



ELK ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS'

Logos Christian Alternative Program

Elementary and Junior High
Parent & Student Information



Parent & Student Guide

ELK ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) Parent & Student Guide provides an overview of the Logos program, the Logos Society Principles, and the roles of the school, parents & students, and the Elk Island Logos Society.

Christian Faith-Based Logos Program Schools

The Logos Christian Alternative Program is an alternative program for students in Kindergarten to Grade 9, within a regular school setting. Students in the Logos Christian Program will be taught Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and Health and Life Skills from a Christian perspective by Christian teachers.

Logos Society Purpose Statement

Our children's learning environment will enhance their understanding of God's love and His Word. Teachers and administrators will receive our support through prayer, fundraising and volunteer work. Our schools and communities will be positively impacted by the presence of the Logos program.

Logos Principles

1. God is our Creator who knows and loves everyone.
2. The Bible is the primary resource for Christian teaching.
3. The Old and New Testaments of the Bible are the inspired Word of God.
4. There is one God, eternally existing in three persons:
 - a. God the Father,
 - b. Jesus Christ, His only Son, and
 - c. The Holy Spirit.
5. Jesus lived on the Earth, was crucified, and rose again so that we are forgiven.
6. Salvation is given to those who accept Him as their personal Savior.
7. He strengthens us through His Holy Spirit.
8. We live on Earth to love God and serve Him by caring for and serving others.
9. We devote time to God by reading His Word and speaking to Him through prayer.

School Commitment to Purpose Statements and Principles

Staff commitment to the Purpose and Principles provides critical support for the Logos Christian Alternative Program. Logos staff believe and model Christian faith as outlined in the Principles.

A Christian Learning Environment

The Logos Christian Alternative Program provides instruction that follows the Alberta Programs of Studies, within a Christian context. The non-denominational Christian environment is based on traditional Christian principles as set out in the Bible and the Apostles' Creed (Appendix 1). The program focuses on loving God and loving one another, a commitment to Christ's teachings, and an understanding that we are ultimately responsible to God for our actions.

Teaching staff create a Christian learning environment by:

- Integrating a Christian perspective into instruction delivery,
- Leading devotions and prayer time,
- Leading scripture memorization activities,
- Participating in Logos Christian assemblies,
- Using supplementary Christian resources, and
- Providing support for students in their personal relationship with God.

Devotions and Chapel

Devotions and chapel are integral to the Logos Christian Alternative Program. The opportunity to glorify God and grow spiritually is a vital part of the Christian faith.

- Homeroom classes begin with prayer. Prayer occurs at least once each day. Prayer can be teacher or student led. Teachers may make use of 'prayer and share,' prayer box, or pray based on student requests.

Prayer and Bible reading are integral parts of devotional time:

- Writing about what a scripture verse means and how to apply it to life today.
- Writing about how God works in individual lives.
- Writing about an important, meaningful verse.
- Viewing Christian multimedia.
- Leading group devotions.
- Reading a Christian novel (teacher reading to the class or individual reading).
- Listening to Christian music.
- Reading scriptures (by the teacher, as a class, or as individuals).
- Playing games, such as Bible trivia.
- Participating in activities that serve others.

Chapel(s): that includes prayer and a Christian theme:

- Must be approved by the principal.
- May involve parents in planning
- May involve parents who assist students in the preparation of drama or musical presentations.
- Parental involvement must be approved by the Principal.

Instructional Guidelines

Students in the Logos Christian Alternative Program are taught Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and Health and Life Skills from a Christian perspective by Christian teachers.

Students are integrated for Physical Education and option classes, such as band, art, drama; and career and technology foundations.

SCIENCE

- Instruction in science is based on the belief that God created the earth, the world is an ever-changing place, and we are stewards of God's world.

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Instruction in social studies is based on the development of society from a Christian perspective.

HEALTH AND LIFE SKILLS

Students will:

- Use the Bible as a foundation by which they make decisions on issues such as drugs, alcohol, smoking, and dating,
- Examine their roles and relationship as Christians,
- Understand God requires respect and care for physical and emotional health, and
- Understand abstinence from sexual relations before marriage is a valid choice.

LIBRARY MATERIALS

Parents and teachers work together to teach children how to make decisions regarding reading material, music, and other media material. EIPS' Administrative Procedure 270 Learning Resource Selection will guide resource selection. Logos parents may donate or purchase reading material that emphasizes the Christian perspective and address potentially controversial learning resources.

CONTROVERSIAL AND SENSITIVE ISSUES

(as per EIPS Administrative Procedure 205 Controversial Issues and Resources)

- Controversial issues will be examined from a Biblical perspective.
- Discussion of controversial issues may arise during class time, and will be viewed from a Christian perspective.
- Teachers, parents, and/or students may plan an alternate activity for an event that they do not wish to participate in, such as Halloween.

Instructional Materials

The following will apply to resource selection for the Logos Christian Program:

- Instructional material is authorized by Alberta Education.
- Supplementary resource material that is consistent with the Logos Society principles and in accordance with the Program of Studies may be selected.
- Supplementary Christian material, such as Bibles, is purchased by the Logos Society.
- Teachers assist students in their understanding of a Christian view of curricular topics and concepts.

Behavioural Expectations

EIPS' schools promote and communicate positive interactions between students and staff, in accordance with EIPS' Draft Administrative Procedure 350 Student Behaviour Plan. Each school will communicate this plan to students and parents.

Logos teachers supplement behavioural expectations with Biblical principles when setting guidelines for student behaviour. Students are taught the importance of:

- Respect for the Bible, God's laws, Christ's teachings, and authority.
- Love and respect for others.
- Contributing positively to the school and community.

SERVICE

Active community service is an important component of the Logos Christian Program. This service component may be school/or community focused and varies according to the age and grade level of the student. The service component may be incorporated into devotions, chapel, or during classroom instruction. Off-site community activities must be approved by the principal.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR PARTICIPATION

Field trips follow EIPS' Administrative Procedure 260 Field Trips. Logos students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities offered at the school. Students may also participate in activities organized specifically for students of the Logos Christian Program, such as Mission Fest. The Logos Society and/or school will assist students who are unable to attend extra-curricular activities due to financial hardship.

Hiring Procedures for Logos Teachers

Hiring of Logos staff is the responsibility of the school principal in consultation with EIPS' Human Resources department.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

- Copies of the Logos Christian Program information are made available for substitute teachers at the school and EIPS' Human Resources department.

Elk Island Logos Society

REGULAR MEETINGS

- The Elk Island Logos Society executive, including interested parents and staff, meets on a regular basis, between six and ten meetings a year.
- Voting privileges are granted to executive members.
- The location of meetings rotates amongst schools (scheduled by the Society and principals).
- The principal will attend meetings that are hosted at his/her school.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- The Annual General Meeting is held in June.
- Voting privileges are granted to all members of the Society.*

** Those having paid membership fees.*

FUNDRAISING

The Elk Island Logos Society consults the principal regarding fundraising events. Proceeds from fundraising activities may go toward the purchase of Christian resource material, chapel(s) or off-site activities. It is important the Society and principals work together to determine timing and purpose of fundraising events.

ORIGINAL PROPOSAL AND EIPS' BOARD MOTIONS

Historical documents pertaining to the formation of the Logos Christian Program in Elk Island Public Schools are archived at the Central Administration Building.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is religion taught as a formal subject in the Logos Christian Program?

There is no separate religion class, as Christian principles are incorporated into the curriculum whenever possible. A daily devotional time that includes prayer, scripture reading and memorization, and other spiritually nurturing activities is an important part of the Logos Christian Program.

Are Logos teachers Christians?

Teachers are chosen on the basis of their support for the Logos Christian Program and their sincere commitment to its mission, principles, and objectives. Logos teachers are to exemplify the Christian beliefs endorsed by the Logos Christian Program.

What does non-denominational mean?

There are many Christian denominations that share a belief in the fundamentals of Christianity (see Principles on page 2), but differ slightly in doctrinal practices. This program is intended to focus on the foundations of Christian belief, to nurture spiritual growth and to provide continuity between home and school.

Are students in the Logos Christian Program segregated from other students in the school?

Logos classrooms are interspersed throughout the school. Students in the Logos Christian Program are part of the school community and community spirit is highly encouraged through shared activities such as assemblies and field trips. Logos students are integrated with the rest of the school for option classes in Junior High. There are some “Logos only” activities such as chapel time, retreats, community service, and other activities of a spiritual nature.

Is transportation provided?

Logos students may qualify for transportation dependent upon the distance they reside from their designated school, as well as from their school of choice. Direct your inquiries to EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

Is the Alberta Learning curriculum taught in the Logos Christian Program?

Provincial curriculum is taught for all mandated programs including Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Fine Arts, Physical Education, and Health/Personal Life Skills.

Is learning assistance provided and can special needs students access this program?

Learning assistance is provided to the same extent as in the regular classroom program. Special needs students are assessed on an individual basis and decisions are made in accordance with EIPS' current regulations.

Do students participate with regular students in Halloween and Christmas celebrations?

Christmas celebrations include the entire school to encourage and foster a community atmosphere. Logos students also participate in additional Christmas activities unique to the Logos program. While the regular program students celebrate Halloween, Logos students at the elementary level will spend the afternoon in an alternate, faith-based activity. At the junior high level, an alternate, faith-based activity is offered within the school, and all students – Logos and non-Logos – are able to choose which activities they wish to participate in.

Will materials that are objectionable or potentially offensive to Logos parents be removed from the school libraries?

No. Parents and teachers in EIPS work together in educating children on how to make responsible decisions regarding reading material, music, movies, and the internet.

What is the Elk Island Logos Society?

The Elk Island Logos Society is comprised of parents of students enrolled in the Logos Program. The Society works in cooperation with EIPS in an advisory role to maintain the Program’s integrity.

The Society maintains a website and provides opportunities for parents and students to come together and share experiences. Fundraising greatly enhances Christian materials within the classroom and other Logos specific activities. The Logos Society board meets regularly and values all Logos parents’ opinions and involvement.

More information about the Elk Island Logos Society can be obtained at <http://elkislandlogos.ca>, info@elkislandlogos.ca, Facebook group: Elk Island Logos Society, or by contacting the school.

Is there an extra cost to register in the Logos Christian Program?

Not currently. The Logos Christian Program is an Alternative Program within EIPS and does not charge any program fees. There is, however, the option of membership in the Elk Island Logos Society with the payment of an annual membership fee per family. Membership information and forms are available at <http://elkislandlogos.ca>.



APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

The Apostles' Creed dates very early in the Christian Church, within a century of the last books of the New Testament. The term 'Catholic Church' refers to the universal church of believers.



Parent Commitment to the Logos Christian Program

LOGOS PURPOSE STATEMENTS

Our children's learning environment will enhance their understanding of God's love and His Word. Teachers and administrators will receive our support through prayer, fundraising and volunteer work. Our schools and communities will be positively impacted by the presence of the Logos program.

I have read the Logos Purpose Statements and the description of the Logos Christian Program. I agree with the educational principles, goals, methods, and practices of the Program and will support the school staff in their efforts to establish and maintain a positive learning environment with a Christian focus. I will endeavor to ensure my child works to achieve his/her commitment to the Logos Christian program.

Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Child & Grade

School

Date

*This form is **compulsory** for all parents with children in the Program. Please sign and submit this form to your child's school. If you sign up for Society Membership online you can make this affirmation there instead: <https://elkislandlogos.ca/members>*



Student's Personal Commitment to Logos Education for Grades 4-9

EXPECTATIONS

1. I behave in a responsible and respectful manner during all classroom activities and all Christian activities, such as prayer, devotions, and chapel.
2. I treat others with care, kindness, and consideration, as Christ would treat me.
3. I participate in Christian activities within the Logos Christian Program.
4. I am respectful of the differences that exist among Christian faiths.

If I experience challenges meeting these expectations, I know the following meetings will take place:

- A meeting with Logos teacher/administration to help me with my challenges.
- A meeting with Logos teacher/administration/my parent(s) and me to review my involvement in the Logos Christian Program.

I have read the Logos Christian program expectations. I agree and understand all expectations as stated above.

Date

Student Name

Student Signature

Please sign and submit this form to your school.



Elk Island Logos Society Membership Form

Welcome to another school year! Our prayer is that you and your children experience God's peace in this season of busyness.

The Elk Island Logos Society is collecting **\$25 per family** for membership fees. Your membership fees provide essential funding to keep the Logos Christian Program operating smoothly - Bibles and other Christian materials in the classrooms and libraries, Chapels, busing for special events, retreats, and more. Membership also allows you the privilege of casting your vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in June.

Your membership is a vital aspect in ensuring the success of the Logos Christian Alternative Program! Please complete the form, attach payment, and return it to your child's school.

You can fill out this form and arrange payment online: <https://elkislandlogos.ca/members>

Cost of membership: \$25 per family

Ways to pay: email transfer (treasurer@elkislandlogos.ca), cash, or cheque (Elk Island Logos)

Parent's Name(s): _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Preferred Phone Number: _____

*E-mail: _____

* Yes, I consent to emails of periodic newsletters and EILS communications.

* No, I would not like to receive any Logos information via email.

*(*Please note: Your email address will NOT be distributed, sold, or used for any purposes other than Elk Island Logos Society communications. Email is our preferred way to get newsletters and other information to you.)*

Email: info@elkislandlogos.ca

Website: <http://www.elkislandlogos.ca>

Facebook: *Elk Island Logos Society*