



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How can I help my child if I don't speak Ukrainian?

Most parents of bilingual program students do not speak Ukrainian and the students thrive in the program. Here are some ways you can help your child when you don't know the language:

- Support and encourage your child's learning.
- Use your home language to develop your child's intellect through conversation about varied topics.
- Encourage reading in any language and read with your child in your home language.
- Communicate with the school about your child's progress.
- Show an interest in Ukrainian and explore Ukrainian events, films and books.

How will my child develop and maintain strong English skills in the English-Ukrainian Bilingual Program?

At least 50 per cent of the time (and more in later years) will be spent working on English skills. Moreover, studying in a second language will actually end up strengthening your child's English language skills, as well.

Aren't language programs just for gifted children? What about if my child struggles?

Research and experience show that language program students with a variety of challenges will do as well academically as they would in an English language program. Children learn at different rates and in different ways, regardless of their program.

OUR ENGLISH-UKRAINIAN BILINGUAL PROGRAM SCHOOLS

Early years

Springfield Heights School (grades K–5)
505 Sharron Bay
T. 204.663.5078
E. sh@retsd.mb.ca
schools.retsd.mb.ca/shs

Early/middle years

Bernie Wolfe Community School (grades K–8)
95 Bournais Dr.
T. 204.958.6532
E. bw@retsd.mb.ca
schools.retsd.mb.ca/bw

Middle years

Chief Peguis Junior High (grades 6–8)
1400 Rothesay St.
T. 204.668.9442
E. cp@retsd.mb.ca
schools.retsd.mb.ca/cp

For further information

Further information about catchment areas, transportation, daycare and after-school care can be found online at www.retsd.mb.ca or by contacting the principal at one of the English-Ukrainian Bilingual Program schools. As well, information can be found at:

Manitoba Education—Ukrainian
www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/languages/ukrainian

Manitoba Parents for Ukrainian Education
mpue.ca/

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UKRAINIAN

English-Ukrainian Bilingual Program





Why learn another language?

Research* shows that students who learn a second language:

- Do better on intelligence tests
- Have better results in school
- Strengthen their communication skills in their first language
- Build global citizenship skills
- Improve their career prospects
- Heighten their earning power

And they have twice as much fun!

*www.education.alberta.ca/teachers/resources/learnlang/benefits.aspx

Why learn Ukrainian?

- Over 50 million people speak Ukrainian in over 20 countries worldwide.
- Ukrainian is the second largest Slavic language and its close connections to other Slavic languages make them easier to learn for Ukrainian speakers.
- Ukrainian is the heritage language of over one million Canadians.
- By accessing Ukrainian culture in the original language, you can enrich your experience through literature, music, food, dance and art.

Why choose the English-Ukrainian Bilingual Program in RETSD?

- A K–8 language program with over 30 years of proven results
- All students are welcome
- No previous Ukrainian knowledge is required for kindergarten or Grade 1 entry
- Students with prior Ukrainian language skills may also enter the program at other levels
- Multi-lingual language skill development—Ukrainian, English and (from Grade 4) French
- Bilingual learning with a strong academic focus

How does the English-Ukrainian Bilingual Program work?

- It follows a Manitoba Education approved program of studies in all subject areas.
- Uses a partial immersion approach: Ukrainian language arts and social studies are taught in Ukrainian from grades K–8; English language arts, math and science are taught in English.
- Students spend part of each day immersed in Ukrainian and over time, through interactive activities, they use it with increasing ease and precision.
- Communication between the home and school remains in English.

Early years (grades K–4)

Students receive instruction in Ukrainian for up to 50 per cent of the school day. Music, games, interactive reading and technology all help to develop an ear for the language and build fluency.

Middle years (grades 5–8)

Students receive instruction in Ukrainian for about a third of the school day. They also have opportunities to participate in cultural excursions and language camp to support their learning.

Senior years (grades 9–12)

Students have the opportunity to challenge Ukrainian language proficiency exams and obtain extra high school credits.

