



ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE **KELVIN** HIGH SCHOOL

OVER 100 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

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M. Davidson, Vice-Principal T. Cox, Principal M. Charbonneau, Vice-Principal



October 17, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian and Student,

Re: **Recommended Digital Tools** for French Immersion, FCC (French Culture & Communication), Spanish Programs

Learning a second language is both rewarding and challenging. We are proud to offer the French Immersion Diploma program along with Spanish and French Communication/Culture courses for students in grades 9-12. Our staff strive to create learning activities that foster and develop all four language competences (speaking, listening, reading and writing) which lead to varying levels of bilingualism.

Students of second-language programs require a commitment to engage to the best of their abilities in all classroom activities. Learning Spanish or French involves taking risks and accepting that mistakes are normal and part of the learning process. At École secondaire Kelvin French Immersion students (in grade 9) sign a language contract with the expectation that their communication will be consistently *en français in the classrooms and outside the classroom with their teachers through grades 9 to 12. The contract has been attached in this communication.*

Today's digital world has changed teaching and there are many on-line tools available to facilitate second-language learning. At École secondaire Kelvin High School second-language acquisition means *students are constructing and interacting with the language at all levels and entry points of their assignments. Therefore, the following digital tools are recommended to support student learning for all our language programs:*

WordReference.com – an excellent online dictionary for Spanish and French

Bonpatron.com – a proofreading tool with spell check and grammar check

SpanishChecker.com - a proofreading tool with spell check and grammar check

Translation tools are not acceptable language software/tools. Chat GTP and other AI tools as well as programs like Google Translate, with ready-made answers which require no evaluation or intellectual participation in the second-language on the part of the student are not permitted. These sites do not foster language learning. It is, in a way, asking « someone » to do the work. The student is, therefore submitting work that is not their own which is considered plagiarism. In addition, these tools often only provide a literal word for word translation, often incorrect or illogical. Students who make use of these tools are not displaying academic honesty.

Please speak to your teenager about their language learning experience at school and about these digital tools. Feel free to contact individual teachers with specific questions.

Regards,

École secondaire Kelvin French Immersion Team, Mme Murray (Spanish teacher)
Kelvin Administration



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION