participate.

Dual Language Immersion

The world is theirs for the taking.

With fluency in a second language, your child's opportunities are endless.

Participate dual language immersion starts at kindergarten and continues through fifth grade. Not only will children be proficient in Spanish at the end of elementary school, they will also be fully prepared to succeed in a traditional non-immersion classroom. Researchers have demonstrated that there are cognitive advantages of bilingualism, particularly on tasks measuring cognitive flexibility and selective attention.[1]



" This is a terrific program and a wonderful opportunity for the children. The biggest benefit is not simply the acquisition of a second language, but the use of higher-order thinking skills. "

— Janet Mayers, Elon Elementary School parent

Curriculum

Your child will receive a complete academic foundation grounded in instructional excellence along with learning another language.

- All dual language students will be taught the same state-approved standards as other schools.
- The curriculum will prepare students to achieve and to perform well on state assessments, which are administered in English.



Research shows immersion students outperform native English speaking classmates on standardized tests.[2]

Being literate in two or more languages makes students more competitive in the job market.

[1] Barac & Bialystok, 2012
[2] Thomas and Collier, 2012

What is dual language immersion?

Language immersion programs are exciting options for parents who want their children to have the advantages of a rigorous academic program while also learning two languages — English and a target language. In a Spanish immersion program, Spanish is not taught as a subject; Spanish is the language in which instruction is delivered.



Advantages as an immersion student

Bilingual and biliterate: Dual language students achieve high proficiency in the immersion language.

Increased cultural sensitivity: Dual language students are more aware of and show more positive attitudes towards other cultures and other people.

Enhanced cognitive skills: Dual language students typically develop greater cognitive flexibility, showing increased memory, superior problem-solving skills and better attention control as well as an enhanced understanding of their primary language.

Improved self-esteem: Being able to communicate and excel academically in two languages gives dual language students greater self-esteem and sense of accomplishment.

Proven performance on standardized tests: Dual language students show great gains and increased performance on standardized tests in reading and math.

Preparation for a global society and marketplace: Dual language students are better prepared for the global community and job markets where 21st century skills are an asset.

Next steps:

School information: Southwood Elementary

Contact: Ashley Lemley, Principal

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Participate builds global education programs that prepare students for success in an interconnected world. Participate's professional development and curriculum, language acquisition and teacher exchange programs generate engaging learning environments where students excel in core curriculum.