

Advantages of Immersion Education

What is the value of immersion education for a child? What does the Irish and international research say?

Cognitive advantages

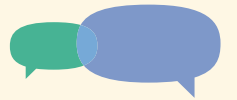
Children can become **more creative thinkers**



They're better able to **pay attention, to concentrate** on and complete tasks



Helps to **improve memory skills**



Research has shown that being bilingual can delay the onset of Alzheimer's Disease by four years

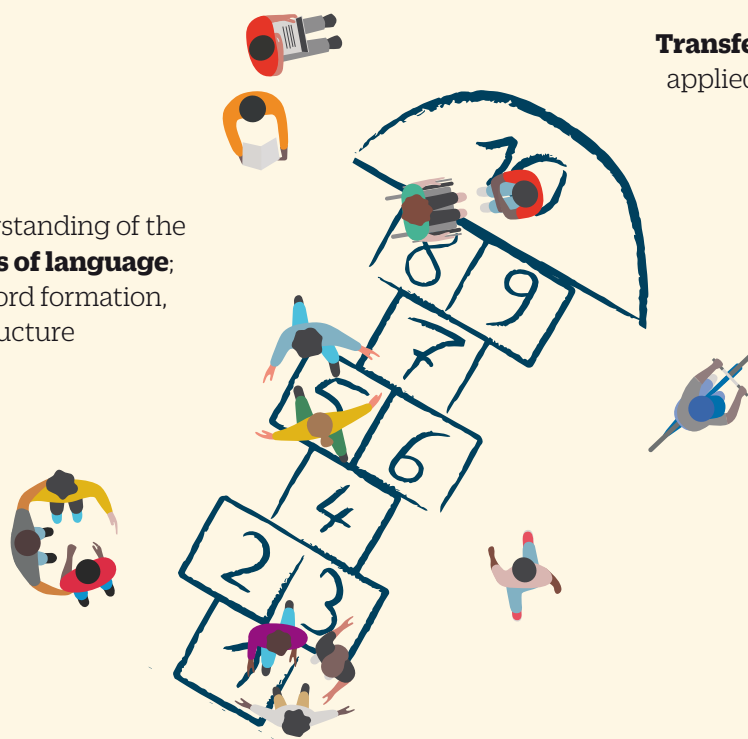
Fluency and literacy in two languages

Children develop **fluency** and **literacy** in both Irish and English in school



Better understanding of the **foundations of language**: grammar, word formation, sentence structure

Easier for the children to **learn additional languages**, thanks to the literacy skills they acquire through immersion education



Transferrable skills can be applied to other languages

Develop more effective **listening and communicative skills**

Better able to **express themselves**, and better able to understand others

Communication skills

Confidence and identity

Receive broader exposure to other cultures and develop a **greater respect** for them

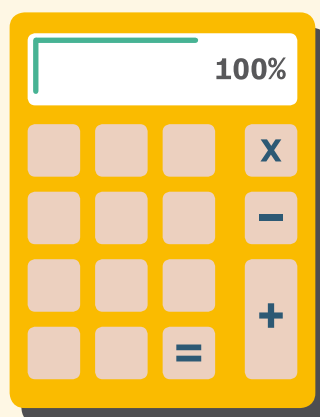
Promotes deeper **multiculturalism** and less racism



Better understanding of their own sense of self, and this gives them increased **self-esteem**



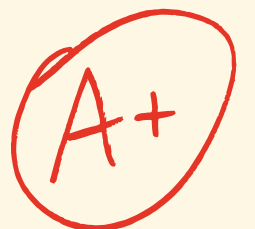
Increased educational attainment



Attain higher grades in standardised tests both in English and in maths than their peers in English-medium schools

Irish-medium primary schools are more likely to provide a **broader curriculum** than other school types

Candidates who answer in Irish in the written examination in certain Leaving Certificate subjects may be given **bonus marks**



Want evidence? Further information on these benefits, as well as research references, is available at www.gaeloideachas.ie



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