
- Languages
- Montessori
- Science
- Traditional Learning Centre (TLC)



Alternative Programs



Key Messages

- Each program has unique features
- Integrity of the program remains the same across sites
- All sites follow the Alberta Curriculum with ATA certificated teachers
- All families are eligible to register for the lottery process (where applicable)
- Aligned with system timeframe for registration
- There is a designated Alternative Program school for each home address

Language Program



Differences and Similarities with Community School Programs

Differences

- Strong focus on development of language and culture
- Integrate language and culture into holistic, global perspective
- Grounded in current language research
- Respect and promote diversity of cultural groups represented within the target language

Similarities

- Alberta Curriculum
- Character
- Citizenship
- Personal Development

Language Program



Elements of Language Program

- Meet the expectations for instructional time in the target language, learning Alberta Curriculum content through the target language
- Develop intercultural competencies and communication skills
- Reflect the cultures of the target language through student work, signage and school routines

Benefits to learning another language

Additional Language learning enables students to further develop their literacy, problem-solving and memory skills while building confidence and pride in learning another language.

- Expands the intellect
- Teaches responsible citizenship
- Develops enhanced feelings of self-esteem and pride in having acquired an additional language
- Strengthens English literacy skills
- Encourages the joy of lifelong learning
- Promotes exploration, understanding and appreciation of the many different cultures around the world and contributes to multilingualism and multiculturalism
- Allows students to compete internationally
- Provides students with more choices for advanced education and career options
- Broadens students' cultural life through access to literature, art, music and theatre in another language
- See Parent Handout: *10 Answers for Parents About French Immersion*





Watch your child
become fluent.

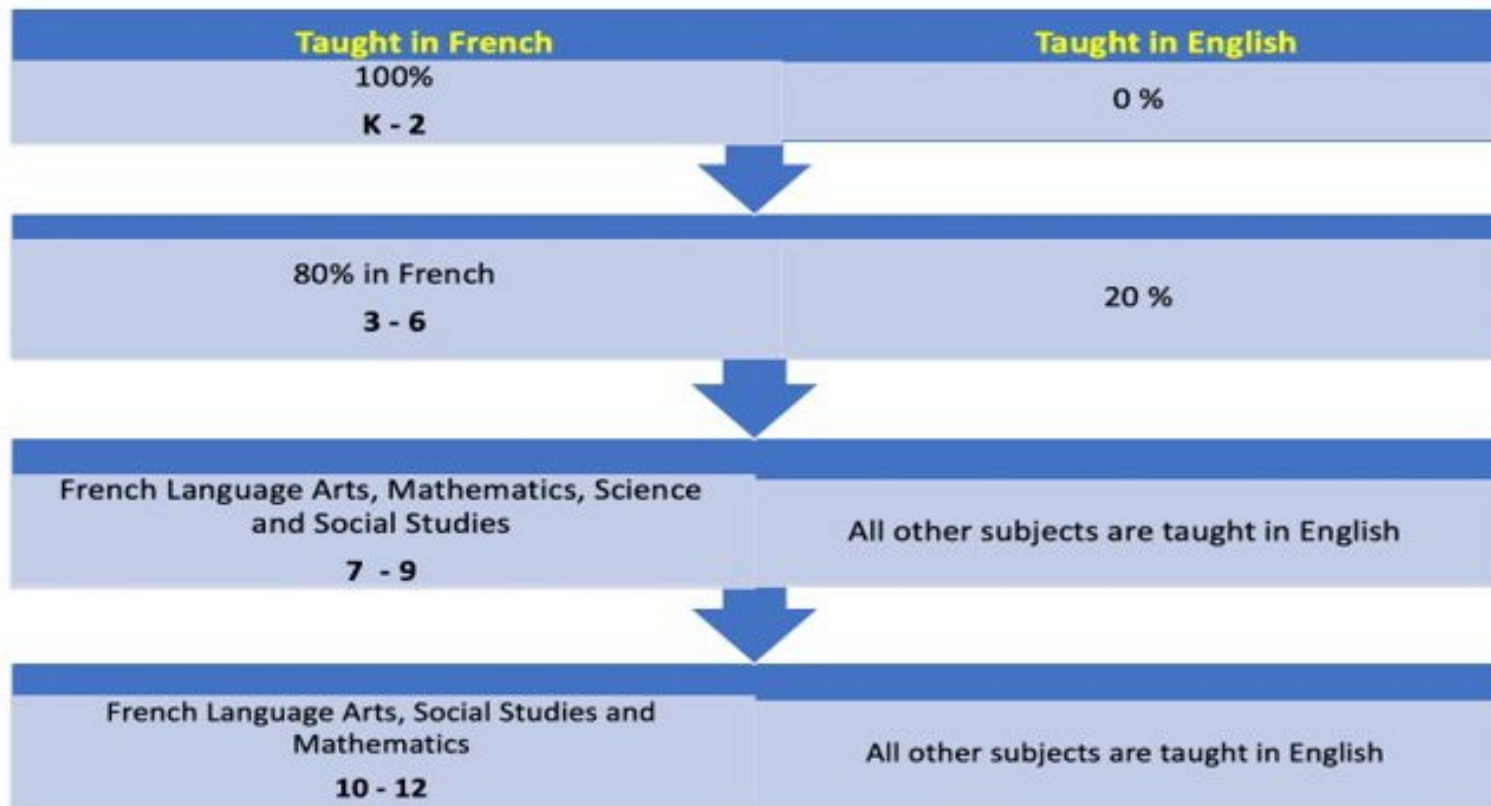
D is for ~~DUCK~~
canard

A French Immersion Education, Your Gateway to the World

Empowered. Globally competent.
Equipped to actively participate in the world.



- French Immersion begins with a period of concentration on French language development so students can achieve a strong foundation in French.
- Opportunity to become functionally fluent and acquire multiliteracy skills in both languages



OPTIONAL:

The DELF - official qualifications awarded by the French Ministry of Education to certify the competency of candidates from outside France in the French language. These certificates are valid for life.

Language Program



What to Expect in French Immersion?

Language Program



The Immersion Classroom

- Reflects the **culture** of the target language through student work, signage and routines
- Respects and promotes the **diversity** of cultural groups within the target language
- Promotes **language skill acquisition** and development
- Presents **opportunities** to learn and share information and experiences in multiple ways

Language Program



Supporting Your Child in French Immersion – Learning Together

- French is not the prevalent language of the child's home
- Parents do not need to know French
- Parents encourage a positive attitude toward learning and speaking French
- Parents demonstrate a commitment to the program
- Read and speak to them in their first language, these skills will transfer to French
- Visit the library, check out books and audio books, internet – online books, YouTube French songs, French programs and movies

Language Program



About Our School

- Learning Commons
- Music Program with Specialist
- NLA/Intensive French Specialist
- 1st Year: PE Teacher 1x/week
- Range of Technology
- Active, supportive School Council
- In-house Before and After School Care: KCF (Grades K-5)
- School Development Plan: Improve French Writing via Equitable Assessment practices
- Assemblies, musical, clubs
- Currently straight grades

Hours and Times



- School hours **WILL** change for 2025-26
- Currently we offer both morning and afternoon Kindergarten
- AM or PM Kindergarten placement consider various factors including enrolment numbers, KCF, space and parent preference
- Morning Kindergarten (7:58 am – 10:49 am)
- Afternoon Kindergarten (11:39 am – 2:30 pm)

General Information

- Entry Points: Kindergarten, Gr 1, Gr 7 (late immersion)
- Banff Trail (K-5)
- Branton (6-9)
- William Aberhart (10-12)
- Instruction of subject material is not translated, the goal is to get kids thinking and communicating in French.

Age Requirements

- Children must be at least five years old as of December 31 to start kindergarten in the fall of that Kindergarten year.
- This means that a four-year old child may start Kindergarten if they will turn five on or before December 31 of that Kindergarten year.
- Kindergarten is an optional program.

Cultural Days & Performances



French Storytelling Performances



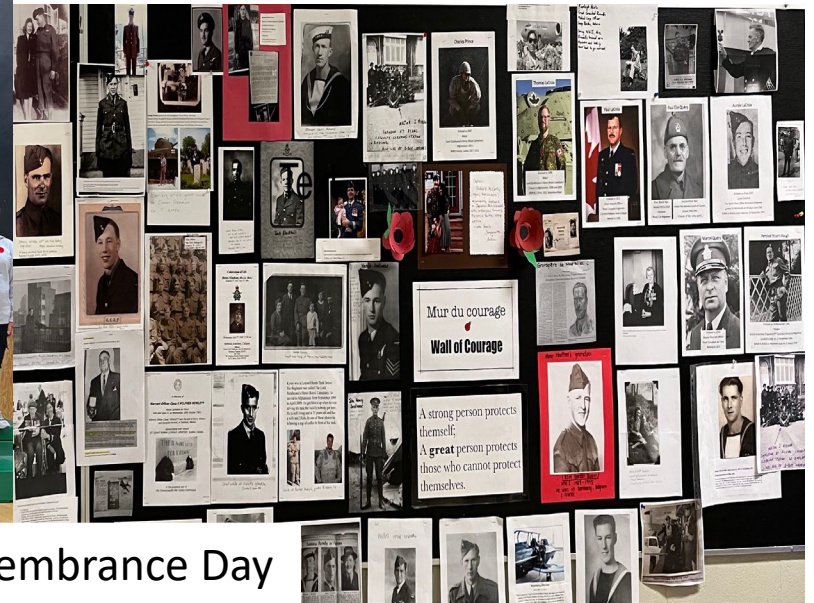
Carnaval



Folklofolie



School Wide Events



Remembrance Day



Pyjama Day!



Pink Shirt Day

Whole-School Activities



Board Games Day



Ice Skating



Snowshoeing

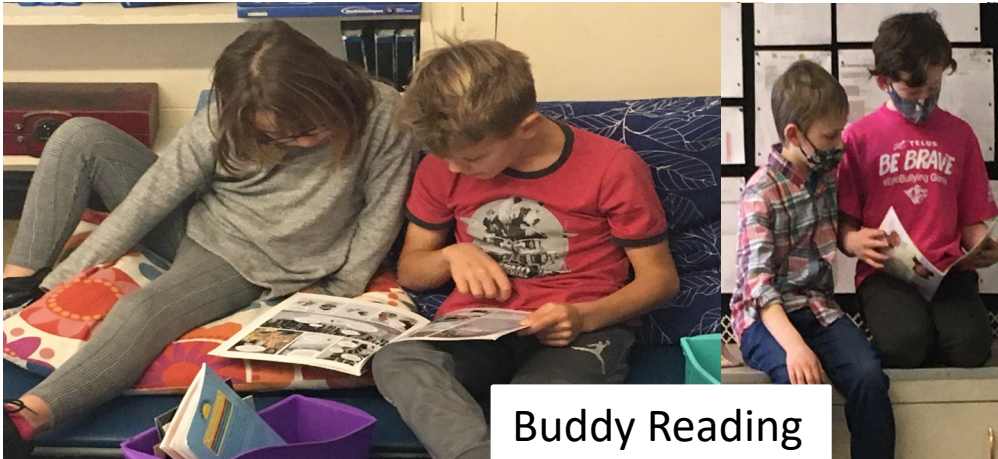


Alien In-Line Skating



Lacrosse

Other Highlights of Our School



Buddy Reading



Patrols



Land-Based Learning at West Confederation Park



Anita Crowshoe

Indigenous Knowledge Keeper



- Respected and esteemed member of our learning community
- Registered band member and Knowledge Keeper from the Piikani Nation
- Community leader, CBE supply teacher, mother, grandmother and friend
- Teaches through oral storytelling and building relationships our students, teachers and staff
- Indigenous Education: learning, practice, and wisdom are shared in kind, caring and gentle approach

School Council



BANFF TRAIL

School Council and Parent Fundraising Association



INTRODUCTIONS

- Ashley Looyzen - Co-Chair
- Tanner Ryman - Co-Chair
- Erin Runnalls - Vice Chair

- Arvind Pannu-Ross - Treasurer
- Tracy Keats - Secretary

- Committee Chairs
 - Volunteer Coordinator
 - Dance/Social Committee Coordinators
 - Teacher Appreciation Coordinators
 - Social Media Coordinators
 - Grade 5 Farewell Coordinators
 - Casino Coordinator
 - Fundraising Coordinators
 - School Yard Development Society





OVERVIEW



Meet once a month, supported by administration and staff

School Council: Inform, Connect, Support, Volunteer, Advocate

Parent Fundraising Association: Raising funds to support school and student initiatives, supplies, programs

Committees: Volunteers/Social Events, Teacher Appreciation, Social Media, Grade 5 Farewell, Schoolyard Development, Fundraising, Casino

GOALS AND ACTIONS



- Engagement and Community Building
 - Bike to School
 - Welcome Day
 - School Dances
 - Winter Skating Social
 - Walk Together Mornings
 - Schoolyard events
 - And more
- Support Banff Trail School
 - Voice
 - Volunteer
 - Fundraise: Casino, Cheque writing campaign, ArtCards, Winter Fundraiser and Spring Flowers

CONTRIBUTIONS



- Technology: iPads, Laptops, Sound Equipment/Bluetooth speaker
- Cultural Events: Carnaval, Folklofolie, Theatre and Indigenous Residencies
- Curriculum: Library books (French/English), French Dictionaries, Online Reading Resources, Ukuleles, Science Equipment
- Sports: Snowshoes, Skating Arena, Curling, Lacrosse, Dance

HOW TO GET INVOLVED



- Sign-up for information Konstella
- Attend monthly meetings
- Volunteer
 - Executive
 - Committee Chairs
 - Committee Volunteers
 - Ad Hoc Volunteers
 - Casino Volunteers

WELCOME

We very much look forward to you joining the Banff Trail School community.

We would be happy to connect with you and answer any questions you have:

banfftrailchair@gmail.com



Language Program



TRANSPORTATION



Language Program



Transportation considerations:

- K-5 yellow bus transportation provided following CBE congregated stop guidelines for alternative programs
- Parents pay an annual fee for CBE yellow bus service or purchase monthly Calgary Transit passes
- Congregated stops are reviewed annually and informed by pre-registration for transportation, online through [MyCBE/PowerSchool](#)
- Congregated stops may not be within walking distance and alternate arrangements may be required to access the congregated stop

Language Program



TRANSPORTATION



Please register **for busing** as soon as you are confirmed to have registered with **the school**, so that routes can be planned accordingly.

First Ride Program in May

<https://www.cbe.ab.ca/schools/busing-and-transportation/Pages/my-1st-ride-program.aspx>



Kindergarten

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Kindergarten – First Days

Monday, September 1, 2025

- Labour Day; No School

Tuesday, September 2, 2025

- First Day of School for all students
 - Morning class - 7:58 am – 10:49 am (2024-25)
 - Afternoon class - 11:39 am – 2:30 pm (2024-25)

(Wednesday & Thursday continue as per Tuesday schedule)

Friday, September 5, 2025

- **Morning** class attends from 7:58 am – 12:00 pm (2024-25)
- Alternating half-day Friday routine begins
- No classes for Afternoon/PM Kindergarten

Friday, September 12, 2025

- **Afternoon** class attends from 7:58 am – 12:00 pm (2024-25)
- Alternating half-day Friday routine begins
- No classes for Morning/AM Kindergarten

Kindergarten: Arrival & Dismissal

Arrival

- Non-bused students meet teachers at the Kindergarten doors with their parent/caregiver
- Bused students are met by the bus supervisor in the morning at the designated school bus zone

Dismissal

- Non-bused students meet their parent/caregiver at the Kindergarten doors
- Bused students meet the bus supervisor in the afternoon at the designated school bus zone

Kindergarten Doors

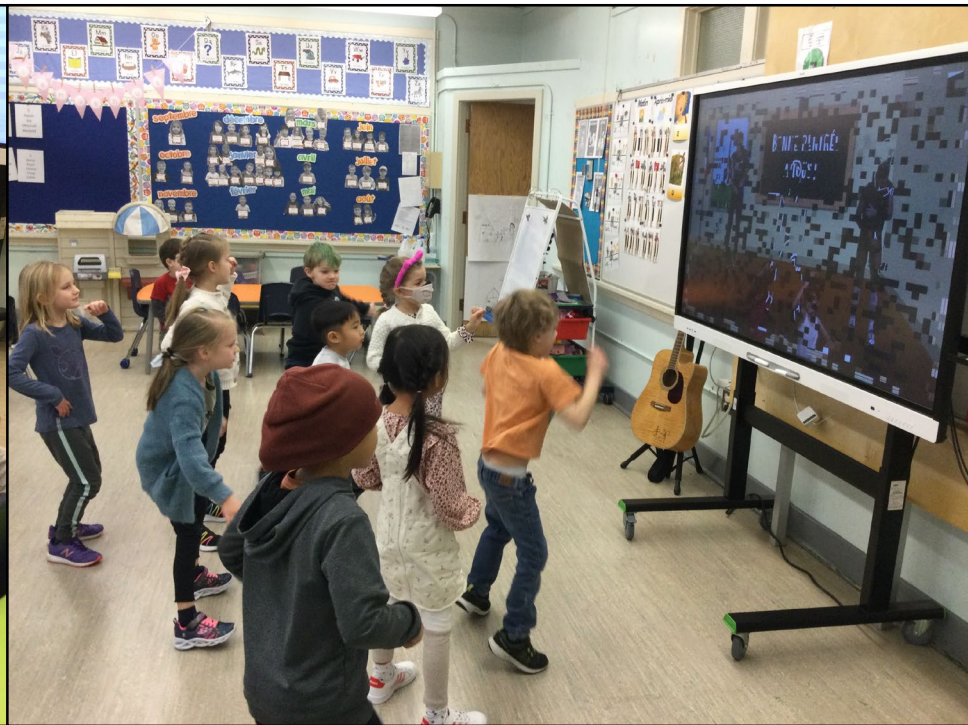


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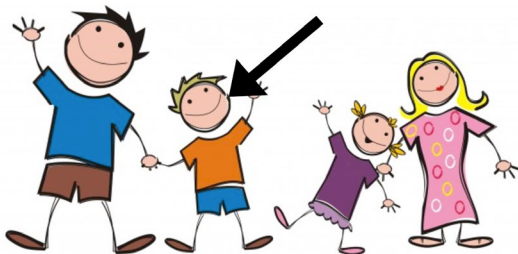
A Day in the Life



French Language Development



As-tu un frère?



Oui, j'ai un frère.



Non, je n'ai pas un frère.

Simon Serpent



Simon **S**erpent
Simon **S**erpent
fait du **s**urf
fait du **s**urf
Il **s**èche au **s**oleil
Il **s**èche au **s**oleil
s, **s**, **s**
s, **s**, **s**

Numeracy



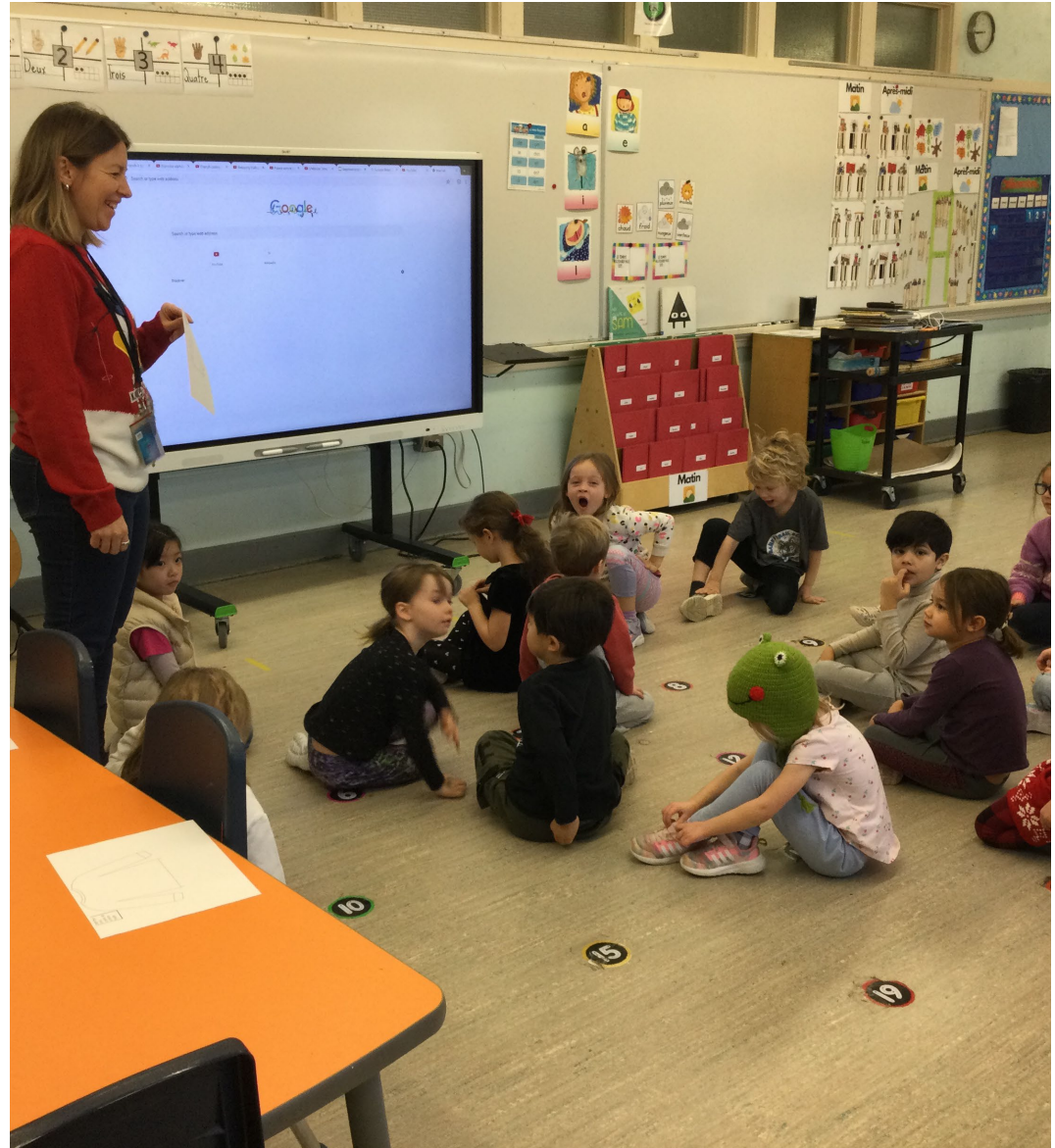


Centre Time: Learning Through Play



Physical Education in the Gym

Intensive French with Madame Sophie



Music with Madame Wensley



Parent Volunteers



Preparing Your Child for Kindergarten



- Make sure your child can get dressed independently to go outside, especially during the winter months
- Have your child help out in small ways at home, such as cleaning up after themselves
- Have a set bedtime and morning routine
 - Children need 10 to 12 hours of sleep each night
- Give them time to eat a nutritious breakfast
- Read to your child every day
- For safety reasons and confidence, children should know their:
 - First and Last name
 - Age and Birthday
 - Telephone number
 - Home Address



Grade One

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Grade One: Arrival & Dismissal

Arrival

- Non-bused students meet teachers at the Grade One doors with their parent/caregiver
- Bused students are met by the bus supervisor in the morning at the designated school bus zone

Dismissal

- Non-bused students meet their parent/caregiver at the Grade One doors
- Bused students meet the bus supervisor in the afternoon at the designated school bus zone

Grade One Doors



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Daily Routines

Arrival + Attendance

Calendar

Learning Activity

Snack Time

Recess

Learning Activity

Lunch Time

Recess

Learning Activities

Movement Break

Dismissal



Physical Education

Library

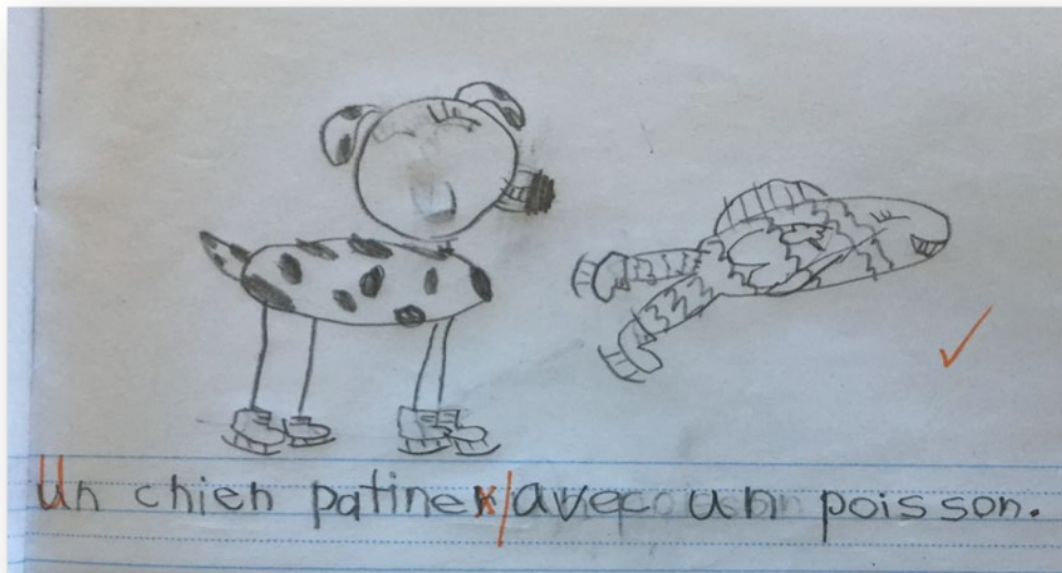
Music

Intensive French

Grade One: Learning Experiences



Language Development & Proficiency



Oral Language

- listening
- speaking

Reading

- ABCs
- Science of Reading
- Small reading groups



Writing

- Practice orally first
- Brainstorm words together
- Write a few simple sentences following a model

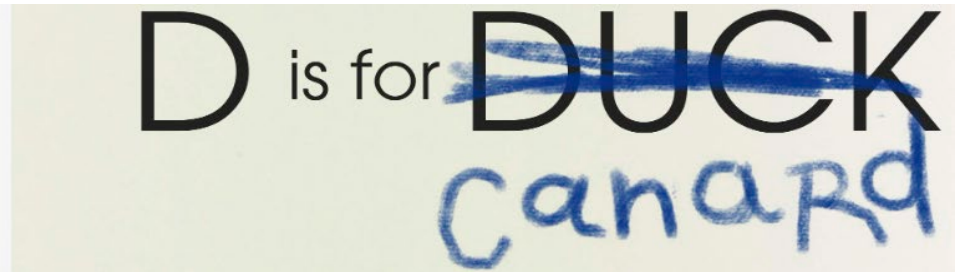
Language Program



REGISTRATION



Watch your child
become fluent.



Who Can Register

- Students entering French Immersion Kindergarten or Grade 1 can register
- In the case of an alternate entry point, parents will reach out to the school directly to arrange an appointment for language assessment for suitable placement.
- Registration opening date: Monday, January 13, 2025



Timeline for Registration

- § Opens **January 13, 2025**
- § Closed noon on Tuesday before Teachers' Convention (**February 11, 2025**)
- § Lottery drawn on Wednesday before Teachers' Convention (**February 12, 2025**)
- § Results of the lottery draw sent within 10 business days of the draw
- § Parents must accept/decline within 10 business days from the date of the acceptance letter





Registration



All registrations will be completed through **SchoolEngage**.

- One **Kindergarten** registration form for **new to CBE students** that will include a question about alternative programs with branching questions if the answer is yes.
- One **Grade 1-9** registration form for **new to CBE students**.
- One Grade 1-9 alternative program **expression of interest** form for **current CBE students**.





Registration



New to CBE: K/1 children/students **new** to CBE will complete a registration form, which has an **Expression of Interest form** built into the registration form.

Existing CBE Students: The **Expression of Interest** form for CBE students currently enrolled in Kindergarten to Grade 8 is **digital** and is accessed via SchoolEngage. Parents / Legal Guardians complete this form **online** for students who wish to now apply to French Immersion.

Alternative Programs



Lottery Process

- Not anticipated for Banff Trail School, but possible
- Where a program is oversubscribed the lottery process will be employed
- Registrations are categorized using 3 priorities:
 - Priority 1 - siblings in walk zone
 - Priority 2 - walk zone, no siblings or outside walk zone with sibling
 - Priority 3 – designated attendance area
- Notification of acceptance via letter or email.

Language Program



Registration Continued...

Informed choice is essential – what is THIS particular program about and how does it meet MY child's needs?

Link to CBE Registration Home Page:

<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/registration/registration/Pages/Kindergarten-to-Grade-9.aspx>



New Kindergarten/Grade 1 Orientation Evening

Tentative: May 2025



cbe.ab.ca

Language Program



Resources

CBE Supports

[Video | French Immersion](#)

[Early French Immersion | Is French Immersion the right choice for my child?](#)

[Transportation Information for Alternative Programs of Choice](#)

Canadian Parents for French Alberta -
<https://ab.cpf.ca/>

A handbook for Parents -
<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildslerning/>

[Yes, You Can Help! – A Guide for French Immersion Parent](#)

Language Program



Class Visits and Question Period