



New vocabulary is infused into everyday classroom activities. Children learn French as they do their first language(s).

# Early childhood

**AN INDIVIDUALIZED, EMERGENT LEARNING ENVIRONMENT  
SUPPORTED BY INSPIRING, CARING TEACHERS FUELS LANGUAGE  
ACQUISITION WITHIN OUR EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS**

CFIS's Early Childhood Division includes students in preschool (~3 years old), junior kindergarten (~4 years old) and kindergarten. These three grades focus on the use of language through meaningful, engaging interactions with peers, teachers and the classroom environment. Our emphasis is on developing the whole child: intellectually, emotionally, socially, physically and attitudinally.

CFIS's preschool and junior kindergarten programs follow a play-based, emergent curriculum model. Teachers create engaging activities based on the interests of the students within each classroom. Daily routines and lessons are full of exploration, stories, playing, singing, art and dramatics. Programming is choice-based; teachers plan learning opportunities that will entice students to try new activities, develop new skills and take risks with new materials.

In kindergarten, age-appropriate, engaging academic instruction is added to the emergent curriculum model and balanced with exploration and play.

CFIS's rich and dynamic French immersion learning environment has an international focus. Starting in the earliest grades, students learn and connect with cultures around the world and have age-appropriate leadership responsibilities within their classroom and school community.





An emergent curriculum model encourages learning and language acquisition by providing children with opportunities to learn about what they love the most. From volcanos to robotics, and castles to puppies, lessons and learning centres are designed by teachers based on their students' unique interests.



Above: Mme Julie chats in French with a student over pretend phones

Essential to development and learning, our students play outdoors daily, weather permitting. They frequent the playground and enjoy local walks.



In music class, students learn French quickly through combined song and drama two to four times a week.



Time for art is built into centre-based activities. Starting in kindergarten, students learn with specialist art and music teachers in our vibrant fine and performing arts program.



Students prepare for formal academics through daily play-based activities focused on building a strong foundation of core competencies.



From caring for their classroom to initiating class projects, students' leadership abilities are fostered in age-appropriate, meaningful ways each day.



Physical education is focused on gross-motor development and teachers work with each child to set goals for his or her physical well-being.



The preschool and junior kindergarten schedule includes time for naps or quiet rest each afternoon, with a short rest period after lunch in kindergarten.



CFIS is a UNESCO school, which means part of our curriculum is focused on learning about other cultures and caring for the environment.



Students bring lunch and two snacks for full-day programs. Starting in Grade 1, families can purchase healthy meals from the cafeteria.



All programs are five days per week with preschool and junior kindergarten offered as half day AM or full day. Kindergarten is a full-day program. There are options for before- and/or after-school care and students can ride the bus, which picks up in the SW and NW.

