

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT THE ECC

The language spoken at the Shawville facility is primarily English. The language spoken at the Luskville facility is primarily French. When registering your child, parents are asked which school they wish to register their child in when he or she is of school age. When an English-speaking parent wants their child to attend school in French, staff members will encourage the child in that language.

However, in the past, parents have expressed their disappointment when they find out before starting school that the second language is a challenge and will be very difficult for their child. Therefore, following these expressed disappointments, the ECC analyzed the situation and consulted experts.

Consultations with speech therapists and teachers in the school environment were done and here are the recommendations that we have retained and will apply in order to support the child in his learning:

- Initially, if the child does not understand, we will explain in their language and repeat in the language to be learned.
- Pictograms, gestures and signs, showing another child performing a gesture or a task to be done, will be used to help the child understand.
- Language activities will be supported: discussion during circle, nursery rhyme, story, show and tell, etc...
- When the parent has mastered the language to be taught to the child, it is strongly recommended that the child speak in this language at the daycare.
- It is recommended to separate the languages by person and / or by location. Ex: Dad speaks French; Mom speaks English OR at home it is in English, at the ECC in French. Determining this will help the child's brain in learning languages.
- Language learning for children should be a common goal between staff and parents. Collaboration must happen for the success of the child.

However, if the parent changes their mind about the language and school their child will be attending and this is no longer a priority for them, it is important to communicate this to the staff member. Energies will be focused on other goals to support the child in his development. This communication between staff and parents is essential in order to avoid disappointments on both sides.