



## Early Learning and Child Care Action Plan

# Guidelines for language acquisition and cultural identity learning environments

### What are the guidelines for language acquisition and cultural identity in learning environments?

The guidelines for language acquisition and cultural identity in learning environments are tools for educators to provide proven teaching practices in language development and cultural identity for preschool aged children living in linguistic minority communities. These guidelines will reflect and support the Curriculum éducatif pour la petite enfance francophone. The guidelines will include practical tools that can easily be implemented by educators in francophone designated New Brunswick Early Learning Centres (*Centres désignés de la petite enfance du Nouveau-Brunswick*).

Once the guidelines are completed, the designated francophone New Brunswick Early Learning Centres will be required to implement these guidelines to help protect and promote the francophone and Acadian language and culture. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will work with its Francophone stakeholders to develop guidelines to ensure strong language acquisition and cultural identity early learning environments for centres in linguistic minority setting with a target implementation date for April 2020.

### Who will benefit?

All children 0-5 years old attending designated centres who are implementing the Curriculum éducatif des services de garde francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick will benefit from a stronger connection to their language and culture.

These new guidelines will provide the framework educators need to facilitate healthy language development and acquisition for children of the “*ayants droits*” living in a minority linguistic setting. It is expected that this will have a direct impact in the literacy scores of young francophone New Brunswick children.

### Why is it being done?

The protection and promotion of the Francophone and Acadian language and culture is important to ensure the pride and sense of belonging for young New Brunswick francophones within the community. The access to quality French learning environments in Early Childhood facilities will encourage a strong cultural francophone and Acadian identity for life, from birth. This initiative supports the commitments made by francophone community leaders through the Linguistic and Cultural Development Policy (*Politique d'aménagement linguistique et culturel*).



**For Information**

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