Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School

Student / Parent Information Handbook

2025-2026

BUILDING ON A SMART CHOICE!

Studying French was a smart choice. fou're in good company. More than wo million Canadian students are enrolled in core French, 320,000 are in French immersion, and Over 150,000 Canadian students attend French first-anguage schools outside Quebec. Staying in French is an even smarter choice. Here's why...



Because you're going places... You may or may not have yet

decided on a career path. However, you should know that staying in French can provide you with lifelong opportunities otherwise unavailable to unilingual

You never know where life leads you. You do know that it's an increasingly inter-connected world. When you stay in French, your options for post-secondary education, work and travel become much wider.

Your life will also be enriched by your appreciation of the arts and culture of the Francophone world.

MAKE TODAY THE DAY YOU DECIDE TO STAY IN FRENCH!

Because you'll connect with people all over the world...

More than eight million Canadians speak French. Around the globe, 160 million people live and work in French. In fact, other than English, it's the only language widely spoken on all five continents.

French is a principal language of world diplomacy. It's also an official language of the United Nations, the European Community and the international Olympic movement.

Staying in French will connect you to this whole world. You can experience unique opportunities and adventures, meet new friends and appreciate other cultures, and open yourself up to the books, music and films produced in this major world language.

Because it power-packs a résumé...

Before you leave secondary school, a knowledge of French can lead to some really interesting summer iobs, and when it's eventually time to land a permanent job, you'll find knowing French will provide you with an extra advantage, whether your career path leads you to science, the arts, business or education.

There's a high demand for bilingual workers in every sector of the economy - from retail to technology, from public service to tourism, from teaching to research. This holds true as much overseas as it does right here in Canada.

Because you're Canadian...

Speaking French is as Canadian as hockey and canoes. A knowledge of French is a ticket to knowing all your country. You can participate in exchange programs and events, or go live in a French-language community.

> Learning French is a proven plus. Numerous reports have shown that French secondlanguage education - whether core or immersion - does not

diminish English-language skills or aptitudes. In fact, studies suggest learning a second language can enhance cognitive and intellectual abilities. The same education curriculum is followed. Reading and writing skills are easily transferred from one language to the other.

Staying in French will help make you the kind of person needed in today's world - knowledgeable and appreciative of other people, languages and cultures.

You'll grow as a person...and as a

Keep your options open. Stay in French!

People study French for many reasons. Maybe you're from a francophone community, or maybe an exchange experience turned you onto French. Maybe you fell in love with Montreal. Acadia, or Paris, or were inspired by a teacher.

The reason doesn't matter. All it takes is commitment. And that starts with

You, or your parents, may have questions. You should know that there are many resources available to support your decision to stay in French.

Talk to your guidance counsellor or people you know who made French a continuing part of their education.

For more information, visit cpf.ca.

WE'RE STAYING IN FRENCH BECAUSE **WE'RE** KEEPING OUR OPTIONS OPEN!





Proud to offer Official Language Learning! d'offrir Fiers un enseignement dans deux les langues officielles! www.rcsd.ca



Course Selection

Grade Nine Compulsory Subjects

- Études catholiques 09
- Sciences naturelles 09
- Mathématiques 09
- Sciences sociales 09
- Français immersion 09

Grade Eleven Compulsory Subjects

- Éducation chrétienne 20
- Français immersion 20
- Mathématiques 20 -Fondements and/or
- Mathématiques 20 Pré-calcul

Elective Subjects

Histoire 20

Grade Ten Compulsory Subjects

- Études catholiques 10
- Histoire 10
- Mathématiques 10 -Fondements et Pré-calcul
- Français immersion 10
- Sciences naturelles 10
- Littératie financière 10

Elective Subjects

• Mieux-être 10 (Wellness 10)

Grade Twelve Compulsory Subjects

- Éducation chrétienne 30
- Français immersion 30
- Sciences sociales 30

Elective Subjects

- Mathématiques 30 -Fondements
- Mathématiques 30 Pré- calcul

To meet the requirements for bilingual mention on the transcript of Secondary Level achievement, students are required to complete a minimum of twelve credits taken in French throughout grades 10, 11 and 12. The courses necessary for bilingual mention include three French Language Arts courses (Français immersion 10, 20, 30) as well as three English Language Arts courses (English Language Arts 10 A (or B), 20, 30 A (or B)). The other French credits can be obtained from courses in the remaining areas of study or electives that are taught in French. NOTE: High Schools may survey for the above mentioned electives. However, the High Schools may not necessarily be able to offer all electives if enrollment numbers are insufficient.

Other Information

Learning Resource Program

Parents often inquire about learning resource programs for students who require additional learning support at the high school level. Recent reports indicate that French **Immersion** classrooms are more inclusive to a broader spectrum of learners and parents are choosing to retain their children in FSL programs. Many learning resource students can and do achieve well in French Immersion with the collaboration of the learning resource teacher. classroom teacher and supportive families.

French learning resource program supports are available for all Regina Catholic French Immersion students at the high school level. Please contact the high school for additional information about the French Immersion High School Learning Resource Program.

HOW PROFICIENT WILL MY CHILD BE?

Learners in French immersion programs generally attain a level of proficiency that exceeds that of a core program, thanks to the time and intensity involved. Recent testing in some Canadian school boards has shown that French immersion students in Grade 12 generally succeed at a B2 level on the international DELF assessment, which means they can interact effectively with native French speakers as well as understand and produce complex oral and written texts.³ The intensive exposure to the target language allows students to quickly reach the level of proficiency required to learn their subjects in the new language. High school French immersion graduates should be able to work in or pursue post-secondary studies in French.



WILL IMMERSION GRADUATES HAVE TROUBLE IN UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T TAKE HIGH SCHOOL SUBJECTS IN ENGLISH?

A survey of Canadian university students¹⁰ found that the majority of French immersion graduates surveyed reported no difficulty in adjusting to university courses offered in English. In fact, French immersion graduates have more options than other students because in Canada they may choose to take some or all post-secondary courses in their second language. The majority of survey respondents reported no difficulty in making the transition from high school to university courses in French.



Other Immersion Opportunites



SENATE OF CANADA

Senate Page Program

Senate Page Program Pages are full-time students who work part-time at the Parliament in Ottawa while completing their studies. They are regionally selected students who attend post- secondary institutions within the National Capital Region. The positions include a salary that completely covers tuition and living expenses for the duration of the program.

More information is available at https://sencanada.ca/en/about/careers/page-program/



Student Guide Program

This unique opportunity for post- secondary students within any discipline would allow students to be a tour guide in France. Applicants must be bilingual and have experience working as a historic sites/museum interpretation, or as a guide- interpreter. Students would work as a guide at either the Canadian National Vimy Memorial or the Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial.

The program is organized by Veterans Affairs Canada as part of their efforts to maintain youth awareness of the nation's military history.

More information is available at https://www.veterans.gc.ca/en/remembrance/memorials/visit-canadian-memorials-in-europe/student-guide-program

Bursary Opportunities



RCSD French Immersion Bursary

Regina Catholic Schools offers a bursary program for any RCSD graduates that enter into the Baccalauréat en éducation program. This bursary is available for all four years of post-secondary education. This program is a return service; bursary during years one and two will be \$1,000.00 per year and for years three and four the bursary will increase to \$1,500.00 per year. In turn, this will require a two-year service commitment to the RCSD upon successful completion of the education degree.