

GCPS Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Middle School Continuation Model

GCPS honors its commitment to DLI parents and students with a seamless K–12 language program. As students move into middle school and on to high school, we never lose sight of our goals stated from the first day of kindergarten... Students in the Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS) DLI Program will become bilingual and biliterate, able to successfully navigate multiple cultures in their lives and careers.



DLI Middle School Continuation Model

From kindergarten through 5th grade, your student has been learning the target language in the context of Gwinnett’s Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS) curriculum, specifically mathematics, science, and literacy in the new language. The next step in your student’s language journey involves more focused instruction in spelling, grammar, sentence structure, and syntax in the target language. During middle school, students will continue to learn the target language in a culture-rich immersion environment with additional focus on refining these language skills.

The three goals of Gwinnett’s DLI Middle School Continuation Model:

Pivot: Students will *pivot* out of content-only instruction and toward a balance that pairs exploration of countries and cultures with focused instruction in spelling, grammar, and other language skills.

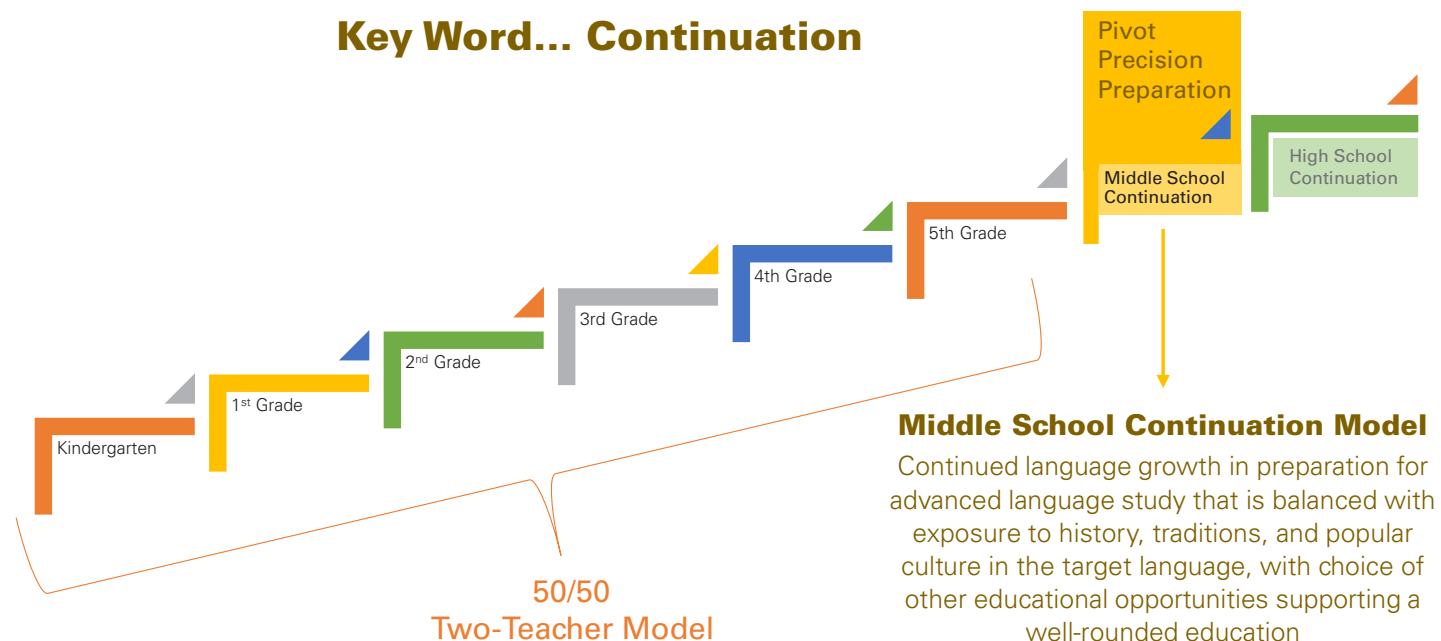
Precision: Through this balanced model, students will develop the *precision* needed to develop advanced language proficiency, including strong reading, writing, and conversational skills in the target language.

Preparation: These skills will ensure that students are *prepared* for the next stage of their language development, whether this is pursuing Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) studies, entering a dual-enrollment program at the college level, or using their language skills in the workplace.

Educating the Whole Student

Middle school is a time of exploration for students. While we hope that most of our DLI students sign up for all three DLI courses offered each year, we understand that some students may wish to explore other options— for instance, a connections class in band or computer science— so the program will offer flexibility in scheduling. That said, students who take all DLI continuation courses may see an improvement in language development more quickly than those who take fewer.

Key Word... Continuation



Middle School DLI Courses—

Students have the opportunity to take a third of their scheduled courses in specialized DLI classes.

Year-long Connections Courses (Required)

Most students will be automatically enrolled in these courses, with an exception for students who need additional academic support in core classes.

6th Grade

DLI Advanced Language and Literacy 6th Grade

This course will focus on development of precision and language proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in an engaging, language-rich immersion environment. Special focus will be placed on themes that students will explore later in Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) language courses.



7th Grade

High School Level 3 (First half of course)

This course will follow the first half of the curriculum for High School Level 3 Foreign Language in the DLI language studied. Special focus will be placed on themes explored in AP and IB language courses.

8th Grade

High School Level 3 (Second half of course)

This course will follow the second half of the curriculum for High School Level 3 Foreign Language in the DLI language studied. Special focus will be placed on themes explored in AP and IB language courses. Students will earn a high school credit (High School Level 3 Foreign Language) upon completion.

Semester-long Connections Courses (Optional)

Content varies each year, allowing students to study different aspects of the course themes during grades 6, 7, and 8.

DLI Culture and History

This course will feature deep discussion of the cultures and histories of countries and groups representing the language studied. Students will dive deep into cultural products and practices, comparing and contrasting with their own and those of other cultures. Through lively discussion, students will develop and defend opinions using the target language.

DLI Media Literacy

Students will engage with and critically evaluate authentic media curated from the countries and cultures in which the target language is spoken. They will create their own authentic media products using the target language.

Middle School DLI Courses

	6 th Grade	Semester 1	Semester 2
Connection 1	DLI 6 th Grade Advanced Language and Literacy (required)		
Connection 2	DLI Media Literacy	DLI Culture and History	
	7 th Grade	Semester 1	Semester 2
Connection 1	High School Level 3 First Half (required)		
Connection 2	DLI Media Literacy	DLI Culture and History	
	8 th Grade	Semester 1	Semester 2
Connection 1	High School Level 3 Second Half (required)		
Connection 2	DLI Media Literacy	DLI Culture and History	



GCPS Dual Language Immersion

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