

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Secondary French Immersion

### **1. Is there an application process for Grade 9 French Immersion?**

No. Once a student is enrolled in the elementary French Immersion program, they will be able to continue in the Grade 9 French Immersion program without reapplying.

### **2. If there are not enough students registered for the French Immersion program to run at my secondary site, what can I do?**

It is possible that French Immersion students could be combined with Extended French students so that a combined class would run. Each student would have a course code that would reflect the program of study. Minimum numbers are determined at each school site as they would be for any secondary program.

### **3. Will French Immersion students be eligible to participate in other optional programs such as Advanced Placement (AP)?**

If the French Immersion site also offers AP, students are welcome to take part in both programs.

### **4. What is the transition plan for students attending Bishop Reding who will be grandfathered to Milton #3 Catholic Secondary School?**

Staff are currently in the process of reviewing all considerations related to this program in Milton; both the limitations of physical space at Bishop Reding, as well as the availability of French Immersion staff. More information will be shared with parents as it becomes available. Our intent is to carefully consider all of our options to deliver the best possible program to our students.

### **5. What about transportation plans for secondary French Immersion students?**

As with other secondary optional programs, the Board does not provide transportation to secondary optional French Immersion program sites.

### **6. What is the timeline for registration?**

HCDSB staff are working to have all students registered for their courses by December 11, 2020. Please check with your French Immersion school site for details.

**7. Which courses will French Immersion students undertake during their secondary career?**

At this time, the 10 compulsory courses will be made up of a combination of FSL, Religious Studies, Geography, History, Career Studies and Civics.

**8. Which courses will be offered as electives to French Immersion students?**

This decision will vary from site to site and may vary year to year. Please contact your French Immersion secondary school site for further information.

**9. Will French Immersion courses be made available in summer school?**

At this time, staff are working to provide a successful start for grade 9 French Immersion students for September, 2021 and will consider summer school options in the future.

**10. What is the difference between Extended French and French Immersion?**

The primary difference is the number of hours in French instruction completed by the end of grade 8. Extended French students will have completed a minimum of 1260 hours, while French Immersion students will have completed a minimum of 3800 hours. The difference in secondary school is that Early French students must complete 7 credits (4 in French as a Second Language, 3 in content areas) while French Immersion students must complete 10 credits (4 in French as a Second Language, 6 in content areas) to fulfill program requirements.

**11. Are course options and descriptions available for review?**

Please contact your French Immersion secondary school site to seek more information about courses and descriptions.

**12. Will a certificate be offered at the end of grade 12?**

Yes, students in the secondary French Immersion program will receive a corresponding certificate just as students in Extended French receive a certificate that corresponds to their program.

**13. Can a student from outside HCDSB register for French Immersion?**

Yes, as long as the student has accumulated a minimum of 3800 hours of French instruction by the end of grade 8, and as long as there is space in the program. Please contact your French Immersion secondary site to confirm.

**14. Can students in French Immersion challenge the DELF exam?**

Yes, as long as there is an ongoing partnership between HCDSB and other governing agencies, we will continue to offer students the option to challenge the DELF when they are enrolled in grade 12 French as a Second Language courses.

**15. Will students who attend Bishop Reding and then move to Milton #3 Catholic Secondary School be required to purchase new uniforms?**

No, students who transfer from Bishop Reding will be able to wear their Bishop Reding uniforms.

**16. Can a student who was enrolled in Early French switch to French Immersion?**

No. A student must have a minimum of 3800 hours to be eligible to undertake the French Immersion program, and Early French students will not have accumulated those number of hours by the end of Grade 8.

**17. Will new teaching staff be hired?**

HCDSB will be planning for the expansion of the French Immersion program by making appropriate staffing decisions at all secondary sites in order to accommodate new classes and sections. We anticipate having to hire new staff as the program grows over time.

**18. Will Religious studies be offered in French at the elementary level to correspond with secondary offerings?**

At this time, there are no plans to change our program of instruction at the elementary level.