

| en Español |

# Is Spanish Bilingual the right choice for my child?

your child can start in  
kindergarten or grade 1

## Benefits of learning Spanish Bilingual:

- Given how Covid-19 has impacted schools, is Spanish Bilingual the right choice for my child?

Yes! The Calgary Board of Education believes that every child is hardwired to learn languages. With highly qualified and committed teachers, your child's learning experience will be the best it can be regardless of how and where learning takes place. Spanish Bilingual teachers have been very successful using technology to connect, engage and continue to learn in both Spanish and English.

## What are the benefits of learning an additional language?

- Learning Spanish as an additional language offers students significant linguistic, academic and cognitive benefits. It opens doors to knowledge, communication, culture and travel, and gives students an edge in the global job market. It also:
- increases a student's feelings of self-esteem and pride in knowing another language
- enhances problem solving abilities
- improves literacy and numeracy skills that transfer across English and Spanish

## How can I support my child if I don't speak Spanish?

- The Spanish Bilingual Program is designed for students whose first language is not Spanish, so you don't need any special skills. Your child's teacher is highly trained to teach Spanish using research-informed strategies.
- Language skills are integrated and transferable. For that reason, talk, listen, read and write with your child in your home language and these will set a strong foundation for acquiring Spanish in school.
- Help your child broaden their vocabulary in their first language.
- Have your child read to you in the target language and have them tell you what it means.
- To improve listening comprehension skills, have your child record themselves reading something and then listen to it.



learning | as unique | as every student



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of Education**