

Implementation Strategies

Hart–Ransom Academic Charter School, Hart–Ransom Union Elementary School District
Modesto, CA

Grade(s): K – 8

Scenario: One-to-One Laptop Program, Home Access

Purpose: Core Curriculum

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 100%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 5 hours per week, 80 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Mathematics – LV 3 (with QuickTables), Mathematics – LV 4 (with QuickTables), Mathematics – LV 5 (with QuickTables)

Heidi Giordano, Teacher

I have had a good overall experience. My students seem to do well on Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) testing.

Scenario

What challenges did the class or school face in math prior to using ALEKS?

My students were struggling, and I needed an alternative for math.

How many days per week is class time dedicated to ALEKS?

5 days per week.

What is the average length of a class period when ALEKS is used?

45–60 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

It is used for home access.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

Students only use ALEKS at home.

How did you modify your regular teaching approach as a result of ALEKS?

I did not need to make any modifications.

How often are students required or encouraged to work on ALEKS at home?

Daily.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

Parents work with the student at home.

Grading

Is ALEKS assigned to your students as all or part of their homework responsibilities? If so, what part of the total homework load is it?

It is 100 percent of their homework load.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

The percentage of the course the student completes is used as part of the student grade, as well as how well they do on tests.

Do you require students to make regular amounts of progress in ALEKS?

Yes, the course must be completed in one year.

Learning Outcomes

Since using ALEKS, please describe the learning outcomes or progress you have seen.

I have noticed good progress, and test scores have improved. In addition, students enjoy the program and are happy.

Best Practices

Are there any best practices you would like to share with other teachers implementing ALEKS?

It's a solid program, but students also need to be motivated.