


# Spanish Bilingual

## FAQS FOR FAMILIES




### NO ONE AT HOME SPEAKS SPANISH. IS THIS PROGRAM FOR US?

 **Yes** Red Deer Public Schools Spanish Bilingual program is designed to accommodate both students who do not speak Spanish at home and students whose families do speak the language. Parents do not need to speak Spanish in order to enroll their children in the Spanish Bilingual program - most parents of students in our program have limited or no Spanish language skills.



### ARE THERE BENEFITS TO KNOWING A SECOND LANGUAGE?

 **Yes** There are many research-supported advantages to learning another language. Here are just a few:


- Positive impact on thinking skills, like problem-solving and multitasking.
- Stronger spelling and reading comprehension.
- Increased understanding of and respect for other people, languages, and cultures.

### WHEN CAN MY CHILD START THE SPANISH BILINGUAL PROGRAM?

Students generally enter the program in **Kindergarten or Grade 1**. Students who already speak Spanish are welcome to attend our school at any grade up to Grade 8. Early enrollment in this program provides the best opportunity for success for students.



### WHEN WILL MY CHILD START ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS? WILL ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS SUFFER IN SPANISH BILINGUAL?

 **No** Our program is a completely bilingual program. Students learn half of their subjects in Spanish, including Spanish language arts and math while the other half of their subjects are in English, including English language arts, science and social studies. We have found that the students get a strong basis in both English and Spanish language arts. Learning a second language, in fact, supports first language learning.

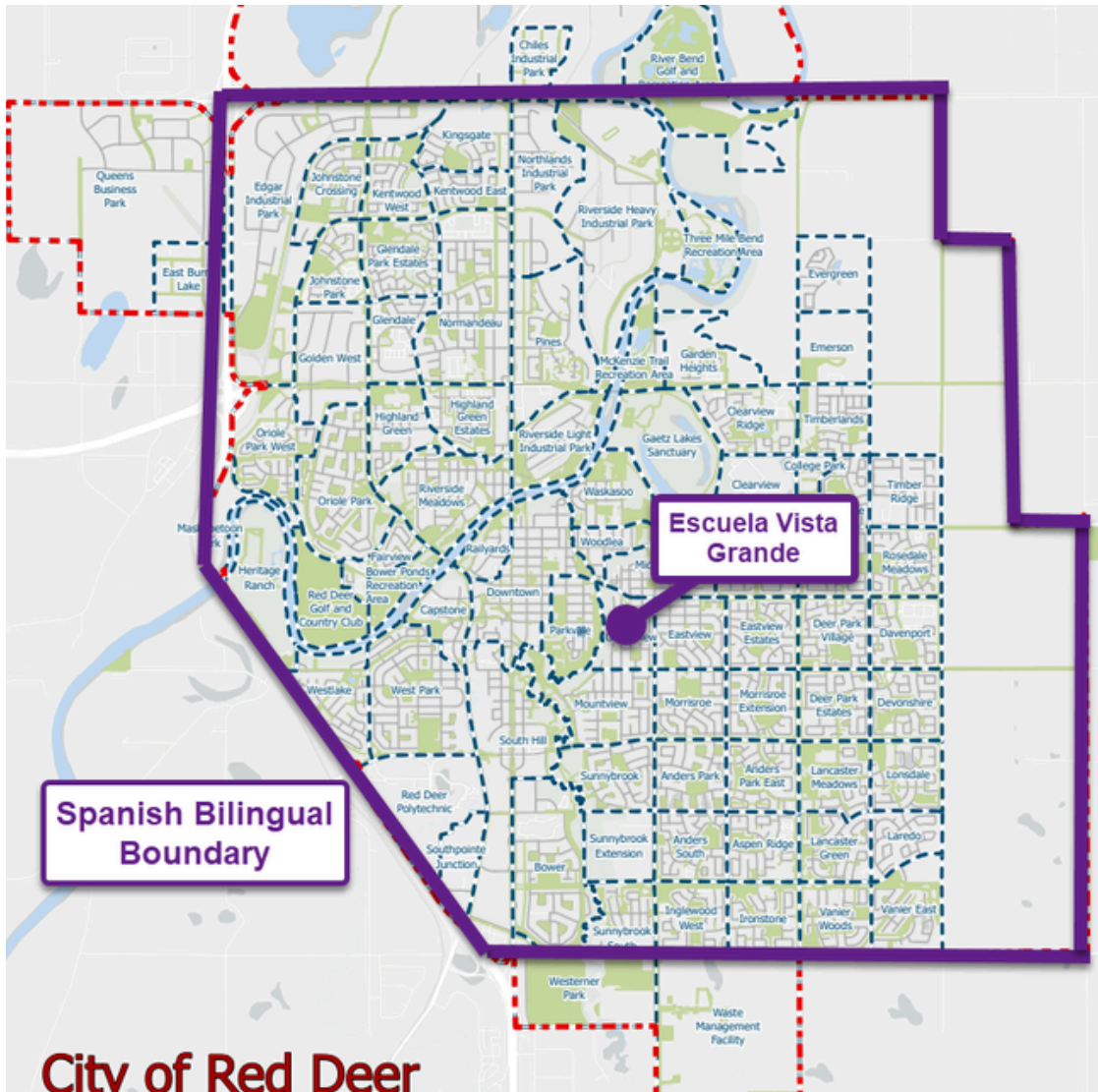


## OUR FIRST LANGUAGE IS NOT ENGLISH, CAN I REGISTER MY CHILD IN THE SPANISH BILINGUAL PROGRAM?

**✓ Yes** Children have the ability to learn multiple languages at the same time. Many students in our Spanish Bilingual program are learning their third language. As a language school, English as an Additional Language (EAL) support may be available, if deemed necessary at the time.

## IF I DON'T LIVE IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, CAN MY CHILD TAKE THE BUS TO SCHOOL?

**✓ Yes** Escuela Vista Grande provides bussing from all over Red Deer. There **may** be a fee for bussing depending on where your family lives in relation to the distance from your designated school and the distance to Escuela Vista Grande. For more information about bussing, please check the Red Deer Public Schools website.



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