



Empowering multilingual minds and global hearts.

A proud leader in French immersion and international education, CFIS opens a world of possibilities for our students.

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At Calgary French & International School (CFIS), we ignite curiosity and foster a love of learning through a global education. Our International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes, starting as early as age 3, delivered in French, English, and Spanish, engage students in a rich curriculum and diverse co-curricular activities to broaden their horizons and deepen their cultural understanding.

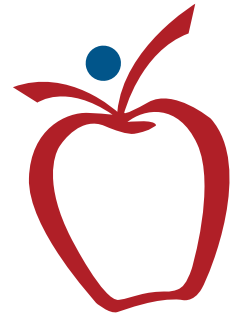
CFIS is dedicated to fostering the growth and development of each of our students in every aspect of their lives. We encourage active participation in advocacy and community service, helping students build empathy and a sense of global responsibility. Through international travel and cross-cultural experiences, our students grow confident in navigating diverse perspectives.

Our graduates are multilingual, critical thinkers, and leaders, ready for success in programs and pursuits of their choice. Thank you for considering CFIS for your child's education.

We invite you to step into a world of opportunities at CFIS!

Mme. Nicola Abrioux-Camirand

Head of School



Our *Mission*

Calgary French & International School develops each student's individual and academic potential through full French immersion, an international focus and the development of the whole student in a rich and dynamic learning environment.

Our *Vision*

CFIS graduates will be active global citizens with a foundation for life-long success, and our school will be the leader in French immersion and international education.



CAIS



INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE® (IB) PROGRAMMES AT CFIS

Explore!

CFIS is the only full French Immersion Primary Years Programme in Alberta!



CFIS is a Candidate School for the MYP, and is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. These are schools that share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that CFIS believes is important for our students.

IB Continuum at CFIS for Lifelong Success

In the International Baccalaureate journey, students are encouraged to be curious, ask questions, and understand the world beyond their own experience.

At CFIS, beginning at age 3, and all the way to graduation, this is all about making connections and seeing how things fit together in this interconnected world. Instead of just memorizing facts, our IB students are all able to build their own understanding and become independent, creative problem solvers.

At CFIS, our IB programmes are enriched and complemented by our full French immersion setting and experiences that take learning outside of the classroom.

PYP

IB PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME PRESCHOOL to GRADE 5

Engage actively in your learning, where students from Preschool to Grade 5 explore inquiry-based, transdisciplinary units in a collaborative and dynamic environment.

MYP

IB MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME GRADES 6-10

Cultivate skills and interests through a diverse range of collaborative learning experiences from Grades 6-10.

DP

IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME GRADES 11-12

Become an independent, critical thinker and lifelong learner, while developing multilingual skills and a global perspective in Grades 11-12.



The PYP at CFIS encourages students to participate actively in their learning, with teachers collaborating to deepen understanding and build confidence.

The program creates a dynamic, relatable, and engaging learning environment for students aged 3-12, where learning happens through inquiry and transdisciplinary units. All subjects are integrated under a central idea within six transdisciplinary themes.

Inquiry-Based Learning: Encourages students to ask questions and explore.

Transdisciplinary Themes: Integrates learning across subject areas.

Holistic Development: Focuses on academic, social, and emotional growth.



The MYP at CFIS, designed for learners aged 11-16, is currently a candidate program. The framework aims to develop students into active learners who are internationally minded, empathetic, and prepared to live with purpose and meaning.

Active Learners: Students explore learning preferences and take appropriate risks.

Interdisciplinary Connections: Encourages analysis and critical thinking across subjects.

Personal Development: Reflects on identity and global perspectives.



Designed for students aged 17-18, the DP offers options for completing parts or the full program, allowing students to explore passions and engage in enriched academic experiences while becoming well-rounded, conscious young adults.

Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS): Encourages risk-taking, balance, and personal growth through co-curriculars, community service, leadership, and athletics.

Theory of Knowledge (TOK): Fosters critical reflection on knowledge and understanding.

Extended Essay (EE): Develops research, inquiry, and time-management skills through a self-directed project of personal interest.



Explore!

ADVANTAGES OF MULTILINGUALISM IN CHILDREN

CFIS is the only French immersion school that offers French instruction in all subject areas, starting as young as 19 months old, Spanish beginning at Grade 4 and continuing to graduation; this allows our students to achieve language fluency that is recognized internationally.

Through our vibrant learning environment and expert instruction, we are developing essential linguistic and cognitive skills simultaneously, which enhances our students' academic performance & communication skills. Language immersion also supports the development of global competencies required in a fast-changing world.

Get Ahead With Early Learning

Younger students are better equipped to integrate new vocabulary and grasp the unique structure, grammar, and syntax of a new language, making early exposure key to developing fluency.

Immersive Experiences

Students in immersion programs often find themselves thinking and even dreaming in multiple languages, demonstrating deep cognitive engagement.

Neural Pathway Development

Learning multiple languages creates new neural pathways, helping students understand language as a concept and enhancing their overall linguistic abilities.

Pattern Recognition

Immersion settings make it easier for students to recognize linguistic patterns and similarities between languages, aiding their comprehension of structure and syntax.

Standardized Test Performance

Multilingual students typically perform better than their English-only peers on standardized tests, reflecting their enhanced cognitive skills.

Cognitive Benefits

Research indicates that learning a second (and third or fourth) language improves focus, critical thinking, problem-solving, and empathy, benefiting students in various aspects of life.

Cultural Openness

Learning additional languages fosters an openness to diverse cultures and ways of life, enriching students' global perspectives.

Desirable Candidates

Multilingual high school graduates are considered highly desirable candidates for both French and English post-secondary programs, giving them a competitive edge.

Continued Learning

While students may grasp the basics of a second or third language by the end of elementary school, ongoing immersion programming through high school and beyond is essential for achieving fluency and mastery.



Explore!

GLOBAL EDUCATION & EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

WHY GLOBAL EDUCATION?

Global Education is at the core of CFIS's values. In developing active global citizenship, we expose students to multiple viewpoints, perspectives and experiences to nurture a deeper understanding of the world and their role in it.

Global competencies are the skills, attitudes and values that are required in our ever changing world. At CFIS, we nurture and heighten these competencies through valuable experiential learning opportunities.



HOW WE PROVIDE EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

As a UNESCO and Round Square school, CFIS is connected to a worldwide network of partner institutions who share our globally-minded values. This allows for unique and engaging learning opportunities for our students to connect with peers internationally, both online and in person.

At varying points in their education at CFIS, students can engage in the following:

- ✓ Offsite outdoor education experiences
- ✓ Virtual exchanges online
- ✓ Group exchanges with partner schools
- ✓ Immersive travel opportunities
- ✓ Domestic and international conferences
- ✓ Individual exchanges with Round Square schools

Experiences and opportunities are built around research-based practices, and focus on relational global learning. These experiences are shown to have a lasting impact on developing strong global competencies for world savvy leaders.



WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY

“I have learned so much about the world and who I am through these experiences. I've stepped out of my comfort zone, taken risks and have made lifelong friends. I have also gained independence and learned resilience through having to adapt to different environments. Through my travels, I have become more culturally aware, and have developed skills that will benefit my academic and professional careers.”

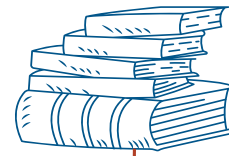
“This experience has really changed me as a person. The way I view nature has changed so much. The respect I now have for it is something I can thank this trip for...we learn about conservation in school, but being part of something like this is completely different. Taking action, and seeing everything with my own eyes impacted me in a way that I really can't describe. This trip has altered my worldview, and helped me grow.”

Without CFIS I would be a tourist, not a traveler.

Explore! Early Transitional Immersion

What is Embark French immersion at CFIS?

Embark is an 'early transitional immersion' program, welcoming grades 1-3 students who have no previous French language experience. This provides more families with the opportunity to enrich their child's education in our full French immersion setting. During a two-year intensive period, Embark students build French language skills while learning alongside their grade-level peers. They then seamlessly move with their classmates to continue on at CFIS in their third year and beyond.



What are the benefits of a French immersion education at CFIS?

A CFIS education fosters engaged academics, physical development, musical talent, emotional resilience, active leadership growth, service, inquiry, global citizenship and philosophies of UNESCO, Round Square, and the International Baccalaureate programme. CFIS students are immersed in a multilingual learning environment from the earliest ages, and through Grade 12.

What can I expect for my child in Embark?

Embark students will receive support from a CFIS Language Strategist to enrich their education and language skills during their first two years at CFIS. With that extra support and foundation, students will have the confidence and skills to move forward with their grade-level peers, by their third year at CFIS.



Why choose Embark at CFIS for French immersion?

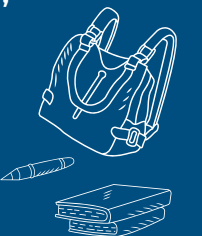
Through the Embark French immersion program, students receive the many benefits of learning in another language, which has been shown to:

- ✓ Enhance focus
- ✓ Increase problem-solving skills
- ✓ Increase creative abilities
- ✓ Build empathy
- ✓ Encourage understanding of different cultures and ways of life
- ✓ Improve brain development
- ✓ Improve science and math skills
- ✓ Create possibilities and options for students future opportunities

Will Embark be a good fit for my child?

Embark is a good fit for students who are strong academically, and who:

- have an encouraging support system at home,
- are motivated to learn and be successful,
- are adaptable, tenacious, and resilient,
- have strong academic skills in English,
- are strong in their sense of self,
- are looking for enrichment,
- have strong work habits, and
- are curious learners.



Explore!

Junior Preschool through Kindergarten

CFIS's ECE Division includes students as young as 19 months to 5 years of age. Our goal is to support and enhance all aspects of each child's development; intellectual, emotional, social, physical and attitudinal, all while immersing them in the French language.



In alignment with current research on best practices in early learning, we follow a play-based, emergent curriculum model. This means that educators create engaging activities based on the interests, needs, and strengths of the students within each classroom, while also targeting specific learning and developmental outcomes.

French language skills are built through meaningful, engaging interactions with peers, teachers, and the classroom environment.

Our international focus helps students learn and connect with cultures around the world and take on age-appropriate leadership responsibilities within their community and classroom.



Our ECE students reap the benefits of a warm, nurturing early years setting, while still having access to all the advantages of our school building and campus, including our libraries, and playgrounds. Our littlest learners are full-fledged members of our school community and are included in assemblies, performances, and special events alongside our elementary and secondary students.

Developmentally appropriate programming is aligned with current research on early learning, particularly language acquisition.

FEATURES OF OUR ECE PROGRAM INCLUDE:

- Child-led play with room for children's voices and choices, developing critical social-emotional competencies and self efficacy
- Daily outdoor time to build sensory and motor skills essential to healthy development and later academic competency
- Classroom environments which include opportunities for artistic, sensorial, social and cognitive exploration
- Rich experiences with the French language including songs, rhymes and finger-plays
- Weekly visits to our early childhood music specialist, for music and movement activities
- Weekly story time in our Elementary Learning Commons with our library team
- Access to our indoor gross motor space for games, obstacle courses, and exploration
- A pedagogy of care approach where learning is embedded in daily interactions with warm, caring and responsive educators

Explore! Grades 1-5 Highlights

CFIS Elementary Division students are engaged, well-rounded learners who are active citizens in their local and global communities. They benefit from inviting, happy learning environments where experiences are guided by dedicated, passionate educators to inspire engaged learners.

In our Elementary Division, from Grade 1 to Grade 5, we foster intellectual, social, emotional, ethical, and attitudinal growth, while placing a strong emphasis on global awareness and character building.

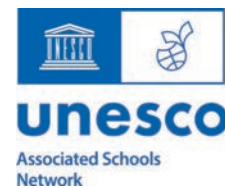
Students benefit from instruction by specialist teachers in visual arts, music, and physical education, and their learning is further enhanced by engaging field trips and visits from expert guest speakers who bring real-world insights to the classroom and inspire students. At CFIS, global learning is deeply embedded within our IB Primary Years Programme, which encourages agency, cultural understanding, and a commitment to responsible action.

Through this program, students engage in meaningful Units of Inquiry, following the themes of:

- Who We Are
- Where We Are in Place and Time
- How We Express Ourselves
- How the World Works
- How We Organize Ourselves
- Sharing the Planet






















These themes prompt students to explore concepts shared by IB schools across the globe.

As a UNESCO school, we are also committed to promoting global citizenship and intercultural dialogue, ensuring that our students grow into compassionate, internationally-minded individuals.



ELEMENTARY DIVISION CLUBS:

Excellence in academics is supported by a dynamic literacy program and enriched through a variety of co-curricular clubs starting in Grade 1. Student clubs are offered based on interest and grade.

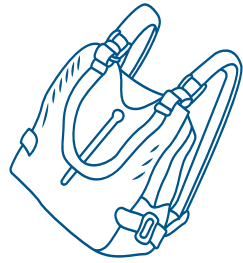
 Debate	 Music	 Sports	 Arts	 Science
 Technology	 Nature	 APEGA	 Book Club	 Cooking
 Mini-preneurs	 Science Fair	 Spelling Bee	 Chess	 Origami
 Drama	 Gardening	 Photography	 Cribbage	 Wellness
		 Languages Spanish, Arabic, Mandarin		

Our hands-on integrated approach to teaching engages students in all academic areas.





Explore!



Grades 6-12 Highlights

Small Class Sizes

With a maximum class size of 20 students and a 100% university placement rate, CFIS graduates emerge as active global citizens equipped for lifelong success.

Design Options for Grades 6-9

In addition to Art and/or Music, students in grades 6 to 9 can choose from the following design options:

Grades 6 & 7

Food Studies, Fitness, Student Ambassadors, Musical, Outdoor Education, Journalism, Set Design, Game Design

Grades 8 & 9

Culinary Arts, Personal Training, Wilderness Studies, Musical, Set Design, Multimedia, Robotics, Social Entrepreneurship

Upon completing grade 9, students are well-prepared to delve deeper into their areas of study and interests.

Language Proficiency

Students write the DELF and DELE exams, certifying their recognized competence in French and Spanish.

Athletics Participation

Approximately 80% of our Secondary students represent CFIS on athletic teams each year.

Travel Studies Program

The CFIS Travel Studies program offers authentic learning and cultural immersion experiences as part of the Round Square international network of schools.



High School students engage with new cultures, contribute to the international community through service work, and practice French and Spanish in immersive environments.

House System

The CFIS House System groups students into one of four houses based on personal strengths and values. This system enhances student life through inter-house competitions, discussions on personal growth, and community service projects in the Calgary region.

Student-led Initiatives

Initiatives like the EDIA student committee, Jörd, and the Gefjun Service Club, promote sustainability and community engagement. These leadership roles, along with mentorship and prefect positions, help students become ethical, responsible citizens while fostering an understanding of their local community and the world.



Fine Arts Exploration

Students are encouraged to explore the fine arts through music, drama, and visual arts, fostering creativity, innovation, and critical thinking. Our music program produces high-quality orchestral performances, and our Senior Concert Band consistently receives accolades at the Alberta International Band Festival.

CFIS Musicals

Nearly 80% of our Secondary Division students participate as cast, crew, or orchestra members in our annual musicals. High School students focus on leadership development in the Senior Musical, while the Middle School production emphasizes artistic skill development.





Explore!

Grades 6-8

At CFIS, the Middle School experience extends beyond the classroom. It supports students in developing a strong work ethic and exploring individual interests.

Language Proficiency & Passion Exploration

Middle school students not only achieve advanced proficiency in French and a foundational level of proficiency in Spanish, but also embark on a journey that nurtures their creative thinking and problem-solving skills.

Holistic Learning Environment

Our holistic approach encourages students to immerse themselves in diverse cultures and express their uniqueness. CFIS's inclusive community of teachers and staff ensures each student feels supported, helping them grow into well-rounded individuals prepared for high school success.

Interdisciplinary Learning & Critical Thinking

Aligned with the Alberta curriculum, CFIS enriches learning with an emphasis on critical thinking, experiential learning, and interdisciplinary approaches, allowing students to connect across subject areas and develop essential skills for their future academic journey.

Middle Years Programme (MYP) Candidate School

CFIS is on track to become a full IB World School by 2026, adding the Middle Years Programme (MYP) to our existing Primary Years (PYP) and Diploma (DP) Programmes.

For further information about the IB and its programmes, visit www.ibo.org.



The IB framework fosters intellectual, personal, and social growth through inquiry-based learning, international-mindedness, and reflective thinking.

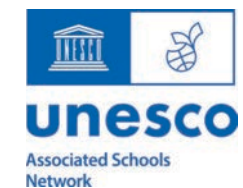
Extracurricular Opportunities

Middle school students are encouraged to participate in a variety of extracurricular activities that include:

- ✓ Competitive sports teams
- ✓ Performance band program, which has won multiple awards
- ✓ Speech and debate
- ✓ Musical performances

Part of the Secondary School Community

CFIS Middle School students are integrated into the broader Secondary School (Grades 6-12), benefiting from the diverse experiences and opportunities available across the entire secondary division.





Explore!

Grades 9-12

CFIS is Calgary's only high school to offer a full French immersion program with Spanish-language enrichment and immersive global learning experiences.

CFIS aligns its courses with the Alberta provincial curriculum and offers the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (DP).

Students are taught in our full French immersion learning environment and benefit from small student-to-teacher ratios. CFIS has an international focus centering on the values of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

With a maximum class size of 20 students and a university placement rate of 100%, CFIS graduates become active global citizens with a foundation for lifelong success.



In our smaller classes, teachers are not just instructors; they are guides who truly get to know and support students, providing feedback and guidance crucial for students' post-secondary journey.



Beyond the typical high school experience, CFIS offers eye-opening global experiences and IB programming that can be tailored to match student interests and passions.

THE CFIS *Advantage*

100% University Placement Rate

All CFIS graduates gain admission to university programs, reflecting our strong academic foundation.

Small Class Sizes for Personalized Support

With a maximum class size of 20 students, teachers provide individual attention and act as guides, offering tailored feedback and support through students' post-secondary planning.

Multilingual Advantage

CFIS offers a full French immersion program with Spanish-language enrichment, ensuring students graduate fluent in multiple languages and ready for global opportunities.

Athletics and Leadership Development

About 80% of Secondary students participate in CFIS athletic teams. Many senior high students also coach or referee junior teams, developing leadership and mentoring abilities.



Customizable IB Programming

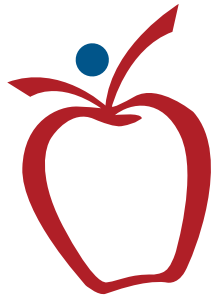
The International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme is flexible, allowing students to tailor their learning to their personal strengths and areas of interest.

Global Learning Experiences

CFIS offers students immersive global experiences, including travel studies and international programs that expand their understanding beyond the classroom.

Comprehensive University Preparation

CFIS provides extensive support for university exploration and applications, including school-led university tours, program investigation, and 1-on-1 assistance throughout the process.



EMPOWERING MULTILINGUAL MINDS AND GLOBAL HEARTS

Cultivating skills, passions and mindsets to thrive in an evolving future!

JUNIOR PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 12

MUSIC

Inspire a love for music

Beginning in the ECE division and continuing through Grade 4, students develop foundational musical skills and confidence. Performances throughout the year showcase student talent and enhance their abilities and love for music.

ORCHESTRAL MUSIC

Start your journey in orchestral band

Starting in Grade 5, students begin their orchestral band experience, participating in high-quality performances and competitions throughout the year.

VISUAL ARTS

Explore creativity

Available for all students at CFIS, from the youngest learners onward, this program encourages self-expression and artistic skill development with access to two dedicated art studios and an art gallery.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Connect learning to real-world experiences

From ECE through High School, students engage in developmentally appropriate activities, such as guest speakers, field trips, and international travel, making learning more meaningful.

TECHNOLOGY

Foster innovation and critical thinking

Technology is integrated across all grade levels, ensuring students have access to tools like iPads, Chromebooks, robotics, and 3D printing, promoting hands-on design and academic growth.

ATHLETICS

Join a competitive team

Beginning in Grade 6, students can participate in our athletics program, training and competing in a variety of sports, and, focusing on skill development, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

PERFORMING ARTS

Shine on stage

Nearly 80% of Secondary Division students participate in our musical theater productions, with High School students focusing on leadership and Middle School productions emphasizing artistic skill development.

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Make a positive impact

Opportunities for students to engage in their communities and develop leadership skills are available throughout their time at CFIS, from Junior Kindergarten to High School.

Explore!

CFIS COMMUNITY

By the Numbers



100%

university admissions of our graduates

100%

graduates eligible for Rutherford Scholarship

30+

universities of acceptance

35+

languages spoken in our community

Faculty and staff from

16

countries around the world

3

languages of study, travel and employment

55+

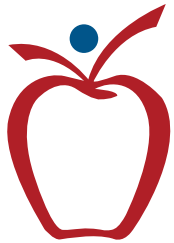
the number of years CFIS has been educating global citizens

16

the average number of years our students will grow with us

22

specialist teachers and learning strategists who enrich our students' learning experiences



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**EXPLORE CFIS
TODAY!**



CAIS