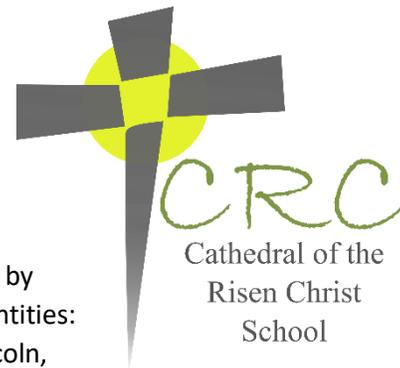


Cathedral of the Risen Christ Strategic Curriculum Plan

A tremendous blessing for schools in the Catholic Diocese of Lincoln is the approach called “local control”. Essentially, this means that the leadership believes each school knows what is best for its students, thereby giving them local control of their school. This relates to many areas of the school, but most significantly to the education of the student: objectives, mapping, and curriculum.

Autonomy like this is a blessing, but also demands a high level of responsibility by each school in the diocese. Standards and approaches are given to us by five entities: Federal programs, Nebraska Department of Education, Catholic Diocese of Lincoln, Lincoln Public Schools, and our stakeholders. (Stakeholders are defined as anyone with a vested interest in Cathedral School: students, parents, teachers, parishioners, religious and community).

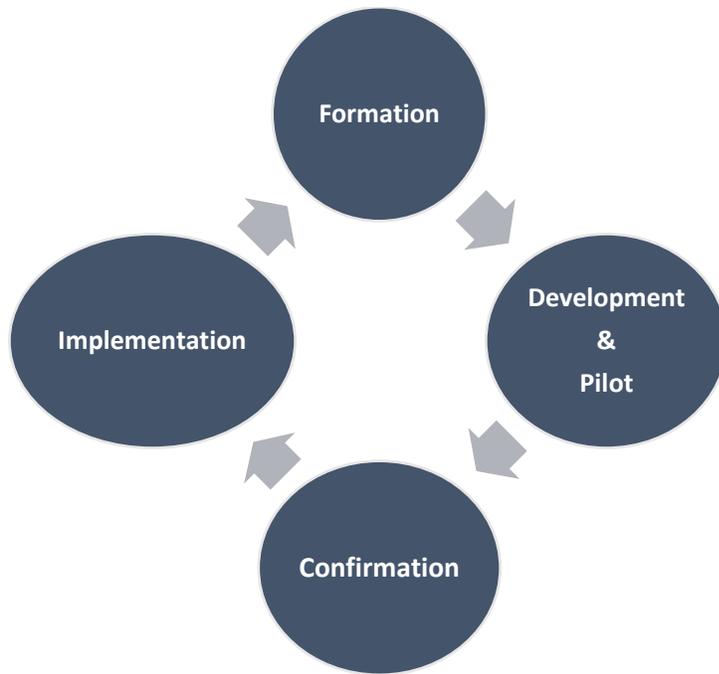


Cathedral Curriculum Mission Statement: It is our duty as Catholic educators to distill the information from the entities into a coherent and cohesive plan that meets our student population’s needs and fulfills necessary mandates. This process should be ongoing, research-based, progressive, intentional, and most importantly – place Christ at the center of its formation.

- **Ongoing:** As the world around us continues to change so will the material we teach. Sometimes this involves content, sometimes placement/timing.
- **Research Based:** Using both a plethora of resources and a mentor or advisor, curriculum will involve teacher learning as a foundation for student learning.
- **Progressive:** Curriculum will be formed using best practices that fit our population.
- **Intentional:** Curriculum will be cohesive and coherent as students are taken through a process in which ideas are presented, developed and applied.
- **Christ-centered:** Our first job is the formation of souls. Christ’s teachings should inform our every move in this process, and within the actual material being developed.

Definition: Curriculum developed at Cathedral of the Risen Christ will not define how material is taught at the micro level (asking teachers to teach a specific lesson plan on a specific day regarding a specific topic). This how is the art of teaching, and that art is sacred at Cathedral. Instead, we will define curriculum as the what, when, where and why.

Process: The development of curriculum at Cathedral will involve ownership. After having an ear turned toward the five entities above, as well as diving into necessary research, teachers will work with administration in a collaborative environment to work through this process...



Step in Process	Definition	Placement/Duration of Process
Step One - Formation	The five entities, research, advisor and committee all come together to develop the initial curriculum packet for a content area.	This process typically takes place in the summer over the course of 4-5 meetings, each lasting 2-2.5 hours. Committee chair(s) are vital.
Step Two – Development & Pilot	First attempts at curriculum packet that was developed. At this point teachers should be experimental and playful with the content they are teaching as this is the pilot year.	Notes should be taken and/or communicated at this time. Chair(s) should be actively updating the curriculum packet, and hosting quarterly meetings to shape the curriculum. This takes place over the course of a full school year.
Step Three – Confirmation	The combination of formation and development, confirmation includes final touches to the curriculum packet via the experience of the last school year.	This is a meeting that may take place near or just after the conclusion of the previous school year. The goal of this meeting is to finalize the curriculum packet, adding as much detail and as many resources as the committee feels necessary.
Step Four - Implementation	Teachers now have a full packet and approach for their content area. They are accountable to that, and are expected to implement the work of the committee in their classroom.	This process takes place until the content area comes back around for review. Typically this is 3-4 school years, during which time the content area’s curriculum packet should be updated as needed.

Cathedral of the Risen Christ First Cycle of Development:

Core Content Areas

	Formation	Development & Pilot	Confirmation	Implementation
Science	Summer 2015	2015-2016 School Year	May/June 2016	2016 to 2020 (begin formation in 2020)
<i>Social Studies</i>	Summer 2016	2016-2017 School Year	May/June of 2017	2017 to 2021 (begin formation in 2021)
<i>Written Expression</i> -Writing -Vocab -Literature	Spring 2017	2017-2018 School Year	May/June of 2018	2018-2022 (begin formation in 2023)
<i>Lang. Arts</i> -Reading -Phonics -Spelling	Spring 2018	2017-2018 School Year	May/June of 2018	2019 to 2023 (begin formation in 2022)
Math	Spring 2019	2019-2020 School Year	May/June of 2020	2020 to 2024 (begin formation in 2024)

- *Religion is being developed by the Catholic Diocese of Lincoln's Fr. Heaslip.*
- *Art is being developed by a group of teachers chaired by Amanda Lowery of Sacred Heart.*
- *Music is being developed by a group of teachers chaired by Miss Jessica Happold of The Cathedral of the Risen Christ.*
- *PE is being developed by a group of teachers, and is integrating health curriculum. This will be chaired by Mark Stoley of Blessed Sacrament.*
- *Technology is being developed by a group of teachers chaired by Mrs. Valerie Lackey of St. Teresa's.*
- *Library and Media is being developed by a group of teachers chaired by Miss Rachel Hanigan of The Cathedral of the Risen Christ.*
- *Resource teachers will be working together to update their approach under chair Sister Abigail Marie of North American Martyr's.*