Zhong Wen
中文

your child can start in kindergarten or grade 1

(Entry points other than K or Grade 1 are determined in conversation with the school administration.)

Is Chinese (Mandarin) Bilingual the right choice for my child?

Benefits of learning Chinese (Mandarin) Bilingual:

The Calgary Board of Education believes that every child can learn an additional language. With the support of highly qualified and dedicated teachers, your child will experience an engaging and supportive learning environment to learn in the target language.

What are the benefits of learning an additional language?

- Learning Chinese (Mandarin) 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.
- Increases a student's feelings of self-esteem and pride in knowing another language.
- Enhances problem-solving abilities.
- Children who learn an additional language show either comparable or enhanced first-language literacy.

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

The Mandarin Bilingual Program is designed to meet the needs of all students, whether they have no prior knowledge of Mandarin or are already Mandarin-speaking. Your child's teacher is highly trained in research-based methods to support language acquisition.

- 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 Chinese (Mandarin) 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.
- Work Collaboratively with school/child's teacher to support success.

Discover the possibilities with the Mandarin Bilingual Program by scanning the QR code

Calgary Board of Education

Mary G. O'Brian, "Literature Review on the Impact of Second-Language Learning" (University of Calgary. Language Research Centre, 2017)