



Our Program

In the Logos Christian Program, the teaching of knowledge, skills and attitudes is done within a Christian context. A Christian viewpoint to issues and topics from all curriculum areas is provided and links are made between the material being taught and the Bible teachings on that topic.

Logos is enriched by activities such as praying together, memorizing scripture verses, reading the Bible, singing Christian songs and participating in assemblies with a Christian perspective. Logos is designed to reinforce those principles, beliefs and values our students learn at home. The program has a strong service focus, and welcomes opportunities to serve the community.

Our Logos Mission

That students, taught in a spiritually nurturing, intellectually challenging and disciplined environment, acquire the knowledge, attitudes, skills and training necessary to seek after whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things (Phil. 4:8). Sustained by Christ's teachings and God's love, students should develop binding commitments to their families, neighbours, country and the global community while leading moral, healthy and productive lives.

Background

What is a Logos Program?

Logos means “The Word” or “Second Person of the Trinity.” It is Greek and comes from the Gospel of John. The Logos Program is a non-denominational Christian *alternative program*. Logos is a program of choice based on instruction within a Christian environment grounded on Biblical principles and values.

What is an Alternative Program?

The Education Act (2012) Section 19 defines a program of choice as follows:

1. In this section “alternative program” means an education program that (a) emphasizes a particular language, culture, religion or subject matter, or (b) uses a particular teaching philosophy.
2. If a board determines that there is sufficient demand and resources for a particular program, the board may (a) offer that program to those students whose parents enroll them in the program and (b) the program meets the educational needs of the students.

St. Albert Public Schools Logos Program

- All students are welcome in the Logos Program. Staff and students will respect other religious faiths and recognize the diversity of theological positions.
- The Logos Program follows the Alberta Program of Studies and provides learning experiences that support the learning outcomes for each grade level.
- Teachers look for opportunities to teach biblical values in the context of a dynamic educational environment. Teachers in the program are comfortable bringing a Christian perspective to issues and topics in all curricular areas.

- Activities may include prayer, worship music, scripture study, and praise assemblies as a community. Families are encouraged to support the mission statement of the Logos Program and provide support in planning and implementing events that bring the Logos community together.

Principles of the St. Albert Public Schools Logos Program

The Logos Program bases its standards on biblical principles:

1. God is our Creator, who intimately knows each one of us.
2. God has provided biblical values, fundamental truths, and standards of behaviour to guide us as we live our lives. The Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount are two such examples. We seek God's truth over opinion.
3. All have sinned and fall short of God's expectations for us. Christ, being both fully man and fully God, offered himself as atonement for our sin. He is alive today and seeks to be in relationship with us and guide us through the Holy Spirit.
4. As we spend time meditating on scripture, it should be clear that we are to serve God by loving everyone as an important part of our spiritual formation. God works in our lives and speaks through those around us. We are called to be in community with others even if they don't share similar beliefs as we do.

District Operations of the Logos Program

- Currently the Logos Program serves K-9 students at one site (Joseph M. Demko School) and operates under the jurisdiction and authority of the St. Albert Public School District.
- The Logos Steering Committee enriches the program and plans and assists with fellowship events, and works to increase community awareness of the program. The Logos Program will have a School Council representative.

Joseph M Demko School Core Values and Pillars and the Logos Program

Christian education should equip young learners with the knowledge and skills to think critically about their world and seek ways to make it better. Making education a deeply moral task means equipping students with a spiritual vision and values that give students the wisdom to lead lives that honour God. We are called to live joyfully in our relationship with God!

STARS values:

STRENGTH (Luke 10:27)

- I treat others the way I wish to be treated
- I treat my mind and body with care
- I am resilient and persevere in challenging learning situations
- I stand up for myself and others
- I regulate my thoughts and actions

TEAMWORK (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

- I participate actively in school activities
- I work cooperatively with others
- I include others in learning and play situations
- I value friendships and foster caring relationships
- I encourage others and celebrate their strengths

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE (Philippians 4:8)

- I strive to do my personal best
- I endeavour to be a productive numeracy and literacy learner.
- I contribute to an engaging and nurturing learning environment
- I am a lifelong learner
- I use technology to discover, create and apply my knowledge and skill

RESPECT (John 13:34-35)

- I celebrate similarities and differences
- I care for the environment
- I am empathetic to others' thoughts and feelings
- I practice good manners and thoughtful actions
- I practice safety and obey the school rules

SPIRIT (Proverbs 18:15)

- I am actively engaged in class and school activities
- I am proud to be part of the school community
- I strive to be an active citizen in our global community
- I am a positive and passionate learner
- I support the core values of the school

PILLARS

Joy (John 15:11, Nehemiah 8:10)

- We are happy and excited to be in our school community
- We are passionate and creative in the learning process
- We nurture curiosity and celebrate successes
- We are inviting and caring in our interactions
- We laugh and have fun together

Mindfulness (Colossians 3:2, Matthew 6:34, Philippians 4:7)

- We are engaged and attentive in our learning
- We are aware of our emotions and strive to be balanced
- We are compassionate and empathetic with others
- We are adaptable and resilient in changing situations and activities
- We respond appropriately and effectively in our interactions

Diversity (Galatians 3:28, Psalms 133:1)

- We foster positive and authentic relationships

- We are an inclusive and safe environment for everyone
- We appreciate individuality and cultivate respect
- We promote diverse learning opportunities
- We encourage classroom opportunities for problem solving, critical thinking and creativity

Logos Program FAQ's

What is the difference between a Logos program and a Christian program offered by a private school?

There are a number of distinguishing features of the Logos program:

We are not a segregated program. The Logos program is part of the existing public school so students have access to the same learning opportunities as the rest of the student population.

There are no separate religion classes. It is understood that the Christian values and principles taught in the classroom align with what is being taught at home.

The Logos program is offered by the public school district, which may make it more accessible than a private school as they may charge tuition and limit enrolment.

Is discipline handled in the same manner as in a regular classroom?

As a program within the context of the public school district, the discipline policies for the Logos program would follow the regulations outlined in the School Act (2012). Teachers in the Logos program are encouraged to use biblical principles such as restoration and forgiveness when setting guidelines within the classroom and responding to specific circumstances with students.

Have there been any problems with conflict or segregation between students in the two programs?

All staff, students, and parents work hard to create a welcoming atmosphere within the school community as a whole. The program has always had a good rapport with other staff and students where Logos classrooms have been integrated throughout the school. As part of the hiring process, administration makes an effort to find teachers that build community with all the staff in the school.

What about Christmas and Halloween?

Logos students do not participate in Halloween events or parties. Instead, alternate activities are planned. In the past this has included penny carnivals, collecting food bank donations in the community, or swimming at a pool in the afternoon.

Christmas celebrations, which include the entire school, are encouraged in order to foster an inclusive school atmosphere. The Logos classrooms would show Christmas as a Christian celebration.

Who teaches in the Logos Program?

Administration and teachers have been chosen on the basis of their support for the objectives of the Logos program. If there are an adequate number of registrations that warrant hiring specialist teachers such as physical education, music, and drama, they will be taught by Logos teachers. Otherwise, regular program teachers will teach any optional courses.