

Bienvenue

Ecole Laura Secord Elementary School

Late French Immersion
Information Session

Avoir une autre langue, c'est posséder une deuxième âme – Charlemagne –



Our Amazing LFI Team

Mme Ariella Cepelinski:

- Our energetic, generous and happy Tea Sommelier with more drive and ideas than Punky Brewster.



M. Kenneth Beatie:

Our calm, loyal and hardworking traveller with more determination and heart than Woody.



Late French Immersion is:

- An accelerated language acquisition program designed for non-francophones
- A program that follows the same curriculum as the regular English program (with the addition of a dual language curriculum)
- **Grade 6:** 100% of instruction is in French
- **Grade 7:** 80% of instruction is in French



French Immersion is not:

- a francophone program
- a gifted program (highly intelligent students often have other educational needs)
- Something to choose to stay with friends
- A 2-year commitment to 'get ahead'



Generally speaking:

- No experience in French is necessary to attend a French Immersion program
- A French-speaking caregiver is not necessary
- Late French Immersion is available to all students, but may not be suitable for all students
- The primary goal is to maintain students in the French Immersion program until grade 12
- resource support is available (learning assistance, counselor)
- You will need to continue to work at home in your child's first language (home reading and writing)

French Immersion

What does it lead to?

- Typically, a student will finish elementary school in FI and then go on to high school in FI resulting in the Dogwood Certificate in Grade 12.
- Feeder High School: Vancouver Technical
- Functional competency in French





General Success Factors

- ✓ Is your child a risk-taker, confident, someone who gets along with peers?
- ✓ Is your child taking the initiative to learn French? (positive & proactive attitude)
- ✓ Does your child attend school regularly?
- ✓ Is your family comfortable and supportive with the choice of French Immersion?
- ✓ Does your child have a well-established first language (age-appropriate speaking and understanding, reading, writing)?
- ✓ Does your child have good listening skills? Late French Immersion is a highly oral program
- ✓ Does your child participate readily in new learning situations; are they willing to repeat new vocabulary, sing songs, drama, etc.



Possible risk factors

- ✓ Your child does not appear to be a risk taker, has low self-esteem, lacks confidence
- ✓ Your child appears hesitant when presented with new learning situations
- ✓ There are reservations/discord within the family about French Immersion schooling
- ✓ Your child's first language (mother tongue) may not be well established/developed or may have experienced significant developmental delays
- ✓ Your child may have a known limitation to learning (e.g. hearing/speaking impairment, learning difficulty)
- ✓ Your child is extremely intelligent; highly verbal students sometimes become frustrated because they may not be able to express their ideas or creativity in French at a level they require.

Is Late French Immersion right for me?

- Ask yourself: Am I motivated to learn another language?
- Am I ready to work very hard?
- Do I have good tolerance for frustration?
- Do I have strong written and oral language skills in my first language?
- Am I independent, confident and ready to take risks?
- Am I ready to leave my friends at my old school and to make new friends at Secord?
- Am I willing to participate in and create a positive atmosphere in class?
- Am I ready to make a major change (new language, new school, new classmates, new form of transportation etc.)?

What to expect:

- First 12 weeks: lots of French – flooding the brain!
- Intensive program – lots of hard work and brain power! (Students will be very tired.)
- Lots of home reading
- Dedicating time to work on English at home
- Not for the faint of heart – have to be prepared to sound silly and make mistakes
- Can be frustrating and confusing until VOILA!



A small sample of student work from Term 1, September, 2021



SEPTEMBER 2022 LFI

Registration Procedures

- Application for **Late French Immersion** is open now until January 31st . Applications are to be submitted directly to the school's office or via email at **secord@vsb.bc.ca**.
- Please include the following in your application:
 - A completed application form, which is available at: [https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student Learning/Elementary/French Language/Late French Immersion Gr 6-7/Pages/Default.aspx](https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student_Learning/Elementary/French_Language/Late_French_Immersion_Gr_6-7/Pages/Default.aspx)
 - A letter of intent (preferably handwritten) by the student
 - The student's Grade 5 Term One Report Card (you can send this later when you receive it)

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Registration Information

- If there are more applicants than spaces available, a draw will be held and families will receive notification via email of their status, such as an offer of a space in Grade 6 Late Immersion or the child's position on the school waitlist.
- Families have 48 hours to confirm their acceptance of the space in Grade 6 Late French Immersion
- Unclaimed spaces are offered to those on the school's Late French Immersion waitlist. French Immersion schools will inform English catchment schools of accepted French Immersion students in Grade 6 Late French Immersion and these students will forfeit their spot at any other school.

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- If there are unclaimed spaces, they will be offered to students on the waitlist. Students will only be accepted into the Grade 6 Late French Immersion program until September 16th.

If not Late French Immersion, then what?

- FSL grade 5-7
- Intensive French Grade 6 and 7
 - Franklin, and Brock Elementary

[https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student Learning/Elementary/French Language/Intensive French Grade 6-7/Pages/Default.aspx](https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student_Learning/Elementary/French_Language/Intensive_French_Grade_6-7/Pages/Default.aspx)



Questions

[https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student Learning/Elementary/French Language/Late French Immersion Gr 6-7/Pages/Default.aspx](https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student_Learning/Elementary/French_Language/Late_French_Immersion_Gr_6-7/Pages/Default.aspx)

Feel free to contact me at the school at (604) 713-4996

Merci!

-Ariella Cepelinski