


Cogito Alternative Program

Meyokumin

Parent Information Session 2026/27



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**We acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 territory,
a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and
travelling route to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot,
Métis, Dene and Nakota Sioux.**

**We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis,
and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these
lands for centuries.**

**Nous reconnaissons que nous sommes sur le site
du territoire visé par le traité n° 6, un lieu de
rencontre traditionnel, un point de rassemblement
et une route pour les Cris, les Saulteaux, les Pieds-Noirs,
les Métis, les Dénés et les Nakotas.**

**Nous reconnaissons tous les nombreux peuples,
Premières Nations, Métis, et Inuits, qui marquent
le territoire de leur présence depuis des siècles.**

Goals for Today

- Explain the Cogito Alternative Program
- Help parents enrol in the school and program that is right for their child
- Explain the admission process and timeline
- Answer parent questions

Welcome to Meyokumin School

- Current enrolment - 550
- K-6
- Programs:
 - Cogito
 - Mainstream Program
 - Punjabi Language Classes





Cogito, ergo sum ... I think, therefore I am

Cogito programming is designed for students who always work to achieve a high level of academic excellence in an environment that emphasizes structure and order.



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Cogito Program Handbook

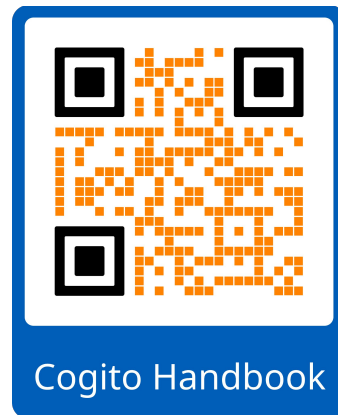
- Program Overview
- Foundational Principles and Practices
- Student Profiles
- Parent Commitment



Foundational Principles

These principles are the framework from which decisions about the program are made.

Foundational Principles



Instructional Delivery

- Instruction is directed to the whole class in a structured format to support mastery.
- Guided and independent practice follow.
- Assignments and activities can be whole group, small group, or individual.
- Feedback is provided in a timely manner so students make necessary corrections and absorb the material presented.

Knowledge Based

- Basic knowledge of a subject enables analysis and higher level thinking and reasoning.
- Subjects are discrete but information and skills are applied across curricula to solve problems.
- Technology is used intentionally to support and enhance learning.
- The classroom is focused on learning and student engagement.

Additional Learning Outcomes

The curriculum follows the Alberta Programs of Study plus

- Extensions (Scope and Sequence)
- Locally Developed Courses (Division 3)
- French as a Second Language (Divisions 1 – 3)

Due to these additional learning outcomes, lessons move at a faster pace than in a mainstream program.

Extensions - Language Arts

- *Literacy Meaningful Applied Phonics* (Division 1) is the predominant approach to establish explicit phonics, decoding, writing, rules of grammar
- Penmanship, accuracy, precision, creativity and fluency in written and spoken expression
- Grammar, syntax and structure more developed than in other programs
- Use of classical literature and recommended reading series
- Regularly scheduled recitations (Division 1 and 2)

Extensions - Mathematics

- Emphasizes sequential development, proficiency of foundational skills and mathematical reasoning
- Develops mathematical vocabulary and theoretical base
- Demands proficiency with calculation, *without the use of calculators*
- Expects demonstration of problem-solving through systematic processes
- Places additional emphasis on geometry and understanding fractional relationships
- Requires work to be shown and explained (metacognition)

Student Expectations

- High standards – exemplary work is expected
- Strong note-taking and study skills are established
- Responds well to a structured environment
- Neatness, accuracy, completion and thoughtful content are stressed
- Students correct errors in a timely manner

Cogito Program vs Regular Program

- Pace of learning is accelerated
- Instructional time is maximized
- Daily homework is required
- Regular attendance is critical for student success

The Cogito Student

- Maintains a strong work ethic
- Follows the extended curriculum
- Works independently in the classroom
- Completes homework (Monday-Thursday)
- Demonstrates excellent behaviour

Cogito Student Profile

- is willing to work hard to achieve a high level of academic success
- is able to work independently at grade level
- is able to maintain focus and manage their behaviour
- is able to manage the fast pace of the program

Student Profiles (located in handbook)

Parent Commitment

Parent commitment is essential for success in this program.

- Be partners in education
- Support the Cogito philosophy
- Sign a daily communication book
- Monitor homework (Monday-Thursday)
- Support students in memorizing and performing monthly poems (recitations)

Parent Commitment

Parent Commitment

- In order to help students experience success, **we strongly discourage families from taking trips during the school year.**
- The Cogito program is based on sequential learning. Thus, it is challenging for students to pick up their studies after an absence.
- Please consider whether Cogito programming is right for your family.

Finding the Right Fit

The Cogito Program does not meet everyone's needs. Consider the following:

- Your child's ability to sustain attention, initiate and complete tasks
- Your child's communication skills and English language proficiency
- Your child's learning style

Timeline

- Registration for new students (i.e. Kindergarten) can be completed online now
- Pre-enrolment for students currently registered in an EPSB school can be completed now on SchoolZone
- For Kindergarten registrations, parents will receive an email indicating their child's Meeting for Success date and details prior to our first Meeting for Success date on February 18th
- If a child is not a fit for the program, you will receive a call prior to pre-enrolment closing on March 25th
- If your child is a fit for the program, you will receive a phone call after random selection in April

Meetings for Success

- Our goal is your child's success and happiness in school.
- We work with families to help you make an informed decision when choosing a program that would best meet your child's educational needs.
- To support this work, we will be scheduling a 'Meetings for Success' for all Kindergarten applicants.
- After the 'Meetings for Success' you will be notified either by email or a phone call about our recommendations for your child's enrollment.

Students entering Grades 1–9

- For these students, we ask parents to provide a copy of your child's latest Progress Report.
- We will use this as a tool to have a conversation about your child's readiness for the expectations and demands of the program.

Cogito Program Locations

Elementary

- Horse Hill
- Kameyosek
- Lansdowne
- Lymburn
- Malcolm Tweddle
- Meyokumin
- Mount Pleasant
- Northmount
- Pollard Meadows
- Princeton
- Richard Secord
- Stratford (K-6)
- Waverley

Junior High

- Allendale
- Balwin
- Edith Rogers
- Michael Phair
- Stratford (7-9)

Student Admission and Enrolment

Following Edmonton Public Schools' Administrative Regulation for Student Admission and Enrolment (HC.AR), enrolment priorities for are as follows:

- Students who live within the attendance area for the school
- Siblings of students who are returning the following year
- Resident students (In a Cogito Program, then new to Cogito)
- Non-resident students currently enrolled in the Cogito program elsewhere in the Division

Random Selection

The random selection process is conducted by Division administration to ensure all eligible students are provided equal opportunity to attend the school or program.

Random selections will be completed and parents notified **no later than April 17, 2026.**

Considerations

- Will your child turn 5 years old by December 31, 2026?
- Is your community school a Level 3 lottery school (i.e. Shauna May Seneca, Svend Hansen, Jan Reimer)?
- Have you spoken with your community school about the possibility of being enrolled in an overflow school?
- Do you currently have a child enrolled in Cogito grade six at Meyokumin?



Timeline

- Meetings for Success and Parent Conversations occur prior to March 25, 2026
- Pre-enrolment closes at 4:00 pm on March 25.
- The school is not allowed to accept any more applications after this date.
- Parents will be personally contacted regarding the outcome of the random selection by April 17.
- Parents **MUST** be available to receive a phone call during school hours between April 13 and 17.

Waitlist

- 2026–2027 class lists are finalized once Random Selection closes.
- At this point, we are considered full and cannot take any further registrations, even if students withdraw at a later date.
- Students not accepted through the Random Selections will remain on a “Wait List” from March 25 to September 29th.
- Any open seats will be offered to the first students on the waitlist.

Transportation

Yellow bus service is available for students living within designated transportation boundaries. Interested families must apply [online](#) between February 2 and June 1, 2026, to ensure registration is complete for the start of the 2026-27 school year.

Please note that eligibility is strictly determined by these boundaries, and an online application is required for service consideration. For details on yellow busing for [alternative programs](#) or general transportation info, please visit the "[Get to School](#)" section on the EPSB website.

Thank you



Our goal is your child's success and happiness in school.

You can review this information on our website.



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