




SCHOOL OF
HOPE



& VERMILION
HOME SCHOOLING

Keeping the

in
Home-Based Learning

Programs

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Administration

Mr. Michel Despins, Principal

Mr. Dwayne Coffey, Vice
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What we believe

Traditional classroom schooling is not for everyone. Everyone learns in different ways, and many children learn better outside brick and mortar schools. We believe no one knows this better than parents!

Vision:

In order to serve our families better, the School of Hope strives to have sound, engaging and easily accessible courses in all subject areas and at all levels.

Mission:

The School of Hope is a faith based school that supports family-centered learning and achieves academic success through a flexible, engaging and inclusive learning environment.



What can we offer you?

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

- Online Liturgy
- Support for missionary families
- Dedicated, caring staff

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

- Access to teachers with special education training and experience.
- Assistance through learning strategies and resources
- Assessment by professionals if necessary

RESOURCES AVAILABLE

- PowerSchool
- School Messenger
- Google Classrooms
- Google Apps
- Facebook
- Subscriptions to Alberta Exam Bank, Brain Pop, Discover Education Canada
- Subscriptions to What in the World, Canadian reader and my Blueprints

PROGRAMMING

- Online Learning (Teacher Directed)
- Homeschooling (Parent Provided)
- Shared
- Dual Credit
- CTS Courses

SUPPORT SERVICES

- Assistance with program planning
- Home Visits for Homeschooling students
- Inclusive Education
- Daily access to Teachers and Academic Advisors
- Parent/Teacher/Student conferencing either in person or over the phone

HIGH SCHOOL

- Alberta High School Diploma
- Academic and Scholarship Counseling
- Graduation ceremony open to all students completing 12 years of education

WORKSHOPS AND FIELDTRIPS

- There are several fields trips and workshops scheduled throughout the school year for students and parents to participate in

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

- Past trips have been to France/Belgium to visit the Canadian Battlefields and a Central European cities tour that included the Berlin wall, Schindler's factory and Auschwitz
- Currently compiling an interest list from students to schedule another trip

What program is best for my child?

Is your child in Grade 1?

No

Please note students have to be age 6 by February 28 in their grade one year.

Kindergarten checklists are available upon request.

Yes

Do you want an Alberta Certified Teacher to create, deliver and evaluate your child's program?

No

Homeschooling Program

Parents have the freedom to choose their child's curriculum and have the responsibility to plan, teach and assess their child's program. **See Page 6.**

Yes

Online Program – Grades 1-12

The Online Learning program meets the Alberta Program of Studies objectives at each grade level. **See Page 7.**

Do you want a combination of Online and Homeschooling courses on your child's program plan?

Yes

Shared Program Grades 1-12

Students work under the guidance of a certified teacher in their Online courses and for their Homeschooling courses, student will follow the program selected by their Parents.

Online (Teacher Directed) Program

Grades 1 - 12

An Online (Teacher Directed) program is delivered and assessed by a teacher from the School of Hope. Students in grades 1 - 12 work from home with teachers via email, Live Online (Zoom), instant messaging, telephone or fax. Students must both stay in contact with their Teacher, and hand in work regularly.

Courses and subjects follow the Alberta Programs of study, leading to a full high school diploma.

Elementary Grades 1-6:

- Students submit work on a regular basis to the teacher, who then provides feedback to help the student recognize areas of strength and challenges in his/her work
- Students work at their own pace
- The teacher will individualize the courses to meet each students needs
- Daily lessons will be provided via *Live Online lessons* in core subjects from grades 3 to 6. Students can join lessons for live instruction or watch recorded lessons for further instructional support.

Grades 7 and 8 – Team Teaching:

- Students in grades 7 and 8 will work closely with two teachers at each grade level. One of these teachers will act as their Academic Advisor.
- Depending on the Teacher Directed optional courses selected, students in these grades may be working with additional subject specialists (ie, Music)
- Students are provided with a suggested schedule/timeline by their subject teachers.
- Students may request scheduling assistance should they feel the need for more structure and supervision or find they are in need of assistance for course completion
- Daily lessons will be provided via *Live Online lessons* in core subjects. Students can join the live instruction or watch recorded lessons for further instructional support.

Grades 9 to 12:

- Grades 9-12 students are provided with a suggested schedule/time line by their subject teachers, or, in consultation with the teacher, they may establish an alternative schedule. Live or recorded Blackboard sessions are available for core subjects.
- Students work with specialists for the core subjects.

Homeschooling (Parent Directed) Program

Grades 1-12

School of Hope continues to offer the option for families to explore education on their own through their **Vermilion Home Schooling Parent Directed Program**. The Parent Directed Program (also known as Traditional Home Schooling) is a parent directed facilitator supported program. Parents choose the curriculum, plan, teach and assess the students' learning.

Success at Home-Based Learning requires:

- Students to be self-motivated
- Parents to be supportive and available for the student during the "school day"

Home-educated children benefit from:

- Concentrated educator-student interaction
- Enjoying a unique educational freedom unconfined by time and space barriers
- Individualized instruction and programs for all students, including those with special needs

Home-Schooling Facilitator (VHS):

A **Facilitator** is a teacher who is assigned to support and guide each child's learning program and ensures that expectations of Board Policy, the School Act and Alberta Education guidelines are met. The Facilitator will meet with the family at least twice a year; further visits can be arranged by the teacher or parent if needed.

Curriculum:

Parents can choose to use the Alberta Program of Studies or, in consultation with a Home Schooling Facilitator, they may choose other programs (commercial or parent developed) to meet goals they have set for their children.

Assessment:

- Parents are to maintain a portfolio of student work samples demonstrating student progress.
- Students enrolled in a Parent Directed program are encouraged to write Provincial Achievement Tests in grades 6 and 9.
- High school Parent Directed students who wish to be awarded Alberta High School credits are required to write the School of Hope subject final exam for core courses; however, for non-core courses only a portfolio is necessary.
- If Parent Directed high school students wish to earn a high school diploma, they must write the diploma exams in the grade 12 core courses in which they are enrolled in and must meet all credit requirements outlined by Alberta Education.

Shared Responsibility Programs

A Shared program is a combination of Homeschooling (Parent Directed) and Online (Teacher Directed) courses. Sharing allows for the development of a more flexible program for students.

- If a course is selected as Online (Teacher Directed), the rules and guidelines applying to Teacher Directed Programs are followed.
- If a course is selected as Parent Directed, the rules and guidelines applying to Homeschooling (Parent Directed) program are followed.
- For grades 1-12, the Online TD portion for the student must be between 50-79% (80% + is considered the Teacher Direct online program)
- **Students choosing to study in a Shared Responsibility/Blended Program cannot register in more than one school, and % of Teacher vs Parent course totals cannot change after September 30th.**
- Students in the Shared Program are eligible for the proportional % of the Home School Funding.



On hold due to Covid

Field Trips, Workshops and Special Events

As a distance learning and home education school, we offer a wide variety of face-to-face learning opportunities around the province during the school year. Students in all of our programs have access to these events, which are lead and organized by our certificated teachers. In many instances, we draw upon local service providers and subject specific experts to help enhance the learning experience. These events are great ways to bring students together with their peers. Please speak to your teacher and check our school's calendar for a list of activities that are in your geographical area and the process of establishing an Off-Site Service Provider.



Inclusive Education

The Inclusive Education Program is available only to families enrolled in the **Online (TD) Program**. Alberta Education does not fund Inclusive Education programs for students in the Homeschooling (Parent Directed) program.

The School of Hope Inclusive Education Program offers:

- Access to teachers with special education training and experience
- Assistance through learning strategies and resources
- Modification to a program or alternate resources
- Assessment by professionals if deemed necessary by the Inclusive Education team
- Support through skill building workshops for parents and students and professional consultation with Special Education teachers

When parents register a special education student, they are required to complete information forms outlining their child's performance, successes or difficulties and to give permission for student placement in Inclusive Education. Members of the Inclusive Education team will review this information and discuss the child's special programming needs with parents.

Mild and Moderate Program (SOH) Alberta Education Codes (51-59)

Students in the mild and moderate program may have difficulty with math concepts, may struggle to read, or have a mild form of ADD or ADHD. Teachers work to provide appropriate learning resources and teaching assistance for mild and moderate students, may modify program expectations and provide accommodations for specific learning needs.

Severe Disability Program - Alberta Education Codes (41-49)

Students in the severe disability program generally have a medical or mental disability that may seriously interfere with their learning. *We are not able to accept students with Severe Disabilities in our Online (Teacher Directed) program.*

Knowledge & Employability Program (K&E) Grades 8-12 (SoH)

This program combines job experiences with academic studies to prepare students for entering the work force. Job experience is grouped under various work clusters to enable students to gain a related vocabulary as well as some basic work experience. Students work towards a Knowledge and Employability high school certificate.

Gifted Program (SoH) Alberta Education Code 80

Home-based learning can be a wonderful way for gifted students to advance at a pace that challenges eager minds. Our gifted program includes individual programming from Grades 1 to 9 to meet unique learning needs.

Although giftedness can be found in many areas, the School of Hope concentrates on a child's academic giftedness.

Dual Credit

School of Hope in partnership with Lakeland College (Vermilion Campus) is pleased to offer high school students the opportunity to earn introductory, first year college credits while earning high school CTS credits.

What are the benefits of DUAL CREDIT COURSES?

Student Success: Students gain confidence to succeed academically in a post-secondary environment

Innovation: Students use the latest education technologies, which prepares them for the technological workspace.

Convenience: Students learn what College Instructors expect while still in familiar high school surroundings.

What DUAL CREDIT courses are available?

The following Lakeland College courses are available:

- ED120 Play
- HCA Sec 1 Health Care Aide Sec 1
- HL101 Introduction to Heavy Oil & Gas
- HE158 Health, Safety & Nutrition
- HS160 Introduction to Esthetics
- SO162 Introduction to Soil Science
- SC140 Environmental Sustainability
- More courses to come!

Who can apply for DUAL CREDIT courses?

Only grade 10, 11 and 12 students can apply.

What does it cost to enroll in DUAL CREDIT courses?

Nothing! There is no cost to students!

How are DUAL CREDIT courses offered?

Students can participate in one of three ways:

1. Participate in live online classes
2. Listen to pre-recorded lectures
3. A combination of both options

For more information, please contact:

Sheri Garnier, Dual-Credit Facilitator
East Central Alberta Catholic Schools
Phone: 780-853-2188 Ext. 113
Email: sheri.garnier@ecacs16.ab.ca

"I like how it gives me the option to see if this is something I would want to do."

Graduation Ceremony

The School of Hope holds a Graduation Ceremony for those students that receive their Alberta High School Diploma.



On hold due to Covid
International School Travel



More International School Travel



Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a Kindergarten Program?

No, the School of Hope registers students in grades one to twelve.

What is the youngest age allowed to register in grade one?

A student must be six years of age on or before February 28, of the current school year to register in grade one.

Is there a Special Education Program?

The Inclusive Education Program (Special Education) is available only to students enrolled in a Teacher Directed program with Administration approval. Alberta Education does not fund Inclusive Education programs for students in the Parent Directed program.

Is there an Early Literacy Program?

The School of Hope has a progressive Early Literacy program designed to encourage successful reading. Struggling readers can enter the Early Literacy program in grades one and two. Ask your Teacher about the Early Literacy resources. There is access to level readers and an online reading program.

Will my child miss out on socialization and extra-curricular activities if they home school?

Socialization means learning acceptable behavior in various situations and relationships. Children can participate in sports teams and be involved in all types of community and church activities. The School of Hope and Vermilion Home Schooling programs offer workshops and field trips for interaction with other students and teachers.

Can I receive an Alberta High School Diploma?

Yes, students who complete the Alberta High School Diploma requirements will receive their diploma directly from Alberta Education. The School of Hope courses follow the Alberta Program of Studies leading to an Alberta High School Diploma. Vermilion Homeschool students who cover the Alberta Learning outcomes can receive credits and work towards a high school diploma. Their Facilitators can assist with this.

Is there a Graduation Ceremony for students?

The School of Hope and Vermilion Home schooling has a Celebration of Learning ceremony. All grade 12's who will be finished or are nearly finished their studies for an Alberta diploma or have used alternate curriculum may attend our ceremony.

Does the School of Hope organize International School trips?

Yes, once registered please contact the school for information.

Do I need to be Catholic to register with the School of Hope and Vermilion Home School?

No, although we are proud of our Catholic faith, we believe there are many ways to get closer to God.



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