



# FRENCH IMMERSION AND LANGUAGES @ BENOWA



# LANGUAGES @ BENOWA

**IN ADDITION TO THE FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAMME, THE LANGUAGE SUBJECTS OFFERED AT BENOWA STATE HIGH SCHOOL INCLUDE :**

SENIOR SUBJECTS:

IB Diploma Program  
IB Languages B French (year 11-12)  
IB Ab Initio Japanese (year 11-12)  
IB Ab Initio Spanish (year 11-12)  
Preparatory IB course French, Japanese and Spanish (year 10)

French Extension (year 12 only)  
Year 10 – 12 French  
Year 10 – 12 Japanese  
Year 10 – 12 Spanish  
Year 10 – 12 Italian  
Other languages via the Brisbane/Cairns School of Distance Education

JUNIOR SUBJECTS:

**Year 7 – 9 French (French Immersion Program only)**  
Year 7 – 9 Spanish  
Year 7 – 9 Italian  
Year 7 – 9 Japanese  
Other languages via the Brisbane School of Distance Education

**IT IS COMPULSORY FOR ALL STUDENTS IN YEAR 7 & 8 AND IN IB TO STUDY A LANGUAGE**

# Languages innovation and improvement

With a national agenda to increase the number of students graduating with a language in year 12 to 25% by 2025, Benowa SHS has been investigating a number of ways to attract and retain students in our language programs and in particular French Immersion.

- Label FrancÉducation
- International Baccalaureate
- International exchanges
- External exams



# How we maintain a successful immersion program

## ➤ Staffing

- Qualified teachers in the subject area, native speakers of French

## ➤ Strong support network

- Professional development opportunities for staff

## ➤ Maintaining a point of difference

- Unique opportunities for students

## ➤ Marketing

- Active promotion and work with feeder primary schools, national and international networks

## ➤ Maintaining accreditation

- Meeting standards set by the French Government



**Françoise ESCOT**

**Ronan SERRIER**



**Jacob HEILBRONN**



**Corinne BATTENDIER**



**Julien GRIGNON**

**Sophie OLIVIER**





## WHAT IS IMMERSION ?

The use of a second language (French) as the medium of instruction to teach regular academic subjects

*NOT JUST LEARNING FRENCH BUT  
LEARNING **IN** FRENCH*

Language proficiency and subject content and skills are developed simultaneously.



# WHAT IS FRENCH IMMERSION?



The French Immersion program was designed as a partial immersion course whereby 60% of the curriculum is taught in French (Mathematics, Science, History, Geography and French). An immersion program is learning in the language, not just learning the language so has many complexities in terms of the staffing, preparation and pedagogy. Despite the ever increasing demands, over time, our program has evolved to cater for the introduction of year 7s in high school and teachers have had the added demands of re-writing resources and programs to align with the Australian National Curriculum.

# W H O   C A N   D O   I M M E R S I O N ?

The majority of students who enter the program have never learned French before. The course has been designed for non-native French speakers.

During the first six weeks of Year 7, students undertake an intensive language course in which they learn the basics of the French language that they need to cope in the classroom and to understand the teacher's instructions.



# YEAR 7 IMMERSION AT BENOWA SHS

First 8 weeks



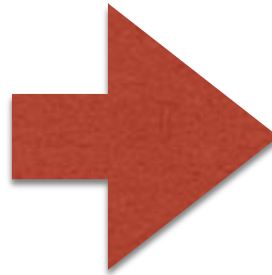
Intensive French course

French lessons during Maths, Science, French, History & Geography to cover the basics that will allow students to function in the different subjects studied in the French Immersion Program

English.....	8 x 35min
<b>Mathematics .....</b>	<b>8 x 35min</b>
<b>Science.....</b>	<b>4 x 35min</b>
<b>History/Geography.....</b>	<b>4 x 35min</b>
<b>French.....</b>	<b>3 x 35min</b>
HPE.....	3 x 35min
Music/Art/Drama.....	3 x 35min
Home Economics /Manual Arts.....	3 x 35min

# YEAR 8 & 9 IMMERSION AT BENOWA SHS

- SCIENCE
- MATHEMATICS
- HISTORY/GEOGRAPHY
- FRENCH



- Same program as mainstream ACARA content with a DUAL FOCUS approach
- Language & content are addressed simultaneously

Students will study in English:

Accelerated English - Physical Education - 1 Elective subject



- Big emphasis on modelling and repetition – students are required to use the language orally from day 1.
- We have the help of a language assistant and students have the opportunity to speak to the assistant on a one to one basis at least twice a week.

## HOW DOES IT WORK ?

- Immersion is teaching in the language, not just teaching the language
- New language is always presented in context
- Students use the language in meaningful situations
- Teachers deliver comprehensible input:  $I+1$

# H O W     D O E S     I T     W O R K ?

Teachers take advantage of the similarities between L1 & L2 possible when both are cognate languages

A rectangle ..... Un rectangle  
Suppose ..... Supposer  
An addition ..... Une addition  
History ..... Histoire  
Evaluate ..... Evaluer

# CHALLENGING & STIMULATING PROGRAM

- ✓ About  $\frac{1}{4}$  students already speak another language than English at home : FIP is more than learning one language
- ✓ Learning skills are developed as students must continuously problem solve, make deductions and draw conclusions throughout the program.
- ✓ Cognitive acceleration





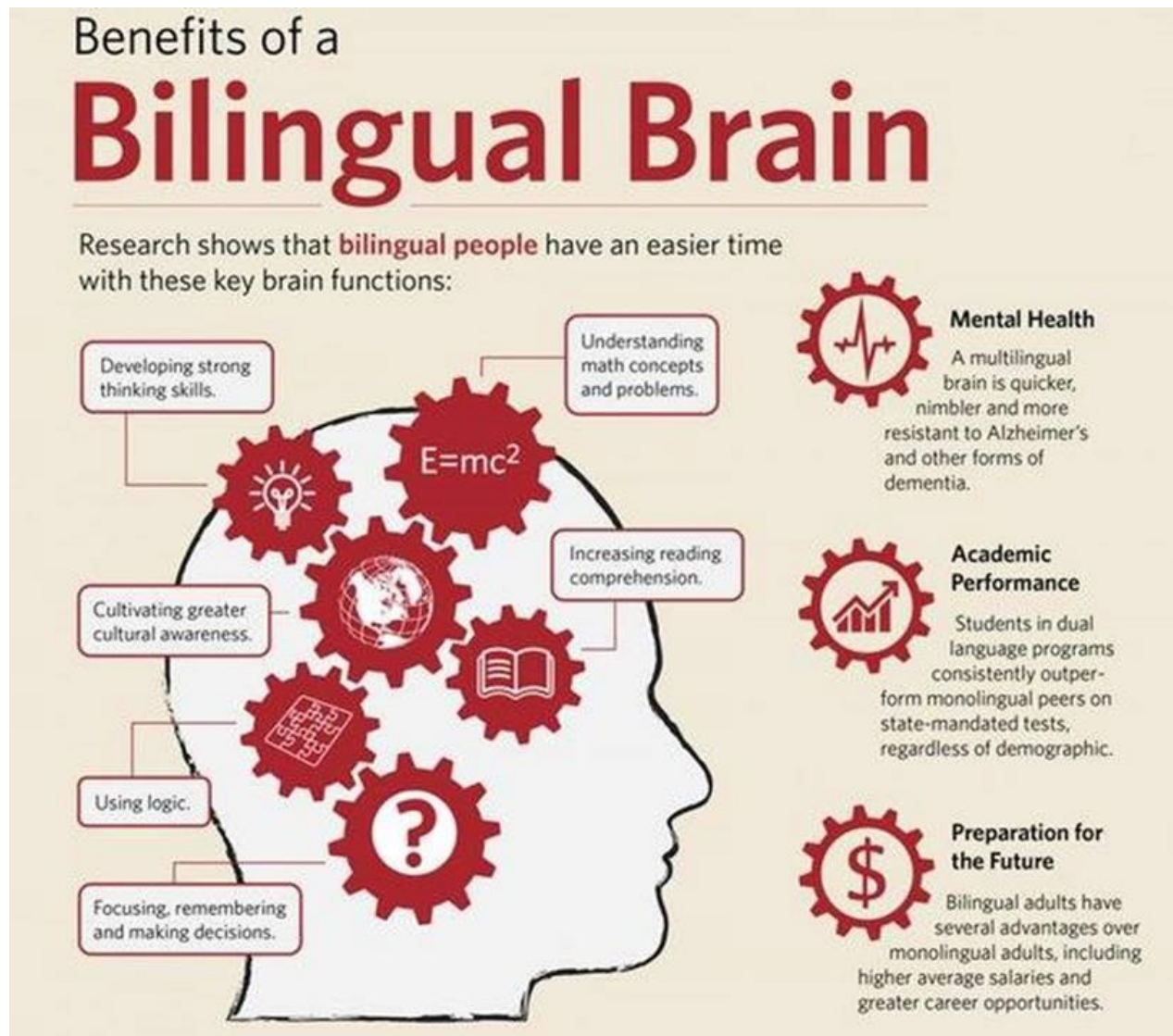
# C U L T U R A L    A W A R E N E S S

## **EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH FRANCE IN YEAR 9**

Appreciation of home language and  
culture and appreciation of French  
Language and culture



# BRAIN BENEFITS OF BILINGUALISM



## OTHER BENEFITS OF FIP

- The aim of French Immersion align very closely with the IB learner profile:
- To develop internationally minded people who strive to be; open-minded, caring, risk-takers, knowledgeable, inquirers, thinkers, communicators, principled, balanced and reflective.
- Improved career and travel opportunities both in Australia and overseas because of Language proficiency
- Good teacher/student relationships because of the amount and level of contact
- Improved study habits, work ethic, self discipline and motivation  
Increased confidence in approaching difficult tasks

# D I D Y O U K N O W ?

- 100% of students studying French Immersion in Year 7 & 9 achieve above National mean in all NAPLAN strands
- 50% of OP 1-5s have studied a language in year 12
- 100% of language students received a QTAC offer

MEAN SCORES NAPLAN 2013					
	READING	WRITING	SPELLING	GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION	NUMERACY
<b>IMMERSION</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>666</b>
<b>QLD</b>	572.4	548.3	578.2	568.2	573.3
<b>Australia</b>	580.4	553.9	582.7	572.9	583.7

At or above national mean scores % NAPLAN 2013					
	READING	WRITING	SPELLING	GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION	NUMERACY
<b>Immersion</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>QLD</b>	92.5	81.5	92.3	87.4	90
<b>Australia</b>	93.4	82.6	92.1	88.1	90.6

**MEAN SCORES NAPLAN 2015**

	READING	WRITING	SPELLING	GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION	NUMERACY
<b>IMMERSION</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>651</b>
<b>STATE</b>	563	522	573	557	576
<b>NATIONAL</b>	580	547	583	568	592





## EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Information technology is an integral part of the curriculum embedded in all subjects

- Immersion students also have the opportunity to be involved in our Music program.
- Sporting participation, debating, public speaking, etc. are highly encouraged
- Hosting international visitors (study tours and sister schools)
- Exchange visits to sister schools
- Excursions
- DELF exam
- French Festival

# HIGH ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

**Students must participate in various competitions**

- Australasian Schools Mathematics Competition
- Australasian Schools Science Competition
- Language Perfect World Championships
- Students are encouraged to participate in the Maths Challenge, Griffith University Science Trivia, Gold Coast Speech Contest, French Festival etc.



# L A N G U A G E P E R F E C T

- Yearly subscription to an online language program for all French Immersion students
- Allows students to practice their language skills in a number of different modes; listening, reading, writing and speaking
- Allows teachers to put specific vocabulary relevant to each unit taught on the website
- Allows students to progress at their own rate and teachers to differentiate learning

# D I D      Y O U      K N O W      ?

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- 5 x Language Perfect World Champions
- Accredited French Bilingual School
- Languages Innovation Grant
- Over 50 students have successfully completed DELF B1 or B2 allowing entry into French Universities



LANGUAGE PERFECT  
2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2017  
BENOWA SHS  
WORLD CHAMPIONS!!!

## D I D   Y O U   K N O W   ?

- This year, 35 students who hold leadership positions within the school across year 7-12 are either current or past French Immersion students.
- Last years school captains were both French Immersion students.
- In 2017, 3 French immersion students received full scholarships to participate in a 5 week exchange to Quebec
- Our students can still play instruments, be part of the musical or represent school in sport.
- One student is currently competing in Commonwealth Games Trials for swimming.

# P A T H W A Y S

Immersion students will complete **Year 12 French in Year 11** and will have the opportunity to complete **2 semesters of French Extension in Year 12 = University level French**. Students can also be accelerated in English, having the potential of reaching **English Extension in Year 12**.

**OR**

Students may also consider the **International Baccalaureate** Diploma as a pathway from Year 10. **French** is the only language offered in the school which students can study to a High Level (HL) in the IB Diploma.

# A L U M N I

Linda Ramirez – Graduated 1990 - Spanish Teacher Benowa

Nicole Phillips – Lawyer, received an award in 2011 from the world association of legal counsel, based in New York

Catherine Galligan – Graduated 1996 - French Teacher Benowa SS

Alyce Rickard – Graduated 2005 – Hospitality Management – London

Catherine Rickard Graduated 2007 – Medical Student, Sydney

Kasey Hardman – Graduated 2007 – English assistant in Strasberg 2012 now teaching Maths/Science at Miami SHS

Imran Aumeerally – Graduated 2009 – Emergency rotation at Gold Coast Uni Hospital

Jessica Verdier – Graduated 2010 – Pharmacist

Dominique Coy – Graduated 2010 – Graduated dux from university – occupational therapist

Frank Page – Dentist

Craig Phillips – Anaesthetist

Zaid Aumeerally – Graduated 2011 – Sitting Dentistry exam

Riley Hardman – Graduated 2012 – working with a foundation piling company

Karen Phillips –voted by Westpac Bank and Financial Review as one of "The Top 100 Women of Influence in Australia – 2015

Oren Cooper - Graduated 2012 with a Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Honors) from Griffith University. Currently undertaking PhD at the Institute for Glycomics in Biochemistry

Shayne Dumka – Graduated 2012 – Studying at Griffith Uni

Frances Goldfinch – Graduated 2014 – Studying Griffith Uni - Bachelor of Psychology

Bethany Allen – Graduated 2014 – Studying at Bond Uni - Law and Arts Judi Goldfinch

Emma Burton – Graduated 2014 – Studying at Griffith Uni – Sports Science

Lochie Dumka – Graduated 2014 - Studying at Griffith Uni

Evelyn Allard – Teaching at a remote Aboriginal school in Lockhart River, North Queensland

Renee Reardon – Graduated 2014 – Studying at Griffith Uni – Teaching degree in English and Physical Education

# SELECTION PROCESS

- Complete Application to join the program (apply online)
- Academic Merit Entry Test [reading, writing & numeracy]
- Confirmation of acceptance



# SELECTION CRITERIA

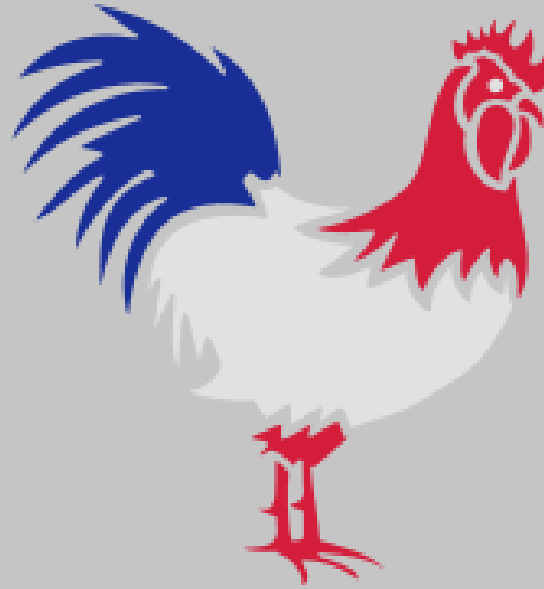
- Strong linguistic aptitude-knowledge of English grammar
- Mathematical aptitude
- Personal organisation - time management - work habits
- Ability to adapt to new situations – perseverance
- Ability to work harmoniously with others & to follow instructions
- Extent of interest in the Languages program
- Behaviour in class

SUBJECT EXPO  
Monday 5th March

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE ENTRY  
EXAM

Sunday 18th March

CALL THE OFFICE TO REGISTER



# MERCI DE VOTRE ATTENTION !



W: [www.benowashs.eq.edu.au](http://www.benowashs.eq.edu.au)

A: Mediterranean Drive, Benowa Qld 4217

P: 07 5582 7333