

Implementation Strategies

Shahala Middle School, Evergreen Public Schools
Vancouver, WA

Grade(s): 6 – 8

Scenario: Computer Lab, Home Access

Purpose: Intervention, Special Education, At-Risk Students

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 20%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 3 hours per week, 36 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Middle School Math Course 2, Middle School Math Course 3, Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1

Heidi Backlund, Special Education Math Teacher

ALEKS helped my students become better mathematical thinkers and problem solvers. I will use ALEKS for my students in the future.

Scenario

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

2 days per week.

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

80 minutes.

Implementation

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

The students go to the computer lab twice a week to use ALEKS. The other three days, they receive direct instruction for their IEP goals and grade level curriculum.

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

Daily.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I send a letter home that needs to be signed by the parents. I also have the students complete an ALEKS homework log and explain the program to parents at IEP meetings.

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?

Yes, it is about 20 percent of their total homework load.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

ALEKS is part of classwork, which is 30 percent of the grade. When ALEKS is homework, it is ten percent of the grade.

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

No.

Learning Outcomes

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

Students have made more progress with their Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals, and have prior knowledge and practice when doing grade level mathematics. The students are happy with their progress and are more confident.

