

Price School Dual Language Immersion Program



**Adelaide Price Elementary School
1516 W. North Street
Anaheim, Ca 92801
(714) 517-8947**

Anaheim City School District

The Price Dual Language Immersion Program is a unique educational model where children learn to think, read, write and communicate naturally in both English and Spanish.

Anaheim City School District

Price Elementary School Dual Language Immersion Program

Price Elementary School's Dual Language Immersion Program was established in 2006. The goal of this program is to develop academic proficiency and literacy in two languages, Spanish and English, based on California State standards.

Summarized History of Dual Immersion Programs

Evaluation studies of Spanish, French, and other language immersion programs in the United States and Canada show that immersion education can be highly effective for both majority and ethnic/racial minority students (Campbell, 1984; Genesse, 1985; Swain, 1984; Collier and Thomas, 1997). Students participating in Two-Way Language Immersion Programs usually demonstrate high levels of proficiency in the second language in addition to high academic achievement without any loss to the development of their English skills. Children who learn in two languages develop a "common underlying proficiency" which is transferable between languages. Knowledge learned through one language paves the way for knowledge acquisition in the second language. Students who learn content in one language are able to demonstrate content knowledge in the second language once they acquire the skills to express that knowledge (Cummins, 1987).

Program Goals

1. To develop language proficiency in English and Spanish for native English speakers and native Spanish speakers.
2. To ensure academic excellence as outlined in the School District's core curriculum by increasing scholastic achievement in two languages.
3. To cultivate an understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures.
4. To empower parents to become active participants in their children's education.

Benefits of Program

- Empowers students to achieve the highest academic, social and linguistic skills to give them the edge now and for future economic success.

- Students are instructed according to the California Standards for grade level competencies in all subject areas in both English and Spanish.
- Learning a second language stimulates the brain to develop higher level reasoning skills, which transfer to complex critical thinking in math, science and language arts.
- Children who are educated with a multicultural curriculum have stronger self-esteem with more tolerance for, and more interest in, other cultures.

Parent Agreement

We believe a strong school-home partnership is an essential component of our program and is key to our students' educational success. Families must enter in kindergarten and remain through the sixth grade in order for the student to gain the full benefit of the program. Research data indicate that students develop dual language proficiency in a minimum of four to six years (Linholm, 1987). Parents who enroll their children in the Price Dual Immersion Program are strongly encouraged to make a commitment to participate through sixth grade. Additionally, parents are expected to be active participants in their child's education at school and home. Parents must sign a program contract that explains the program's goals, the parent's responsibilities and commitment to the program.

Program Design

The Price School Dual Language Immersion Program merges the most successful aspects of immersion and bilingual education with a strong academic program. The program implements 50% of instruction in Spanish and 50% in English from kindergarten through sixth grade.

Method of Instruction

Instruction is in Spanish and English every other week. In all grade levels with two classes students have two teachers. One teacher delivers instruction in Spanish and the other in English.

Program Admission Requirements

In order to maintain the integrity of the instructional model, the Dual Immersion Program admission will be subject to the following criteria.

1. All students that attend Price Elementary School may apply.

2. Parents must sign a program contract that explains the program's goals, parents responsibilities and commitment to the program.
3. Parents of English Language Learners must agree to sign the parental exception waiver every year, as mandated by the District and State.
4. Students may enroll in the program at the kindergarten level. Students wishing to enroll in the program after kindergarten may be admitted at any grade level based on proficiency levels in both English and Spanish.
5. Siblings of children already enrolled in the Immersion Program will receive first priority for placement.
6. Once enrolled in the program, students automatically progress to the next grade level in the program unless disenrolled by parents or the school.
7. Disenrollment of a student will be done in consultation with the school principal, Dual Immersion teachers and parents.
8. Program participants and their families are expected to commit to the Dual Language Program through sixth grade. This duration of enrollment ensures full development of both Spanish and English language skills.

Kindergarten Admission Process

1. Parents interested in the Dual Immersion Program contact Price School.
2. Parents attend informational meeting.
3. Parents complete enrollment and commitment forms.
4. Student is given a Kindergarten literacy assessment.
5. Parents are notified of student's acceptance.

Criteria for Selection of Students

Students who have siblings in the program are given priority as well as students whose neighborhood school is Price Elementary. Each class is composed of students who are ½ English dominant and ½ Spanish dominant or bilingual in Spanish.

Screening for New Students in 1st – 6th Grade

All students are invited to enroll in our program at the kindergarten level. Students wishing to enroll in 1st – 6th grades will be given an assessment to determine if they meet all of the criteria necessary for success in the program. The screening will be conducted by a dual language teacher in order to assess the child's language proficiency and achievement in both English and Spanish. A decision on whether the Dual Language Program is the best instructional option

for the child will be determined by the prospective classroom teacher and the principal based upon the results of the assessment.

Parent Commitment

A strong school-home partnership is an essential component of our program and is crucial to students' educational success. Families must enter their students in kindergarten and remain in the program through the sixth grade in order for the student to gain the full benefit of the program. All parents must sign a parental agreement upon enrollment and are asked to honor it. The parent commitment is as follows:

1. I will make a 5-7 year commitment to the program. Unless there are unusual circumstances, the stability of being in the same program is important.
2. I will ensure that my child does not miss school unless s/he is sick. A pattern of numerous tardies and/or absences may result in exclusion from the program.
3. I will monitor my child's completion of homework and make sure s/he turns it in on time. If my child does not understand the homework, I will provide timely feedback to the teacher.
4. I will be an active participant in my child's education. This includes volunteering in the classroom and/or school for at least 20 hours each year.
5. I understand that this program can be offered only if there are sufficient participants. Unfortunately, there is not guarantee this program will be available in the future if there is too much attrition.