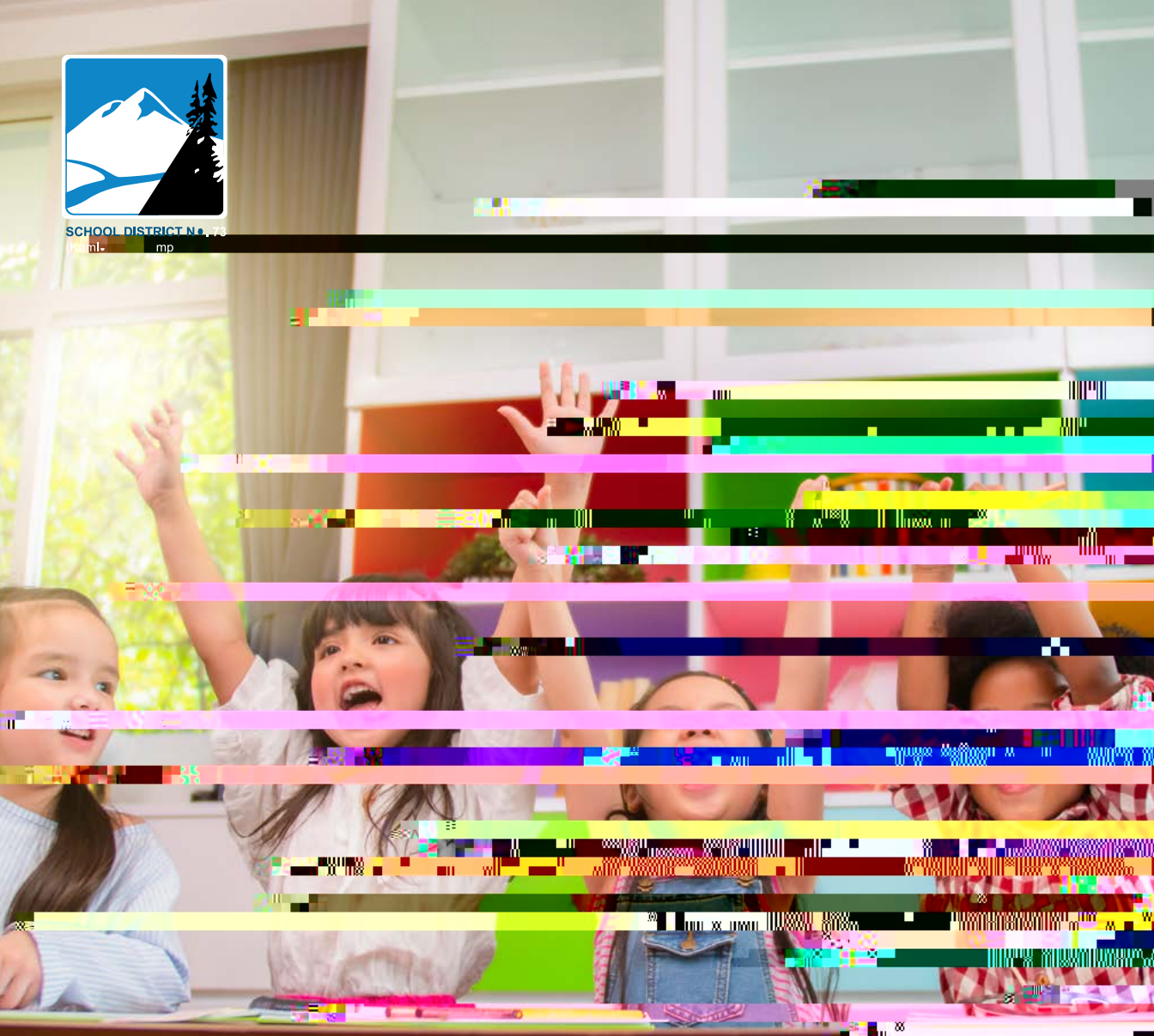




SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 73  
www.sdsd73.com



## French Immersion Parent Handbook

# COMMENÇONS

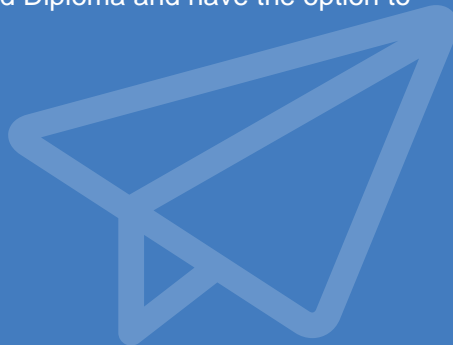


## What is French Immersion?

The French Immersion program follows the same British Columbia Ministry of Education curriculum as the English program; however, it is delivered primarily in French. For the

can communicate most of their basic needs in French and understand most classroom instructions. Students are encouraged to use as many French words as possible, and

Students in Grade 12 graduate with a Double Dogwood Diploma and have the option to







## Progressing in French Immersion

As students progress from grade to grade, more English is introduced:

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- 
- 
- delivered in French.
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## Frequently Asked Questions

### Will being in French Immersion affect English language skills?

In BC, provincial Foundation Skills

French Immersion students do at least as well as, their peers who have been learning

### Will my child be bilingual?

Your child will be capable in two languages.

*“In French, their reading and listening skills are close to those of native French speakers. Their productive skills, such as speaking and writing, although not at par with those of native speakers, allow them nonetheless to carry out normal conversations. They are generally self confident when they speak French”.*

### What will happen if my child struggles in Immersion?

Almost all children are able to be successful in French Immersion. French Immersion schools follow the same support model as their English counterparts; support is available for diverse learning needs.

### How will my child communicate with and understand the teacher?

Your child will communicate in English until they have the language skills necessary to

### What kind of French will my child learn?

accents and will learn to speak standard French.

### Will my child be learning the same things as in an English class?

Yes, the curriculum for French Immersion has the same curricular and content competencies as the English curriculum.

### Is French Immersion appropriate for all children?

program appropriate for all. A child will do as well in French Immersion as they would do in an English program. Research continues to show learning in a bilingual setting has more advantages than disadvantages.

## **I don't speak French. Will this be a problem? How will I help with homework?**

If your child brings work home to complete, they should be able to do it independently. Your child's teacher can give you ideas on how you can help your child with homework. Also, see the Canadian Parents for French website for tips and tricks.

## **How will I know how my child is doing?**

Just as with the English program, through formal learning updates and informal communications, including:

- interim reports
- emails
- phone calls
- notes in your child's agenda
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## **How will I communicate with my child's teacher?**

All SD73 French Immersion teachers speak English.

## **Should I read with my child in our home language?**

Yes, reading with your child is particularly valuable in shaping an interest in reading, as literacy skills are transferable. Most children will be reading in both French and English by Grade 3.

## **Can I transfer my child into a French Immersion program at the beginning of grade 1?**

Yes, entry in the French Immersion program

Students may transfer from a similar French Immersion program in other grades.

## **Does French Immersion impact the rate of learning for students who have delayed language and/or literacy skills?**

No.

## **If my child requires support, will they still get in in French Immersion?**

The same supports offered to students in the English program are offered to students in the French Immersion program. Students may transfer from a similar French Immersion program in other grades.

**What is Canadian Parents for French?**



