



# French Immersion Kindergarten Registration Frequently Asked Questions

## What does the French Immersion Kindergarten program look like?

French Immersion Kindergarten Programs are offered at 2 elementary schools in the Comox Valley: École Puntledge Park in Courtenay and École Robb Road in Comox.

[This video](#) summarizes the features of French Immersion in elementary school, while showcasing a Kindergarten classroom at École Puntledge Park.

## How do I register my child in a French Immersion Kindergarten Program?

French Immersion registration is done on a first come, first serve basis. Siblings of students currently enrolled at a French Immersion elementary school will be given registration priority at that elementary school FI program.

**Step One:** Complete the Expression of Interest Form which opens on Jan 14, 2025, at 6:00pm. The link can be found at <https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/expression-of-interest-form/>

Within the Expression of Interest Form, you will be asked to rank your preferences of Programs of Choice. You will receive an auto-generated email confirming receipt of your submission – this is not a confirmation of acceptance into the program, just a confirmation that the Expression of Interest was submitted successfully.

[This video](#) summarizes the steps for the Expression of Interest, and answers some questions that you may have. The Expression of Interest process that you see in the video is only available from Jan 14, 2025 at 6:00pm until it closes on Friday, Jan 17 at 12:00pm.

**Step Two:** The program(s) to which you applied will contact you with your acceptance or waitlist status. If accepted, the school will send you information on the next steps for registration.

## What documents do I require to sign up for French Immersion?

No documents will be required for the Expression of Interest.

### **Do we need to speak French at home?**

There is no requirement for parents to have any knowledge or understanding of French. All communication from schools will be in English. You will learn French along with your child.

### **How much French is spoken in a French Immersion class?**

In Kindergarten, French understanding is built through vocabulary activities, gestures, repetition, etc, with lots of reinforcement in English to build routines. French use gradually increases as students' proficiency and understanding increases.

### **How many spaces are available in the program?**

This year, there are 60 spaces at École Robb Road and 40 at École Puntledge Park Elementary.

There are no catchment areas for French Immersion, so you can rank your choice of school in order of preference on the Expression of Interest Form, regardless of where you live within the Comox Valley.

### **Is there bus transportation?**

Students who attend a Program of Choice, such as French Immersion, are not eligible for bus transportation.

### **Does my child need to be vaccinated to attend Kindergarten?**

There are no vaccination requirements to enter any Kindergarten program in this school district.

### **How do I get my child ready for Kindergarten?**

Once you have been accepted, and you complete the registration process, more information will be provided at the Welcome to K event at your new school in May or June.

One of our Kindergarten teachers made [this helpful video](#) to help families prepare children for the routines of Kindergarten.

### **Is Kindergarten the only entry point for French Immersion?**

Students may enter Early French Immersion in Grade 1 if space allows. There is also a Late French Immersion program at École Puntledge Park with entry at Grade 6.

### **What happens if my child signs up for French Immersion Kindergarten and it's not a good fit?**

Though this is not ideal, it is possible to leave Early French Immersion if it is not a good fit for your child. Your first step would be to contact your school's Learning Support Team for guidance.