

# Implementation Strategies

**St. Xavier Catholic School, Catholic Diocese of Salina**  
Junction City, KS

**Grade(s):** K – 12

**Scenario:** Computer Lab, Home Access

**Purpose:** Supplement

**Time Spent in ALEKS:** 2–3 hours per week, 20 hours per term

**ALEKS Course:** Mathematics – LV 4 (with QuickTables)

**Lori Balderrama, Principal**

Having used other online math programs, I find ALEKS to be much more comprehensive. However, we are still learning how to access components that would assist teachers in instruction, such as access to completed assessments.

## Scenario

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

We have some students that don't possess basic math skills, and therefore are unable to progress.

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

2–3 days per week.

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

N/A

## Implementation

**How do you implement ALEKS?**

Students are selected on local and state assessments, along with teacher input. We have a lab facilitator, with the math teachers monitoring and intervening as needed.

**Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?**

No, students progress based upon their needs.

**How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?**

Students alternate using the computer. On offline days, students work on the concepts with paper and pencil.

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

We do not modify our approach, as this is a stand-alone program.

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

It is required during our summer program. During the school year, students work during school hours.

**How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?**

We have used other programs and shared our new enthusiasm for ALEKS with our parents. We find parents are receptive to their children receiving additional instruction.

## 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?**

No, as the students have a regular math class from which they receive homework.

**How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?**

At present, it is non-graded.

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

Yes. The lab facilitator and regular math teacher monitor progress.

### **Best Practices**

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

Students still require some intervention when faced with difficult concepts. We use ALEKS as a supplement to our standard curriculum.