



Information About Integrated French Program

1. What is Integrated French?

Integrated French is an **Optional French Program** designed for all students who are willing to make a minimum of a three-year commitment to the program, although completing the full six-year program brings the best results. Integrated French begins in Grade 7 and ordinarily lasts until Grade 12. Integrated French students take French Language Arts and another course in French (usually Social Studies) for a total of 25-30 percent of instructional time. Language Arts instruction is in both French (20 percent of their learning time) and English (10 percent). At the Senior High level, Integrated French students must complete 6 Integrated French courses in order to earn an Integrated French Certificate.

Although the Integrated French Program begins in Grade 7 with the intent of continuing until Grade 12, if any Integrated French class dips below 15 students, and a combined class is not possible, the class may be discontinued. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) will be informed in advance if this appears necessary. At the senior high level, course offerings in French will also depend on student enrolment. The number of courses or subjects offered will depend upon the availability of qualified teaching staff.

2. Where is the Integrated French Program being offered?

The Integrated French Program begins in grade 7 at the following CCRCE schools, when numbers warrant:

Celtic Family: Dr. W. A. MacLeod (Riverton)

Chignecto Family: E.B. Chandler Junior High (Amherst)

Cobequid Family: Redcliff Middle School, Truro Middle School and Central Colchester Junior High

Nova Family: South Colchester Academy

3. How is an Integrated French Program different from Core French and French Immersion Programs?

Students in Grades 7- 9 Core French receive French instruction for at least 10 percent of their total learning time. Senior High students, who chose to take Core French, learn French for about 12.5 percent of their instructional time. Students who enrol in the Late French Immersion Program receive instruction in French for approximately 70 percent of the school day in Grades 7 to 9 and approximately 40 percent in Grades 10 to 12.

4. Will an Integrated French Program student learn as much Social Studies as students in the English Social Studies classes?

Integrated French students and teachers follow the same Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Social Studies curriculum as classes taught in English.

5. Do students learn more French in the Integrated French Program?

Research shows that there are a number of factors which influence language acquisition. Since students spend more time learning in French, they should learn more of the language. However, THIS IS NOT AN IMMERSION PROGRAM, and most students will not expect to become as fluent as French Immersion graduates. Students learn at different rates depending on their aptitude, work habits, and their motivation and so, individual results will vary.

6. What happens if a student is considering withdrawing from the Integrated French Program?

In such a case, parent(s)/guardian(s) should share their concerns with the school. The Teacher Support Team and Student Planning Team, with collaboration with French Programs and parents, will explore ways in which to best support the student in Integrated French. All available means of supporting the student within the Integrated French Program will be offered. A meeting with a French Programs Consultant, parent(s)/guardian(s) and school staff is required prior to any decision about student placement being made. Please note that changes to programming do not occur during the months of July and August.

7. What support services are available to students in Integrated French?

Students in the Integrated French Program are eligible to receive the support offered at their school, (Learning Support, Teacher, School Psychologists, Speech-Language Pathologists, Literacy and Mathematics Intervention) however, some of these supports may only be available in English.

8. May students apply who do not attend the school offering the program?

Yes. Any student entering Grade 7 at any school may apply, however, priority will be given to students who would normally attend the school where the program is offered.

9. How do students from other schools travel to the school offering the program?

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are responsible for transportation if the student is not already attending the school that is offering the program.

10. How will students be selected?

Integrated French Immersion is an optional French Program designed for all students. All students and parent(s)/guardian(s) who are willing to make a long-term commitment to the program may apply. If there are more applications than there are places, public draws will be held. If necessary, a waiting list will be established. Minimum enrolment to start a class in Integrated French will be 20, to a maximum of 30.

Parents should not expect confirmation prior to the completion of staffing, which is usually in April and after the announcement of the 2024-2025 budget.

If you have additional questions, please contact one of the Regional French Consultants.

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