

January 7, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians of Grade 5 Students:

The Intensive Core French (ICF) program is an alternate method of teaching Grade 6, and of teaching elementary Core French. **It is an optional program that may be offered in schools where registration warrants and grade level resources are able to support.** This letter outlines the highlights of the ICF program, and should provide sufficient detail to prepare you and your child to make an informed decision.

### **Intensive Core French**

- It is an alternate method of teaching French as a second language.
- It is an alternate method of delivery of the Grade 6 curriculum.
- It is a literacy based program.

**Intensive Core French is a program which improves second language competence. This includes:**

- An increase in the hours of French language instruction
- An increase in the intensity of French language instruction

### **What are the benefits of second language learning?**

- Provides a focus on literacy development
- Develops cultural appreciation and diversity
- Enriches personal development opportunities
- Enhances communication and problem-solving skills
- Develops national and global citizenship
- Facilitates learning of additional languages
- Increases employment opportunities

In the **ICF** program, the academic year is divided into two blocks, a **French block** and an **English block**.

### **French Block**

- Physical Education, Music, Math, Science are delivered in English.
- 60% of the time, students are developing French language skills.
- Many Grade 6 curriculum outcomes are integrated throughout the French block.

- There are a variety of theme-based communicative activities.
- There is one hour of English Language Arts instruction per week.
- **It is not a French immersion program - subjects are not taught in French.**

### English Block

- 90% of the block is taught in English (English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Health, Religious Education, Art, Music and Physical Education).
- 10% is French language instruction.
- Cross-curricular integration occurs.

## Frequently Asked Questions - FAQs

### What if we don't speak French at home?

- The program was designed for non-French speaking families.
- Reporting is done in English.
- Regardless of the language spoken at home, there are a variety of suggested strategies that parents/guardians may use to support their children. For example:
  - Listen to your child read in French
  - Discuss reading content and illustrations of French resources in English
  - View French media together
  - Continue to support and show interest in your child's program
  - Maintain open communication with your child's teacher

### Is the ICF program for everyone?

- All students have the opportunity to achieve success.
- The ICF program provides equitable learning experiences for all students.

### What is curriculum integration?

- Teachers plan for instruction considering the connections between curriculum outcomes.
- Many learning processes and skills are developed throughout the year. For example: comparing, contrasting, analyzing, summarizing, problem solving, paragraph development, and engagement in the writing process.
- The integrity of the Grade 6 curriculum program is maintained.

### Is there a requirement to complete ICF in order to enroll in Late French Immersion in Grade 7?

- ICF is not a prerequisite for the Late French Immersion program.



### Selection

Upon completion of ICF registration, there will be a determination of the viability of the program as well as the number of spaces available. Parents will be informed of acceptance to the program prior to the end of the school year.

Possible scenarios:

The class cap for ICF is 28.

1. Where registration numbers exceed 28, there will be a random selection and a waitlist will be created.
2. In cases where all students register for ICF, there will be full implementation.
3. Where registration numbers are low, the ICF program may not be viable.

### Registration

To register for the ICF Program, please complete the ICF Google Registration Form that will be sent to you via email by your school administrator. If the email registration option is not available to you, please contact your child's school for assistance regarding the registration process.

The ICF registration **deadline is January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

If you have any further questions regarding the ICF Program, please contact Gillian Blackmore, Program Specialist for French Programs, by e-mail [gillianblackmore@nlesd.ca](mailto:gillianblackmore@nlesd.ca) or by telephone at 757-4625.

Sincerely,



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