



TERRY FOX

Elementary School

Terry Fox Elementary School is a public elementary school, part of the Lester B. Pearson School Board, offering a *French Immersion Program – Français Plus Model*. We focus on cooperation, achievement, and respect for the 21st Century Learning.

Today's students will need to solve complex problems that may not exist yet. Many of our students will have careers that don't exist today either. We need to prepare students for this reality. Here at Terry Fox, our parents and staff work together to help our students succeed now and in the future.

A shift from knowledge to skills and competencies

Education is changing. Our focus is on developing the skills and competencies students need to thrive in our changing society.

The lines between subjects are blurred. Students have more projects that blend subject areas. Through best educational practices students take on problems that need skills from various subject areas, Science, Technology, Mathematics, Language, and Arts.

Students have more choice. When students have a say in what and how they're learning, they're more interested and more likely to remember information. Choice starts in kindergarten.

We focus on thinking rather than memorizing. Students need to know how to find and use information. We want them to ask questions and make connections between topics. We still teach the building blocks of knowledge—like math formulas, spelling and grammar. But the 21st Century Competencies are the focus of our learning and teaching.

Assistive Technology (AT) is mainstream technology. All students have access to technology that supports reading, organization, written expression, communication and collaboration. Students use speech recognition software, text-to-speech software, concept map creating tools, and much more.

Teachers and other staff are learners too. Learning doesn't stop when we graduate school. We're all learners and we want our students to know that. We need to continue to learn so we can adapt to our world. Teachers learn alongside their classes as they guide them through their projects and lessons.

21ST CENTURY COMPETENCIES

Researchers have identified key competencies for today's learner.

Citizenship

- getting involved in local and global initiatives to make a difference
- contributing to society in a positive way
- interacting safely and responsibly in the community, including online

Collaboration

- the ability to work with others and contribute shared knowledge base
- collaboration happens in person, and on line

Communication

- the ability to speak, read, write, and listen well
- understanding digital tools and how they're used for communication

Creativity and Innovation

- exploring new ideas and developing unique solutions for complex challenges

Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

- the ability to find, question, and analyze large amounts of information

Learning to Learn

- learning and believing we can learn and grow (growth mindset)
- understanding how to overcome challenges and adapt to change

We're showing students what's possible. In grade 6 students are introduced to robotics and coding. And we have devices (computer, laptop or tablet) for students use. We're giving students access to a range of technology so they can build skills they'll need for their futures and imagine what's possible. Teachers design learning spaces based on the students' interests.

Helping students become positive, global citizens



We make a deliberate effort to help students become kind and engaged global citizens—online and offline. Here's what's happening at Terry Fox:

Character Education. We believe that learning is directly dependent on children's attitude towards the task of learning. Children excited about learning and focused on getting along with others will do their best in school.

We implement Positive Behaviour Intervention and Support (PBIS) based on the WITS Program, which encourages students to work together. We guide students to ensure success by creating a positive, safe, and nurturing environment. We focus on 10 character attributes: integrity, cooperation, optimism, honesty, inclusiveness, responsibility, empathy, respect, caring and courage. These values are integrated in our lessons and throughout our days. The focus on these values is the same whether we're interacting offline or online.




Creating responsive communities to prevent peer victimization

Digital leadership. We teach students how to use the online tools available to them for good. For example, we may ask students to blog about their learning. This authentic audience and purpose helps students build a positive online reputation—it's like a digital resume. This can serve them well in the future.

Collaborating beyond the classroom. Social media and blogging give students access to a much broader audience. Some teachers set up projects that allow students to collaborate with their peers from other schools, including around the world. Students are also able to communicate/collaborate with experts in any field. These opportunities help to broaden our students' awareness and skills.

Online safety. Students learn about: safe and respectful use of technology; social, emotional and legal consequences of online behaviours; the potential negative impact of online activity on relationships and future employment. We teach about privacy and the importance of protecting personal information online (photos, names and other items that can be used to identify someone).

<div> FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM  </div>		
Grade Level	French Instruction (approximately)	English Instruction (approximately)
Kindergarten	85%	15%
Cycle One (grades 1-2)	85%	15%
Cycle Two (grades 3-4)	85%	15%
Cycle Three (grades 5-6)	50%	50%