

As a parent, what could I expect from my child's participation in the German Immersion class?

- A child fully bilingual in German by the fifth grade
- A child who is very tired at the end of each day
- A need for increased sensitivity to the mental challenge my child exerts each day
- A complex daily schedule with multiple transitions
- My child interacting with multiple teachers daily
- A lengthy developmental process that focuses first on receptive skills of the language
- Adequate time for home academic support in English in the core areas of math and literacy
- Potentially delayed progress in English outweighed by the benefit of developing fluency in a foreign language
- Half-day Math/Science instruction completely in German, half-day Literacy instruction in English
- No repeated Math/Science instruction in English provided at school
- Students still actively involved in school-wide STEM program through their collaborative STEM research experiences
- An academically advanced educational experience in an environment that prepares students to interact and build relationships with differing backgrounds.
- A need to provide emotional encouragement and English academic support at home

Program Benefits

- ✓ 50 percent instruction in English
- ✓ 50 percent instruction in German
- ✓ Students will become bilingual and biliterate
- ✓ Learning a new language may increase a student's competency in other subjects
- ✓ Opens the doors to career opportunities with foreign companies
- ✓ Prepares students to compete in a global community



Next Steps

- Complete Kindergarten registration for Brookwood School. (Students must be 5 years old by Sept. 1 to enter the kindergarten program)
- Complete an application for the Dual Language Immersion Program.
- Students who reside Out-of -Zone (OOZ) or Out-of-District (OOD) of the Brookwood School Zone must complete the OOZ/OOD application for Kindergarten registration AND the Dual Language Immersion Program application at the Out-of-Zone- and Out-of-District registration in March. (Preference is given to those OOZ and OOD students who already have a sibling attending Brookwood School)
- Parents will be notified of acceptance into the program by the end of May.
- For questions, please contact Dr. Celeste Martin, principal, at (706) 876-4200.

THE GERMAN IMMERSION PROGRAM AT BROOKWOOD



501 Central Avenue
Dalton, Georgia
(706) 876-4200

brookwood.daltonpublicschools.com

An immersion educational setting presents a substantial academic challenge for a student. In the German Immersion setting, one-half of a student's day is spent learning core content of math and science in the target language of German where no English is spoken. The only English utilized is during the other half of the day through core content of literacy and social studies.

In a regular Kindergarten class where sometimes students are not native English speakers, students are fully immersed in the target language of English through their core content of math, science, social studies, reading and writing. Even with full-day immersion in English, additional support is sometimes needed when a child struggles to learn the target language of English. However, in the German immersion setting, no additional support services are offered in German for students who struggle to learn the German language.

Listening attentively is also a crucial skill that immersion students must have because the teacher is the keeper of the language as students are developing understanding. It is a very important consideration for a parent when opting for immersion in a second or third language due to limited exposure to English.



WOULD MY CHILD BE A GOOD FIT FOR THE GERMAN IMMERSION PROGRAM?

“The German Immersion program at Brookwood Elementary has been an excellent experience for our daughter. The extra language component is both challenging and fun for her. We have seen her meet and exceed all grade level benchmarks. We have been very impressed with the quality of this program and would recommend it to anyone looking for enrichment and adventure.”

*Marjorie Daniell, parent**

The following considerations are intended to help provide insight with this important parental decision.

• **What is my child's current academic Kindergarten readiness?**

- *My child can recognize and name most capital and lowercase letters of the English alphabet.*
- *My child recognizes and names basic colors – white, black, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple*
- *My child can count objects up to 25.*
- *My child recognizes and names basic shapes – circle, square, rectangle, and triangle.*
- *My child, including those who are bilingual, can speak complete sentences in English.*

• **What is my child's current behavioral Kindergarten readiness?**

- *My child exhibits sustained attention in non-choice activities.*
- *My child easily adapts to new situations, including multiple transitions.*
- *My child performs up to 3-step directions without redirection.*

The considerations listed above were compiled from characteristics of our successful students in our current German Immersion classes. Not having all the traits above should not mean that your child could not succeed in the class. These are provided to bring awareness to what characteristics make a child a good fit for our German Immersion program.

*(*additional parent references upon request)*