

# Korean — Goals and Rationale

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## Rationale

Acquiring a new language opens the door to a world of new experiences. As students study a new language, they develop an understanding and appreciation of other people, cultures, beliefs, and ways of life, while also developing a deeper understanding of their own culture and personal identity. They learn new ways to think, learn, and communicate with others, and gain a new perspective on their experiences and the world around them. The study of Korean rewards students with these and other benefits.

British Columbia and Canada have growing economic and cultural connections with Korea. Being able to communicate in Korean opens the door to unique educational, travel, and career opportunities. Korean students will be able to explore and deepen their understanding of the richness and diversity of both national and global Korean-speaking communities.

Acquiring Korean deepens students' understanding of the important relationship between language and culture, and allows students to transcend cultural boundaries and biases. As globalization increases, it is important that students become aware that they are part of a rich cultural and linguistic diversity. Developing linguistic and intercultural competencies increases students' ability to understand and communicate effectively with people from around the world.

As students gain proficiency in Korean, they develop many competencies essential to their continued success in life, including critical thinking, creative thinking, and communication skills. For example, learning an additional language is known to enhance students' learning and literacy in their first language, as well as contributing to their overall cognitive development. As they learn to communicate clearly and effectively in Korean, students gain transferable skills and processes that contribute to their proficiency as communicators in English.

## Goals

The BC Korean curriculum aims to support students' development as educated citizens through the achievement of the following goals. Students are expected to:

- use Korean as a form of self-expression
- communicate with purpose and confidence in Korean
- explore a variety of Korean-language texts from Korean-speaking communities, regionally and globally
- appreciate the interconnectedness of language and culture
- expand their understanding and appreciation of other cultures
- deepen their understanding of their first language, of additional languages, and of their own cultural identity
- encourage respect for cultural diversity

- understand the educational, travel, and career opportunities that learning an additional language offers
- develop a lifelong appreciation of learning languages

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