

# Welcome to Kindergarten! French Immersion Catholic Education Program



**Hamilton-Wentworth  
Catholic District School Board**

*Believing, Achieving, Serving*

# Introductions



**Hamilton-Wentworth  
Catholic District School Board**

*Believing, Achieving, Serving*

# Land Acknowledgement



Webster's Fall by Julia Veenstra





**Lord,  
We ask your blessing on those gathered here today.  
As our children prepare to begin school, May  
confidence be their foundation,  
May grace be their guide,  
and may hope be their compass toward a bright  
future.  
May they face each day knowing God is with them.  
May tonight be a time to listen, support and  
encourage each other in joyful anticipation of new  
opportunities.  
We ask for God's guidance on our journey,  
That we may work together to serve God and one  
another.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

# **FRENCH IMMERSION IN THE HWCDSB**

- **The French Immersion Program begins in Year 2 (SK) of the Kindergarten Program.**
- **French is the language of instruction for a minimum of 50% of the day.**
- **English and French are used throughout the day during the inquiry and play-based learning opportunities.**



# Entry Procedure

- **Admission into the French Immersion Program shall be at the beginning of September in the Senior Kindergarten (SK) year.**
- **Registration for the program is in February (same as English Schools).**
- **Parents or guardians who wish their children to receive instruction in French may choose to enroll them in the French Immersion Program.**



- ❖ **St. Vincent de Paul and St. Clare are our 2 new sites and are capped at 20 Kindergarten Year 2 students**



**Registrations received will be time stamped in order to determine order of admission that will be based on,**

- **Immediate catchment (In bounds)**
- **Older siblings**
- **French Immersion catchment**





# Can my child start French Immersion in Year 1? How do I register my child



Click below to access HWCDSB French Immersion Policy and Procedures:

[S.P.02—French Immersion Program](#)

[SP.02—French Immersion Program - Admission Procedures, Guidelines and Transportation](#)





Kindergarten Year 1: Register your child at their homeschool.  
Registration opens the 1st week of February.

After your child is registered at their homeschool, call the French Immersion school for your area and ask if there is a waitlist for Kindergarten Year 1.

You will not be guaranteed a spot in Year 1 but by late Summer if space opens up you will be informed.

In your child's Year 1 at their home school, when February registration opens up, that is when you register at the French Immersion school.

There may be wait list restrictions or max capacity – every school has different limitations. You will receive specific information depending on your French Immersion school.



Should space be available, subject to an assessment by the Planning Department in consultation with the Principal, admission of Year 1 Kindergarten students into the French Immersion Program will follow this process:

- 1. After February 1st of each year, parents contact the French Immersion School to indicate their interest in having their child in the French Immersion.**
- 2. Principals will create a wait list with the name of the parent, phone number, and record the date and time.**
- 3. Once all Kindergarten Year 2 students have been accommodated, consideration will be given to the wait list applicants following the procedure below:**
  - i. Year 1 Kindergarten students who are Catholic and live within the immediate catchment area for students enrolling in the English track of the school;**
  - ii. Year 1 Kindergarten students who are Catholic and live in the French Immersion catchment area of the school and who already have siblings in French Immersion at the school;**
  - iii. Year 1 Kindergarten students who are Catholic and live in the French Immersion catchment area who do not have siblings in French Immersion. Transportation to the French Immersion school would be the responsibility of the parents unless there is space on the bus and they apply for empty seat status; and,**
  - iv. Other (e.g., students out of the French Immersion catchment area, non-Catholic admission [following steps 1 to 3 for priority of entry]).**

# How does my child get to the French Immersion School?

- Transportation is provided (for those outside of walking boundaries) to the French Immersion school from your child's **local/ neighbourhood school**.
- Your child would be picked up from, and dropped off at, the **home school**.
- This is subject to eligibility based on if your primary address is within the designated school's attendance boundary at a distance of MORE THAN:





# Eligibility Guidelines

Grade	Distance
Kindergarten	More than 1.2 km
Grade 1 to 8	More than 1.6 km
Grade 9 to 12	More than 3.2 km

Click below to access HWCDSB Student Transportation Policy and Procedures

[ST.01 Student Transportation - PROCEDURES](#)

[ST01 Student Transportation](#)



**Transportation  
Questions?**

**Please call Hamilton-  
Wentworth Student  
Transportation  
Service:**

**905-523-2318**



# Schools that offer French Immersion in the HWCDSB:



**September 2023 offering  
Kindergarten Year 2 to Grade 4**

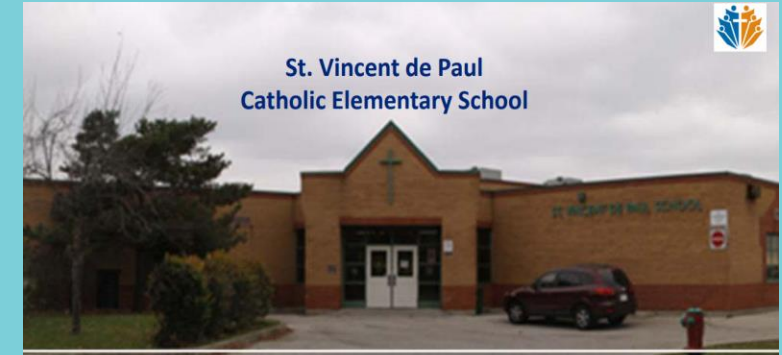


**September 2023 offering  
Kindergarten Year 2 – Grade 8**

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offering Kindergarten Year 2 – Grade 8**



**St. Eugene Catholic Elementary School**



**September 2023  
offering Kindergarten Year 2 to  
Grade 4**



**September 2023  
offering Kindergarten Year 2 – Grade 8**

# Feeder Schools

A perspective view of a long, empty school hallway. The floor is highly reflective, showing the overhead lights and the doors. On the left, there are several wooden doors, some of which are slightly ajar. On the right, there is a large red bulletin board with several papers pinned to it, and a white fire alarm pull station. The hallway leads to a brighter area at the far end, where an exit sign is visible. The overall atmosphere is clean and quiet.





# St. Clare of Assisi serves the following Catholic Elementary Schools

## Feeder Schools:

- Immaculate Heart of Mary
- Our Lady of Peace
- St. Agnes
- St. Clare of Assisi
- St. Francis Xavier
- St. Gabriel
- St. Martin of Tours



**St. Clare Catholic Elementary School**  
185 Glenashton Dr Stoney Creek, ON , L8G4E7  
905-523-2344  
<https://stcl.hwcdsb.ca/>



# St. Eugene serves the following Catholic Elementary Schools

## Feeder Schools:

- Holy Name of Jesus
- Our Lady of the Assumption
- Our Lady of Hope
- St. David
- St. Eugene
- St. James the Apostle
- St. John the Baptist
- St. Luke
- St. Mark
- St. Matthew
- St. Paul



**St. Eugene Catholic Elementary School 120 Parkdale  
Ave. S Hamilton, ON, L9K3P3  
905-545-9598**

<https://steu.hwcdsb.ca/>



# St. Joseph serves the following Catholic Elementary Schools

## Feeder Schools:

- Canadian Martyrs
- Guardian Angels
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel
- St. Ann, Hamilton
- St. Augustine
- St. Bernadette
- St. Joseph
- St. Lawrence
- St. Patrick
- St. Thomas the Apostle



**St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School**  
270 Locke St S Hamilton, ON , L8P4C1  
905-529-1002  
<https://stjs.hwcdsb.ca/>





# St. Vincent de Paul serves the following Catholic Elementary Schools

## Feeder Schools:

- Holy Name of Mary
- Immaculate Conception
- Regina Mundi
- St. Ann, Ancaster
- St. Joachim
- St. Teresa of Avila
- St. Thérèse de Lisieux
- St. Vincent de Paul



**St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School**  
295 Greencedar Dr Hamilton, ON , L9C7M9  
905-385-3734

<https://stvp.hwcdsb.ca/>



# Sts. Peter and Paul serves the following Catholic Elementary Schools

## Feeder Schools:

- Annunciation of our Lord
- Blessed Sacrament
- Corpus Christi
- Our Lady of Lourdes
- Sacred Heart
- St. Anthony Daniel
- Sts. Peter and Paul
- St. John Paul II
- St. Kateri Tekakwitha
- St. Margaret Mary
- St. Marguerite D'Youville
- St. Michael
- St. Teresa of Calcutta



**Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Elementary School 49 Fennell  
Ave E Hamilton, ON, L9A1R5  
905-383-4911**

<https://stpp.hwcdsb.ca/>

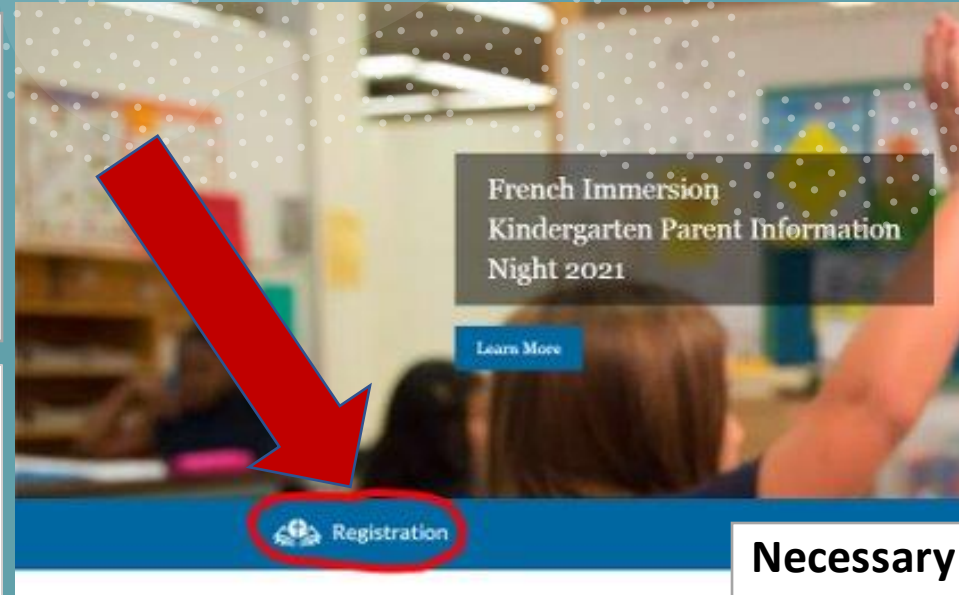
# Cathedral High School is our Catholic French Immersion Secondary School





# How do I register my child?

**First time users:** If you have never enrolled a child with the HWCDSB, you will first need to create an account to access the Online Registration web page. Please see [HWCDSB Online Registration Parent Process](#) for instructions on requesting an account.



**Visit the school's website and click on the icon to complete the online registration.**

## Necessary documents for registration:

- Birth certificate
- Baptismal certificate
- Proof of residency
- Immigration documentation, where necessary.

Full registration information available at:

<https://www.hwcdsb.ca/registration/>



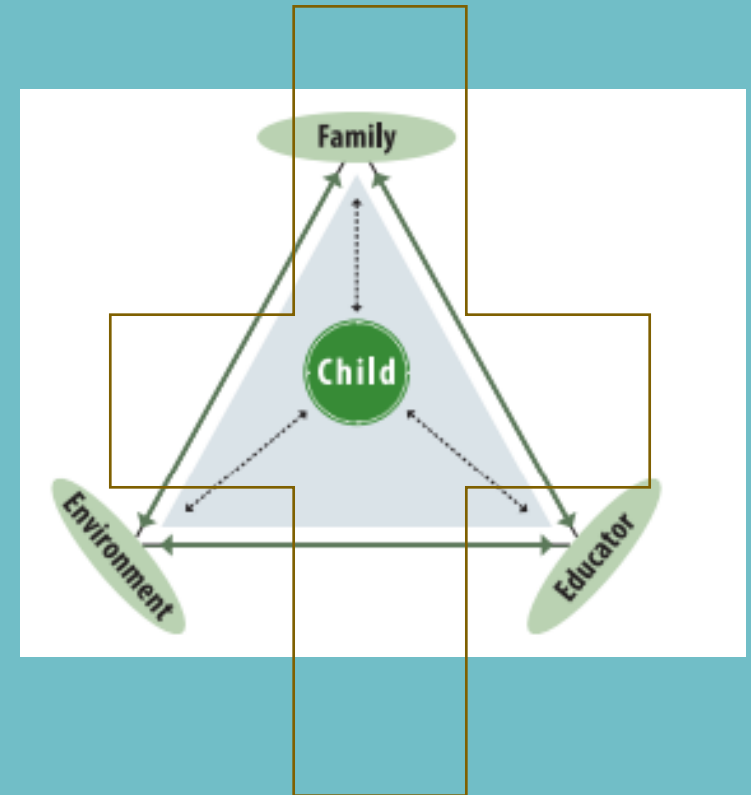
**Provide all information requested. Once your request is approved by the Principal, the school secretary will call to make arrangements for registration.**



# The Kindergarten Program

**Learning happens in the context of relationships...**

- **with families**
- **with educators**
- **with our faith**





# The Kindergarten Program

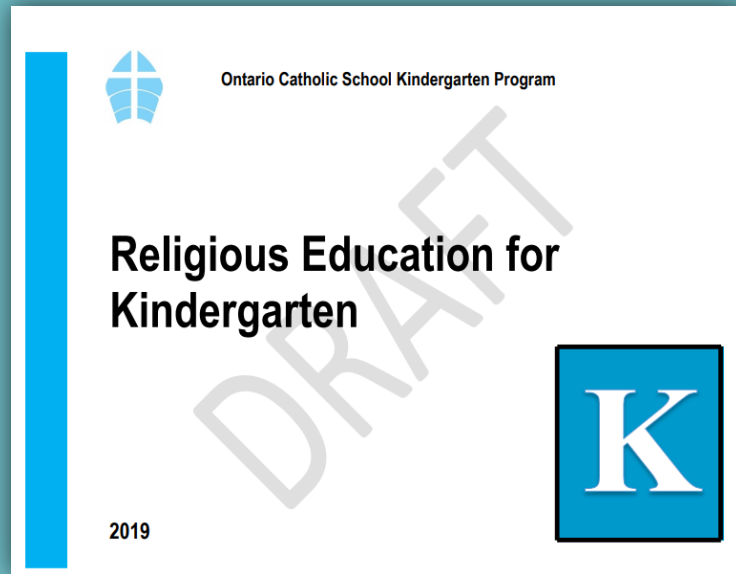
## Shared Understanding:

- Every child is competent and capable of complex thinking;
- Children have different backgrounds;
- Children have different pre-school experiences;
- Children develop at different rates.

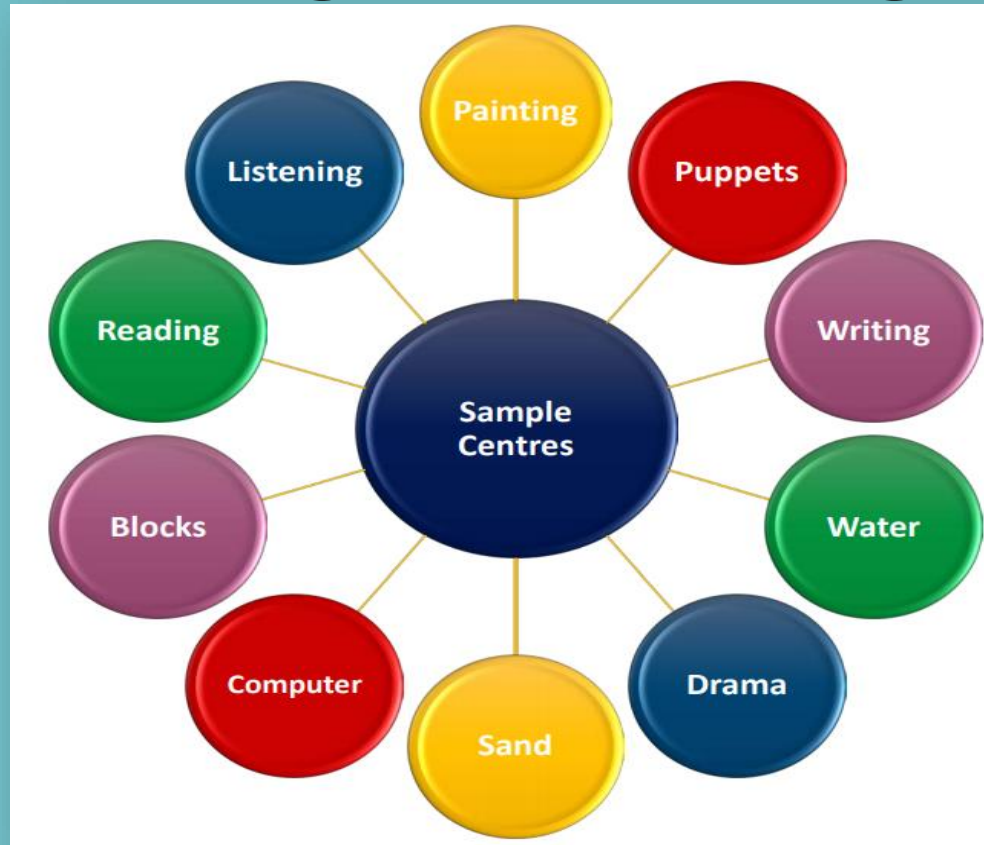




# The Kindergarten Program in our Catholic Context

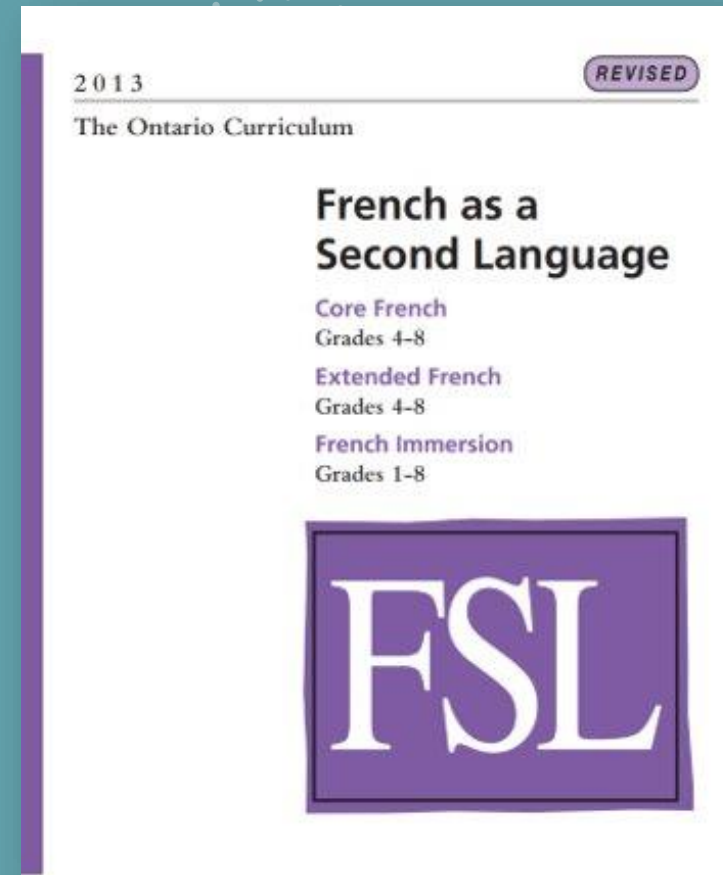


# Literacy and Numeracy in English and French are embedded across the Kindergarten Program.



# French Instruction Subjects Grades 1 - 8

- **French Literacy**
- **Visual Arts**
- **Health and Physical Education**
- **Science**
- **Social Studies**
- **History/Geography (7/8)**





# Benefits of French Immersion

Research demonstrates that French immersion:

- develops listening skills, focus and concentration;
- increases cognitive abilities to understand complex and abstract concepts;
- enhances ability to communicate in the first language;
- makes it easier to acquire a third or fourth language;
- strengthens problem solving skills; and,
- opens academic, cultural and career options.





# Frequently Asked Questions





# **What if we don't speak French?**

- **The French Immersion Program is designed to allow students to acquire the French language without parents needing to be fluent in the French language.**
- **Most students do not speak French at home**
- **All communication from the school is in English**
- **Report cards are in English**

# How can I support my child at home?



- Read to your child at home in English and/or home language.
- Spend time reviewing French activities completed by your child at home.
- Create a vocabulary rich home by posting words in both English and French on common items (e.g., stove, door, chair, etc.)
- Borrow/access French resources from the public library, videos, music, books, magazines, or build a personal collection.
- Watch French channels on YouTube.
- Watch French cartoons and movies.
- Listen to French radio.
- Check out French Street.ca for a list of events, programs, and resources in French: <http://www.frenchstreet.ca/en/>
- Join the local chapter of Canadian Parents for French: <http://on.cpf.ca/>
- Join Idello educational website: <https://www.idello.org/en>



**Idello**

**<https://www.idello.org/en>**



**FSL Homework Toolbox**

**<http://www.fslhomeworktoolbox.ca/>**







# Canadian Parents for French

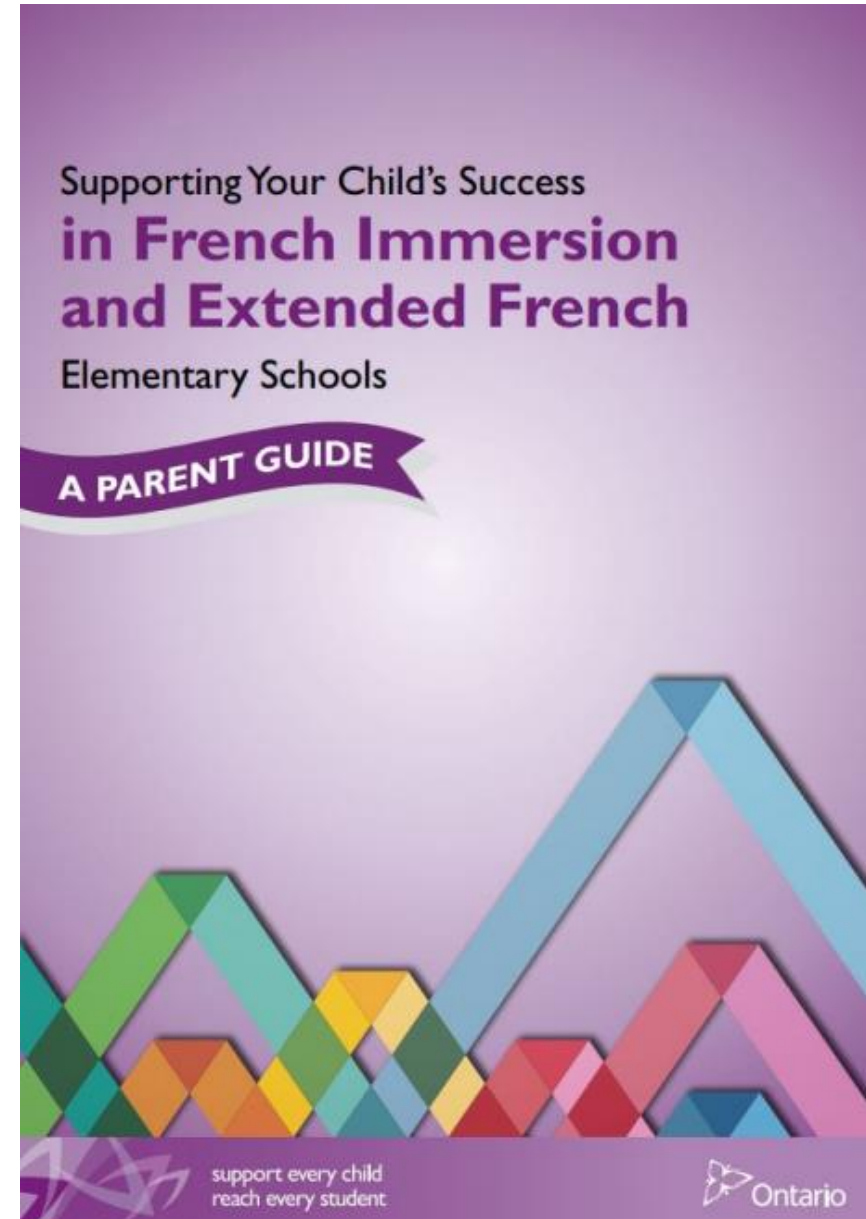
<http://www.cpf.ca/>





# Ministry of Education Resources for Parents

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/parentguidefrench.pdf>



# Will my child learn the same curriculum as students in the English program?

- Religion is taught in English from the Ontario Catholic Elementary Curriculum
- Science, Social studies, History, Geography, Health/Physical Education and Visual Arts, use the same provincial curriculum as the English track;
- Mathematics, which is taught in English, follows the Ministry's Mathematics curriculum;
- Language expectations are met in both the English and French language.





# Is Kindergarten FI an everyday, all-day program?

- The Kindergarten French Immersion is a full day, everyday program.









# Entry Procedures

**Entry procedures will be communicated to you closer to the start of the school year.**



# School Uniforms:



St. Eugene	St. Joseph	St. Clare of Assisi	St. Vincent de Paul	Sts. Peter and Paul
<b>JML UNIFORMS:</b> 95 Parkdale Ave N, Hamilton 905-544-1608	<b>JBC Uniforms:</b> 1576 Stone Church Rd E., Unit 13 B, Hamilton 905-389-5339	<b>R. J. McCarthy :</b> 125 Nebo Road, Hamilton, 905-318- 2901	<b>R. J. McCarthy:</b> 125 Nebo Road, Hamilton, 905-318- 2901	<b>R. J. McCarthy:</b> 125 Nebo Road, Hamilton, 905-318- 2901
				

## Students are to wear:

- casual style twill pant in navy (Dockers style), skirt, shorts or jumper
- white or navy collared short or long sleeve polo shirt; turtlenecks are also permitted.
- shirts should be crested; crests can be purchased in the school's main office and sewn on to clothing items, if desired.



# For more information, please visit:

<https://www.hwcdsb.ca/learn/frenchimmersion/>



**Select the “Learn”  
tab and visit the  
French Immersion  
page.**



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# Catholic Child Care Centres

**Child Care at many of our school buildings is available through the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic Child Care Centers.**

**Child Care**

**For contacts and further detail please click the link below:**

**<https://www.hwcdsb.ca/support/childcaredevelopment/>**



# French Community Organizations



# Questions?

