

# EDUCATION IN FRENCH: A CHOICE FOR THE FUTURE

Welcome! You have just enrolled your child in a school in School District 1. By doing so, you are not only ensuring that your child learns both of Canada's official languages, you are also providing your child the opportunity to reach his or her full potential as part of New Brunswick's Acadian and Francophone community.

Attending a Francophone school will allow your child to benefit from a quality education in French while also taking part in cultural activities in the classroom and in extracurricular settings.

The purpose of this guide is to provide information about the French-language public education system along with advice that we hope will assist you in becoming part of your new community. Happy reading!

*The School District 1 team*

## MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 1

Here in School District 1, we are proud to offer all our students learning environments that are open to the world and respectful of differences. We sincerely believe you will find your place here and will want to participate in your child's education. Your commitment is critical to your child's success. We encourage you to become involved in school life; by giving some of your time, you'll be able to interact with other families and feel at home in your new environment even sooner. I am confident that you will soon see how friendly and hospitable the Acadian people are and look forward to being part of this beautiful, welcoming and vibrant community.

*Welcome to School District 1!*

*- Diane Albert-Ouellette, Superintendent.*

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CAFI

CAFI, a Francophone centre for welcoming and supporting immigrants to southeastern New Brunswick, is pleased to present this Welcome to School! kit. We encourage you to use this tool to better understand the Canadian school system, which your child is about to enter. We suggest that you read the kit once in its entirety and then come back to it as needed.

CAFI is a non-profit association dedicated to ensuring the full integration of French-speaking immigrants into southeastern New Brunswick. Should you have any questions about settling and integrating into communities in this region, feel free to contact us; we will be most happy to assist and guide you.

Enjoy your reading!

*The CAFI team*



# EDUCATION IN FRENCH: A CHOICE FOR THE FUTURE

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The production of this guide was made possible through a partnership between School District 1 and CAFI, a Francophone centre for welcoming and supporting immigrants to southeastern New Brunswick.

We would like to thank immigrant parents, the school staff and our various partners for the expertise they brought to a series of consultations that took place in 2009-2010. This guide benefited greatly from your contributions. An advisory committee also met several times to review the content of the guide. The committee members were as follows:

- **Laurédah Allogho-Mbungu**, graduating student, École L'Odyssee
- **Awa Niang Ba**, immigrant parent, École L'Odyssee
- **Aïcha Benimmas**, teacher and researcher, Université de Moncton
- **Jean Codjo**, receiving teacher, École L'Odyssee
- **Lynn Doucet-Vautour**, vice-principal, École L'Odyssee
- **Pauline Gaudet**, resource teaching mentor, School District 1
- **Francine Gaumont**, social work intern, CAFI
- **Claudette Lavigne**, education officer, School District 1
- **Marie-Noël Ross**, vice-principal, École Saint-Henri
- **Christiane Runumyi**, receiving teacher, École St-Henri
- **Lucile Taillieu**, executive director, CAFI

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# EDUCATION IN NEW BRUNSWICK

## ROLE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 1

Each school district has a district education council (DEC), which is responsible for:

- establishing the policies and priorities of the school district
- making decisions regarding the administrative operation of the district and its schools.

DECs are made up of publicly elected local members.

Each school may be assisted in its work by a parent school support committee (PSSC).

A parents' committee may also be formed to support the school's initiatives.

## MISSION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 1

The mission of School District 1 is to "ensure that its students acquire the language, mathematics, science, social and cultural skills they need to thrive as French-speaking individuals with a view to contributing productively to the Acadian and Francophone communities and 21<sup>st</sup>-century society."

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

Classes run from September through June as part of a school year 195 days in length. The calendar for the upcoming school year is distributed to parents each year in June. Schools are closed when any of the following are noted on the calendar:

- Statutory holiday, Christmas break, March break
- Days combining parent-teacher meetings and professional development activities
- In-service / administrative / AEFNB (Association des enseignantes et des enseignants francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick) days.



# EDUCATION IN NEW BRUNSWICK

In Canada, education is the responsibility of each province's government. In the province of New Brunswick, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) is responsible for prescribing school curricula. Serving New Brunswick, the country's only officially bilingual province, the Department offers two parallel but separate systems: the Francophone sector and the Anglophone sector. **Schooling is mandatory for children from ages 5 (as of December 31) to 18 or until graduation (up to a maximum age of 21).**

Schools are divided into two levels:

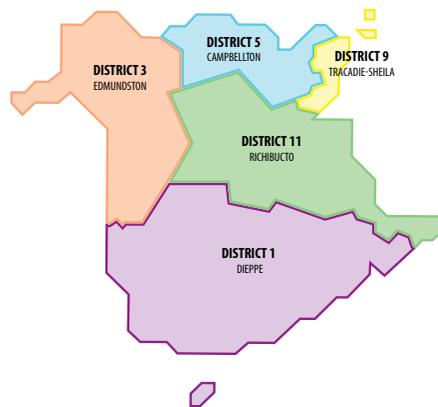
- Elementary School: kindergarten to grade 8  
(French term: *primaire*)
- High School or Secondary: grades 9 to 12  
(French term: *secondaire*)



## SCHOOL DISTRICT 1

School District 1 is one of five Francophone school districts in the province. As shown on the map below, our school district covers the southern part of the province.

## MAP OF FRANCOPHONE SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN NEW BRUNSWICK



*School District 1 serves 15 schools in six regions: Oromocto, Moncton, Saint John, Fredericton, Dieppe and Memramcook.*

# ENROLLING AT SCHOOL



Parents or guardians are responsible for enrolling the children in their care at school. Some regions have welcoming organizations like CAFI that are able to assist you with the enrolment process . If you wish to enrol your child in a school other than the one that serves your neighbourhood, you need to apply for permission from the district superintendent's office. If your application is approved, you are responsible for providing your child transportation to and from the school since it is located outside of the designated area in which you reside.

When you enrol your child in school, you will be invited to meet with the school principal . At least one parent or guardian must accompany the student to this meeting and bring the following documents:

- Child's proof of immunization (health record)
- Copy of official document indicating child's immigration status including date of birth
- Copies of any other documents considered relevant to the child's education (report cards, passport, birth certificate, etc.)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION :

Please visit the School District 1 website at [www.district1.nbed.nb.ca](http://www.district1.nbed.nb.ca) to see contact information for individual schools.

## SCHOOL VISIT

To assist you in understanding your child's reality, your school will schedule a visit a few days before the first day of class. You, your child, the school principal and other recently arrived families will tour the school together. During this time, you will have the opportunity to ask questions and to get to know the staff.

- <sup>1</sup> To find a welcoming organization for immigrants in your region, please see the list of organizations under "Appendices" in this guide.
- <sup>2</sup> Some cases may be referred to the School District 1 superintendent.

# ENROLLING AT SCHOOL

## SCHOOL FEE

To assist in covering the cost of the various cultural and educational activities offered throughout the year, you will be asked to pay a fee at the time of enrolling your child. This amount varies from \$30 to \$50 per child depending on the activities planned. If you are in a difficult financial situation, please contact your school office to discuss this.

## EDUCATIONAL PLACEMENT

During the days following enrolment, your child will be evaluated in a number of subjects. The purpose of these evaluations is to determine the best placement for your child. The school will do its best to place your child in the grade level that is most appropriate for him or her. The school staff will work closely with parent and child to create the best possible environment for the student's integration.

Whenever possible, it is very useful to bring a report card from the last school that your child attended. This can assist teachers in better understanding your child's academic achievement to date.



# SCHOOL CURRICULUM



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SUBJECTS

In elementary school, the instructional system incorporates a range of subjects that must be offered to students in order to comply with the requirements of New Brunswick's Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. These subjects are as follows: French, social studies, art education (including visual arts and music), personal and social development, physical education, mathematics, science, technology and English as a second language. Please note that in the regions of Moncton, Dieppe, Fredericton and Memramcook, students begin English as a second language in grade 5, whereas students in the Oromocto region begin in grade 3 and in the Saint John region in grade 4.

Should you have any questions about the school curriculum, please visit the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development website at [www.gnb.ca/0000](http://www.gnb.ca/0000) or contact your child's school.

# SCHOOL CURRICULUM



## HIGH SCHOOL SUBJECTS

In high school, the instructional system incorporates a total of 30 credits from grade 10 to grade 12, excluding grade 9 which is a transitional year between elementary and high school. Each course from grades 10 through 12 consisting of 93.5 hours is equivalent to 1 credit. Most courses are offered on a semester basis (93.5 hours = 1 credit), while others are offered for the entire school year (187 hours = 2 credits). Your child must have a minimum mark of 55% to pass a course. To earn a high school diploma in this province, a student must accumulate a minimum of 24 credits, 17 from compulsory courses and 7 from elective courses. Compulsory courses are as follows:

### French

#### • 5 compulsory credits

- French 10231 or 10232 (full-year course = 2 credits)
- French 10331\* or 10332 (full-year course = 2 credits)
- French 10411 or 10412 (1 semester course = 1 credit)

\* Students earning a mark of 85% or higher on the provincial examination for French course 10331 have the option to substitute a French course of their choice for French course 10411.

### Second language and foreign languages

#### • 2 compulsory credits

- English 21211\* or 22211\* (1 semester course = 1 credit)
- English 21311\* or 22311 (1 semester course = 1 credit)

\* Students demonstrating an advanced level in the language interview administered for English courses 21211 and 22211 have the option to substitute an English course of their choice for English course 21311 or 22311.



## **Mathematics**

### **• 3 compulsory credits**

- Mathematics 30231\* or 30232\* (full-year course = 2 credits)
- Mathematics 30311 or 30312 (1 semester course = 1 credit)

## **Science and Technology**

### **• 3 compulsory credits**

- Science 50211 or 50212 (1 semester course = 1 credit)
- 1 Technology course (1 semester course = 1 credit)
- 1 credit among the following courses: Biology 53411/53412, Physics 51311/51312, Chemistry 52311/52312, Environmental Science 54411, Astronomy 55411 and Science 50312 (1 semester course = 1 credit).

## **Social Studies**

### **• 2 compulsory credits**

- World History 42211 or 42212 (1 semester course = 1 credit)
- Canadian History 42311 or 42312 (1 semester course = 1 credit)

## **Personal Development**

### **• 2 compulsory credits**

- Personal and Social Development 74211 (1 semester course = 1 credit)
- Physical Education 71211 (1 semester course = 1 credit)

Your child will also have the opportunity to register for optional and elective courses.

Should you have any questions regarding your child's choice of courses, please contact the principal or a guidance counsellor at your school.

## SCHOOL SYSTEM COMPARISON

Here is a comparative table of the school systems in various countries to assist you in understanding the Canadian school system.

COUNTRY	MINIMUM AGE														
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
<b>CANADA</b> New Brunswick <sup>1</sup> (School district)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	PS <sup>2</sup>	PS	
	Elementary school									High school			PS		
<b>French system</b> (Académie)	CP	CE1	CE2	CM1	CM2	6 <sup>e</sup>	5 <sup>e</sup>	4 <sup>e</sup>	3 <sup>e</sup>	2 <sup>e</sup>	1 <sup>ère</sup>	T	PS	PS	
	Primaire (Elementary school)					Collège (Middle school)			Lycée (High school)			ÉP			
<b>Germany</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	PS	PS	
	Grundschule (Elementary school) *Sometimes up to grade 6					Gymnasium or Gesamtschule (High school) *Other academic paths also available							PS		
<b>Belgium</b> (School district)	1 <sup>ère</sup>	2 <sup>e</sup>	3 <sup>e</sup>	4 <sup>e</sup>	5 <sup>e</sup>	6 <sup>e</sup>	1 <sup>ère</sup>	2 <sup>e</sup>	3 <sup>e</sup>	4 <sup>e</sup>	5 <sup>e</sup>	6 <sup>e</sup>	PS	PS	
	Primaire (Elementary school)						Secondaire (High school)						PS		
<b>Switzerland</b> (Canton)	1 <sup>ère</sup>	2 <sup>e</sup>	3 <sup>e</sup>	4 <sup>e</sup>	5 <sup>e</sup>	6 <sup>e</sup>	1 <sup>ère</sup>	2 <sup>e</sup>	3 <sup>e</sup>	1 <sup>ère</sup>	2 <sup>e</sup>	3 <sup>e</sup>	ÉP	ÉP	
	Primaire					Transition		Sec. degré 1		Sec. degré 2 (gymnase)			ÉP		

1. In New Brunswick, school starts at age 5 with kindergarten.
2. PS: Postsecondary education (university, college or other institution).





## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

In elementary school, you receive a detailed list each year of the school supplies that your child will need. At the high school level, teachers inform students during the first few days of class about the supplies they will need. School supplies are available at almost any department store. Don't forget to mark your child's name on his or her supplies so that they can be returned if they are misplaced. This is easily done with a permanent marker.

Various textbooks are given out to students at the start of every school year. These textbooks belong to the school and are only lent to students. Textbooks must be returned at the end of the year in elementary school (on completing each course in high school) in the same condition in which they were distributed.

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The school staff plan various extracurricular activities (sports, theatre, improvisation, etc.) during and after the school day to assist children in developing their skills while having fun and expanding their social network. The children are expected to follow the same rules of conduct during these activities as they do in school. The school reserves the right to ask for financial contributions towards these activities. Should you find yourself in a difficult financial situation, please contact your school office.

In elementary school, parents are asked to give their written consent to having their child take part in any activities. If an activity takes place during the school day, the school will provide transportation. If the activity is scheduled to take place after school, you are responsible for your child's transportation.

## CLOTHING

Your child is expected to come to school wearing suitable clothing in terms of decency, cleanliness and general school requirements. Children often spend time outdoors in the morning, at noon and in the afternoon. For your child's comfort, his or her clothes should be appropriate for the weather conditions.



**\* Winter:**  
winter coat and pants, hat/toque, gloves, scarf, winter boots.



**\* Rainy days:**  
raincoat or umbrella and rain (waterproof) boots.



**\* Sunny days:**  
light clothes providing protection from the sun's rays, a summer hat and sunscreen. If a student is unable to apply sunscreen alone, it is recommended that parents apply it before their child leaves for school.



**\* Physical education:**  
t-shirt, shorts, tracksuit or sweat pants, running shoes and, for teenagers, deodorant.

Storage areas are provided to all students. We suggest that elementary school students bring a change of clothes (indoor clothing) that they can leave at school. Lockers are made available to students in some schools.

## SCENT-FREE ENVIRONMENT

Many people are very sensitive or even allergic to certain scents. As a result, many places in Canada follow a "scent-free" policy. Out of respect for others, it is important to maintain good personal hygiene, avoid using fragrances and use scent-free deodorants. These products are just as effective as scented products and available at any drug store.

## PRACTICAL TIPS

*To know how to dress your child for the weather each day, you can listen to your local radio station or watch "The Weather Network" on television.*

*Environment Canada also operates a telephone service that you can call to hear the latest weather forecast.*

• **Fredericton, Oromocto:**  
451-6001

• **Moncton, Dieppe, Memramcook:**  
851-6610

• **Saint John region:**  
636-4991

*If you have Internet access, you can also visit [www.theweathernetwork.com](http://www.theweathernetwork.com) or [www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca) to see weather forecasts.*

# HOMEWORK AND PARENT-TEACHER COMMUNICATION



## HOMEWORK

When your child comes home from school, he or she may have been given schoolwork to do at home. Parents or guardians are responsible for ensuring that their children do their homework.

## ADVICE ABOUT HOMEWORK

Here is some advice for the time your child spends doing homework.

### Preparation:

When doing their homework, children need to be able to concentrate. It is therefore best to choose a quiet and well-lit space. We also recommend setting aside a specific time for homework in order to establish a routine. During that time, ensure that your child has the appropriate items at hand (pencils, paper, dictionaries, etc.).

## PRACTICAL TIPS

*An online and telephone service called SOS DEVOIRS ("SOS HOMEWORK") has been set up to help students in grades 1 to 12 at Francophone schools with their homework. Through this service, you and your child can communicate with a teacher to get help with challenges in any school subject.*

**Toll-free number:** 1-866-627-0609

**Hours of operation:** 4:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

**Website:** [www.sosdevoirs.org](http://www.sosdevoirs.org)  
(users must register at the website)

*CAFI also offers a homework assistance service. Other organizations in charge of welcoming newcomers may offer similar services. For more details, contact your local organization.*

# HOMEWORK AND PARENT-TEACHER COMMUNICATION

## While doing homework:

Children should generally be left alone to do their homework. However, it is important that you be available to help in case your child has questions or problems.

## After doing homework:

After your child has finished his or her homework, you may check to make sure all assignments have been completed. You may also want to ask your child questions to ensure understanding of the subject at hand. If your child was unable to finish part of the homework, try to determine why. You can always contact your child's teacher the next day to talk about any homework difficulties.

## IMPORTANT

*Please note that classes always end one hour earlier on Wednesdays. Your child will therefore arrive at home or daycare one hour earlier. This practice allows the school district's learning professionals to meet and share ideas to ensure they have the greatest possible impact on every student's success.*

## LIBRARY

Every school has a library. When children go to the library, they must follow certain rules, such as being quiet and respecting others. Students are invited to read books they are interested in or to borrow books they need to complete class projects.

## INFORMATION IN STUDENT PLANNERS

Each year, your child will be given a planner for keeping track of important events and assigned homework. It also contains your child's class timetable and plenty of handy tips to set him or her up for learning success.

## INFORMATION SESSION

At the start of the school year, schools hold an information session one evening. This gives parents an opportunity to meet the teachers, become familiar with how the school operates and learn more about the curriculum in place for the new school year.

## PARENT-TEACHER MEETINGS

You will be invited to parent-teacher meetings twice a year (the dates are indicated on the school calendar) so that you can discuss your child's strengths and challenges. Please note that you can also arrange a different time to meet with the teacher if necessary. These meetings provide an ideal opportunity to get to know your child's teacher and ask any questions you may have about your child's learning progress. During the school year, it is every parent's right to consult, in a reasonable manner, members of the school's teaching staff or administration about their child's instruction.

## REPORT CARDS

In elementary (kindergarten to grade 7) school, children receive detailed report cards three times a year. These report cards provide information about each child's performance level in comparison with anticipated learning outcomes and provide feedback on the child's strengths and weaknesses. Grades are expressed in the form of a letter from A to D.

Here is the assessment scale used on report cards in elementary school:

- A – Excellent**      The student demonstrates excellent understanding of all components assessed.
- B – Good**            The student demonstrates good understanding of most of the components assessed.
- C – Satisfactory**    Although the student demonstrates some understanding of the components assessed, he or she still has difficulties in several areas that could prevent him or her from completing the course.
- D – Needs Improvement**    The student does not have the skills and the knowledge necessary to meet the requirements of this school subject.

A brochure entitled Report Cards in Elementary School is distributed to parents at the start of the school year. It provides valuable advice on providing support to your child when report cards come out.

Beginning in grade 8, numeric report cards are issued four times a year. They contain marks expressed in the form of a percentage along with feedback on the student's performance in each school subject.



## ACTIVE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

In Canada, schools encourage parents to get involved in their children's school life. In addition to helping you create your own social network, this helps you to better understand your child's school experience and provides you opportunities to make your opinions heard.

There are many ways to take part in your child's education. First, we invite you to volunteer at the library, during recess, helping students with their reading, etc. To find out more about volunteering opportunities at your child's school, simply call the school or speak to your child's teacher.

Many schools plan educational outings, referred to as field trips, each year. Teachers always welcome the help of parents in organizing special activities of this nature. We encourage you to take advantage of any opportunity to participate in activities organized by the school; this is an excellent way to support your child's education while also interacting with other parents or guardians.

To ensure children's success and integration in their new country, it is also important to encourage them in their efforts at school. Parents and guardians play a key role in students' academic success. Your child needs to be able to rely on your support in facing any challenges that may arise. This makes it essential for parents, students, teachers and the community to work together.

## PRACTICAL TIPS

### ***Children should be taught from an early age to never:***

- . Talk to a stranger unless a trusted adult is present*
- . Get into a stranger's car*
- . Accept candy or gifts from strangers*

### ***Children should always:***

- . Walk in groups whenever possible*
- . Know their full name*
- . Know their phone number*
- . Know their home address*
- . Know their parents' or guardians' full names*
- . Know where to go in case of an emergency*
- . Know to dial 911 in case of an emergency*

# POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



Every school establishes a code of conduct to ensure the safety of students and foster a positive learning environment within its walls. These guidelines can be found in your child's planner.

## STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

Each year, your child's teacher will take time to establish classroom rules with the students. Failure to follow these rules has possible consequences. The notions of **respect** and **non-violence** are just as important at school as they are elsewhere in Canada. The school staff work actively to keep intimidation, discrimination, bullying and other forms of violence out of school. If your child is going through any of these situations, it is important to talk about it with his or her teacher and, if necessary, the school principal.

## THE LINK PROGRAM

Students in grades 6 through 12 can benefit from an in-school support program called *Le Maillon* (The Link).

Under this program, students experiencing personal difficulties are encouraged to seek advice from designated people in the school. Each student is given a small yellow card at the start of the school year. If a problem arises, the student can present this card to a contact person.

If your child tells you he or she is going through a difficult time at school, we encourage you to talk to him or her first. Depending on the seriousness of the situation, you may also want to talk to your child's teacher, who can even refer your child to more specialized assistance services where appropriate.

## PRACTICAL TIPS

*Before the first day of school, consider having a conversation with your child to explain the difference between acceptable and unacceptable behaviours. For example, you might explain that students raise their hand to go to the bathroom, do not talk loudly inside the school, do not roughhouse with classmates, never run in the hallways, etc.*

# POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

## PROHIBITED ITEMS AT SCHOOL

The use of cellular phones or other electronic devices (e.g., MP3 players, video games, etc.) is prohibited in classrooms.

**It is strictly forbidden for students to consume or be under the influence of alcohol or drugs at school. Schools are smoke-free environments, meaning that it is prohibited to smoke inside a school or on school property. Your child's failure to comply with this law could lead to consequences up to and including suspension.**

## ATTENDANCE

In order to make the most of children's learning time, it is important that they attend classes and take part in classroom and school activities. If your child will be absent, you need to call the school office to let someone know. School District 1 places great importance on attendance, as this is a key component of academic success.

## IF YOUR CHILD GETS SICK AT SCHOOL

If your child becomes sick or has an accident at school, a member of the school staff will call you at the telephone numbers we have on file. You, or another designated emergency contact, will have to come pick up the student as soon as possible. If the accident or illness is considered serious, the school will arrange for your child be taken to the hospital by ambulance, and a school staff member will contact you. Please note that in this situation, parents are responsible for any ambulance fees.

To enable the school to contact you as quickly as possible, it is extremely important that you inform the school office promptly of any change to your phone number or address.

## PRACTICAL TIPS

*Here is an example of a message you might leave when you call the school: "This is (your name). My child (name of your child) is sick today and will not be able to attend school. Please inform his or her teacher (name of teacher). Thank you."*

*Some schools require that students bring a note on their next day at school explaining the reason for their absence. If your child has to leave school during the day, a note must be provided to the child's teacher. In the interest of student safety, it is important that the school be advised of all absences. Students are not allowed to leave school without your consent.*

# MEALS



Every morning before leaving the house, your child should have a nutritious breakfast of items such as bread, cereal, fresh fruit, milk or yogurt (see appendix for Canada's Food Guide). You may also give your child a healthy snack to eat at school during morning or afternoon recess.

## LUNCH

Your child will eat his or her lunch in the school cafeteria each day. Your child has two options in this regard:

- Purchase a meal from the varied offerings of the cafeteria service  
or
- Bring to school a meal prepared at home (lunch box).

## LUNCH BOX

Children generally carry their lunch to school in a lunch box. Food items should be placed in sealed containers that are cleaned daily.

According to Canada's Food Guide, a child's meal should have items from all four food groups. For instance, you might make a sandwich accompanied by fruit or a dessert and a beverage like milk, fruit juice or water. Canada's Food Guide is available in 12 different languages at the Health Canada website at [www.hc-sc.gc.ca](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca).

Some schools have microwave ovens for students to use to heat their meals.

Feel free to ask your school if this option is available.

# MEALS

## LUNCH BOX (CONT.)

Below are examples of typical lunch boxes:



And here are some examples of containers used to store food items:



## RECESS AND NUTRITION BREAKS

Recess and breaks are free time provided to students at set times during the day. They are an ideal opportunity for your child to make friends and have fun in the schoolyard. Breaks each day are supervised by a school staff member or volunteer parent.

A loud, clear bell rings at the end of each recess. This is your child's signal to return to the classroom. Students have to take off their footwear and outdoor clothing before going back into the classroom.

## PRACTICAL TIPS

*The following tips may be useful to you in preparing lunches and snacks:*

- *To save money, make a grocery list of food items on sale as featured in the grocery store flyers that come in the mail.*
- *Don't forget to put utensils in your child's lunch box.*
- *Use fruits and vegetables.*
- *Use whole-grain products such as whole-wheat bread, brown rice, oats, etc.*
- *Proteins play an essential role in children's growth. They occur mainly in meat as well as legumes and beans.*
- *Avoid food items that are overly sweet, like candy and chocolate, which are not good for your child's health.*
- *Avoid sending nuts or seafood to school. Other students may have a very strong allergy to these products, and coming into contact with them could have serious consequences. A list of products to avoid due to risk of allergies among other students will be given to all parents by the school.*

# SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION



In New Brunswick, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) offers free school bus transportation to students subject to certain conditions. School bus service is offered to the following students:

- children residing within their school zone but more than:
  - one kilometer from school, for students in kindergarten to grade 2;
  - one and a half kilometers from school, for students in grades 3 to 12.
- children residing in an area identified as unsafe by the school district;
- children with special needs (e.g., using a wheelchair); a medical certificate may be required.

## PRACTICAL TIPS

*To find the location of the bus stop closest to your house and your child's bus number, please visit the "Info-bus" section of the School District 1 website at [www.district1.nbed.nb.ca](http://www.district1.nbed.nb.ca) or call the office at your child's school.*

## WALKING DISTANCE

Your child will be expected to walk a certain distance between your home and the bus stop as long as it does not exceed:

- 300 meters, for most students in kindergarten to grade 5;
- 500 meters, for most students in grades 6 to 12.

## HOW THE SCHOOL BUS WORKS

If your child is eligible to travel by school bus, you will need to know the following: bus stop location, bus number and bus schedule. All of this information can be found on the School District 1 website ([www.district1.nbed.nb.ca](http://www.district1.nbed.nb.ca)) or obtained by calling your child's school. Your child should arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes before the arrival of the bus each day. If your child misses the bus, please note that you or another parent or guardian is responsible for taking the child to school.

## IMPORTANT

*Please note that the bus driver cannot drop your child at any location other than the child's usual stop. For safety reasons, we ask that an adult always be present at the bus stop each morning and afternoon to see any children in kindergarten to grade 2 get on and off the bus.*

On getting off the bus at school each morning, your child should proceed into the schoolyard. The children are allowed to play there until the bell rings to signal the start of the school day. Children in high school are allowed to go inside the school as soon as they arrive.

After school, your child should go directly to his or her bus in an orderly manner in the interest of his or her own safety and that of others.

# SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

## IMPORTANT

*If you move or if your schedule changes, please advise the school.*

## SCHOOL BUS RULES

While on the school bus, it is very important that your child comply with the following rules:

- Obey the driver.
- Avoid unnecessary conversation with the driver while the bus is in motion.
- Respect the driver and fellow passengers.
- Arrive at the bus stop on time and stand away from the roadway while waiting for the bus.
- When crossing the road, wait for the driver's signal and always cross at least 3 meters in front of the bus. **NEVER CROSS BEHIND THE BUS.**
- Always keep a safe distance around the school bus.
- Go directly to your seat, and allow others to sit with you. **Remain seated.**
- Sit facing forward, putting your backpack or other items on your knees or under your seat. Keep the aisle clear.
- Always get the bus driver's permission before opening windows or the emergency exit. Never hang or throw objects out of the bus windows.
- Talk quietly. Silence is required when approaching a railway crossing.
- Eating and drinking are not allowed on the bus.
- Avoid bringing bulky items onto the bus.
- Dress for the weather conditions. For safety reasons, avoid drawstrings or loose objects on clothing and backpacks.
- Smoking on the bus is prohibited.

**For your child's safety, some items are not allowed on school buses, including the following:**

1. Skateboards or snowboards
2. Ice skates/roller skates, unless in an appropriate bag
3. Balls, unless in an appropriate bag
4. Sports equipment (hockey sticks, etc.)
5. Large musical instruments (guitars, tubas, etc.)
6. Games involving the throwing or knocking down of objects
7. Noisy objects that could distract the driver
8. Any bulky object that could block the aisle in case of an emergency evacuation or that takes up too much space on the seat (objects must not exceed students' shoulder height and must fit on a child's knees)
9. Any other item deemed dangerous to student safety.

Please also note that animals are not allowed on the bus.

Drivers are authorized to refuse to allow noncompliant items onto the bus. If these items must be taken to school or home, it is the parents' responsibility to transport them.

## PRACTICAL TIPS

To view a video about student transportation, please visit the following website:  
<http://www.gnb.ca/0000/transport-e.asp>

## SNOWSTORMS (TEMPÊTES DE NEIGE)

Canadian winters can be harsh. As a result, school may occasionally be cancelled or a school bus could run late. If so, this information will be announced on local radio stations. If school is cancelled, you will be responsible for arranging for your child's care that day.

## PRACTICAL TIPS

Below are the telephone numbers you can call and radio stations you can listen to for information about storms or late buses. Announcements in this regard are broadcast starting as early as 6:00 a.m. on the following radio stations

## DIEPPE, MEMRAMCOOK ET MONCTON

### Francophone

Radio-Canada (CBAF-FM) - 88.5  
Country 89 (CJSE-FM) - 89.5  
BO FM (CFBO-FM) - 90.7  
Choix 99 (CHOY-FM) - 99.9

### Anglophone

K945 (CKCW-FM) - 94.5  
XL96 (CJXL-FM) - 96.9  
C103 (CJMO-FM) - 103.1  
MAX FM (CFQM-FM) - 103.9

## FREDERICTON ET OROMOCTO

### Francophone

CJPN-FM - 90.5  
Radio-Canada (CBAF-FM) - 102.3

### Anglophone

KHJ (CKHJ) - 1260 AM in Fredericton,  
95.1 FM in New Maryland and  
103.5 FM in Oromocto  
Fox 105 FM (CFXY-FM) - 105.3  
Capital FM (CIBX-FM) - 106.9

## SAINT-JEAN

### Francophone

CHQC-FM - 105.7

### Anglophone

98.9 BIG JOHN FM (CJYC-FM) - 98.9  
K100 (CIOK-FM) - 100.5

You can also call the following numbers to hear a recorded message about the status of schools:

Dieppe, Memramcook, Moncton: 869-6751

Fredericton: 453-4239

Oromocto: 357-4298

Saint John: 643-2003



## DAYCARE SERVICE

Under Canadian laws, children **12 years of age or older** may stay home alone after school. Please note that it is therefore against the law to leave a child at home alone if he or she is 11 years of age or younger. When the school day is over, young children may be placed under the supervision of an adult or another child 12 years of age or older.

Daycare services are also available after school. These services are offered on a fee basis by licensed entities not affiliated with School District 1.



## GLOSSARY

WORDS	CANADIAN DEFINITION
<b>Lunch box</b> (Boîte à diner)	A container for carrying a cold meal (whether or not requiring reheating) for one person. Your child's school may encourage you to prepare a lunch for your child to take to school in this manner.
<b>Winter boots</b> (Bottes d'hiver)	Footwear coming up to at least the ankle that typically protects against the cold. Boots are worn in the winter for outdoor activities.
<b>Stapler</b> (Brocheuse)	Small device used to attach documents together in a specific order using a metal fastener.
<b>Report card</b> (Bulletin)	Document used to indicate your child's academic performance.
<b>Carpooling</b> (Covoiturage)	Parents' sharing of one vehicle to travel to a common destination for activities taking place outside of school or after regular classes.
(Culotte)	In Canada, <i>culotte</i> means trousers.
<b>Breakfast</b> (Déjeuner)	The meal eaten in the morning.
<b>Lunch</b> (Diner)	The meal eaten around noon.
<b>Hot lunch</b> (Diner chaud)	Meal option offered to children in some schools at lunch time whereby the children can purchase a meal prepared by cafeteria employees for a modest cost.
<b>Gym clothes</b> (Habit de gym)	Clothes your child must wear during physical education class. These clothes should be made of light material and not be too warm (e.g., t-shirt, shorts).
<b>Memo</b> (Mémo)	Written message distributed by a school staff member or committee to provide important information.
<b>Mittens</b> (Mittaines)	Coverings for the hands with a separate section for the thumb only; used during cold weather.
<b>Parent-teacher meeting</b> (Rencontre parents/maitre)	Parent-teacher meetings take place twice a year on predetermined dates. These meetings provide you the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and discuss your child's progress.
<b>Supper</b> (Souper)	The meal eaten in late afternoon or early evening.
<b>Toque</b> (Tuque)	Wool hat sometimes decorated with a pompom.
<b>School zone</b> (Zone scolaire)	Geographic zone served by a school.

## WELCOMING ORGANIZATIONS

### FREDERICTON

- Multicultural Association of Fredericton (MCAF/AMCF)  
123 York Street, Suite 201  
Fredericton, N.B. E3B 3N6  
Telephone: 506-454-8292  
mcaf@mcaf.nb.ca
- Association interculturelle francophone de Fredericton (AIFF)  
715 Priestman Street  
Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5W7  
nbaiff@yahoo.ca

### GREATER MONCTON

- Centre d'accueil et d'accompagnement des immigrants du Sud-Est du Nouveau-Brunswick (CAFI)  
319 St. George Street  
Moncton, N.B. E1C 1W8  
Telephone: 506-382-7494  
www.caiimm.org
- Multicultural Association of the Greater Moncton Area (MAGMA / AMGM)  
150 Queen Street  
Moncton, N.B. E1C 1K8  
Telephone: 506-858-9659  
info@magma-amgm.org

### SAINT JOHN

- Saint John Multicultural & Newcomers Resource Centre (MNRC)  
Centre d'accueil multiculturel et des nouveaux arrivants de Saint John  
P.O. Box 20100, 30 King Street  
Saint John, N.B. E2L 5B2  
Telephone: 506-642-4242  
www.sjmnrc.ca

## USEFUL LINKS

Here is a list of websites that you may find useful:

#### School District 1

[www.district1.nbed.nb.ca](http://www.district1.nbed.nb.ca)

#### SOS Devoirs

[www.sosdevoirs.org](http://www.sosdevoirs.org)

#### Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

[www.gnb.ca/0000](http://www.gnb.ca/0000)

#### Fédération nationale des conseils scolaires francophones (includes list of Francophone daycare centres)

[www.fncsf.ca/annuaire](http://www.fncsf.ca/annuaire)

#### Association francophone des parents du Nouveau-Brunswick

[www.afpnb.ca](http://www.afpnb.ca)

