

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

Instruction Programs and Material Family Life and Human Sexuality Education INS #08

Approved: August 2025

Background

At Christ The Redeemer (CTR) Catholic Schools, Family Life and Human Sexuality education is designed to foster student development in line with Catholic Church teachings. This education, which includes human sexuality, is delivered using resources recommended by the Canadian Bishops and approved by our local Bishop.

Rooted in the dignity of the human person and the sanctity of life, our aim is to equip students with factual knowledge, skills, and attitudes that promote their spiritual, emotional, physical, and social well-being. We recognize that parents are the primary educators in matters of faith and morality. Therefore, the school division partners with parents to provide education that supports and complements the formation happening at home. This includes helping students understand the moral implications of human sexuality through the lens of Catholic teaching, encouraging them to respond with responsibility, integrity, and respect for themselves and others.

To maintain fidelity to the Catholic tradition, CTR Catholic utilizes resources prescribed by the Bishops of Alberta. These resources guide the instruction of human sexuality outcomes within the Alberta Health and Life Skills Program of Studies, ensuring consistency with Catholic values and beliefs. All materials, resources, or external presenters require the prior approval of the Superintendent / designate.

Procedures

1. Parental Opt In
 - 1.1. Principals shall give parents the opportunity to exercise the decision to “opt-in” a student to curricular instruction that is sexual in nature, such as human sexuality, by notifying parents 30 days in advance of instruction, or classroom content.
 - 1.2. In September each year, 30 days before the provincial outcomes in gender identity, sexual orientation and human sexuality topics are taught in a school, parents will complete the “opt-in” form as part of the annual Demographic Update Form via School Engage.
 - 1.3. Parents will select one of four options:
 - 1.3.1. Opt in fully
 - 1.3.2. Opt in partially (parents will provide further details)
 - 1.3.3. Opt out (child will leave class and be supervised in another class)
 - 1.3.4. Opt out (child may remain in class but not participate in instruction)
 - 1.4. Alternate learning experiences shall be provided for those students who do not “opt-in”.
 - 1.5. The principal / designate will remind parents who do not respond to requests for opt-in consent. Until consent is obtained, students will move to an alternate location to work

2. Incidental References, Extracurricular, Voluntary Activities, Clubs and Libraries
 - 2.1. "Opt-in" requirements do not apply to discussions that incidentally arise as a part of daily classroom interaction. Examples of indirect references include but are not limited to a book discussed in language arts, in Biology 30 where some learning outcomes involve the anatomy and physiology of human reproduction, but the outcomes are not explicitly about human sexuality, current events, and other similar examples.
 - 2.2. Notice is not required for a student's participation in extracurricular or voluntary activities, such as clubs.
 - 2.3. Notice is not required for library books or other resources that students access independently.
3. Determination of Course and Materials That Require Parental Consent
 - 3.1. The Superintendent / designate will determine the course and course materials that require parental notice and consent. [Learnalberta.ca](http://learnalberta.ca) will be referenced for learning outcomes dealing primarily and explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality.
 - 3.2. The Superintendent / designate will provide the course information and objectives that are provided to parents in section 1 of this administrative procedure.
4. Approval of Learning Resources
 - 4.1. The Minister of Education must approve learning and teaching resources dealing primarily and explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality regardless of if they are used in schools, volunteer or extra-curricular activities.
 - 4.2. Religious education teaching materials not pertaining to gender identity, sexual orientation, or human sexuality do not require Ministerial approval.
 - 4.3. Principals shall ensure all staff are aware of these requirements and shall not permit the use or provision of learning and teaching resources that deal primarily and explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality unless the learning and teaching resources are approved by the Minister and CTR Catholic.
 - 4.4. Where the use or provision of learning and teaching resources referred to in section 4 is by an external party, the principal shall not permit the use or provision unless the learning and teaching resources and external party are approved by the both the Minister and CTR Catholic.
 - 4.5. Requests for approval from the Minister will be requested by the school principal to the [Director of Catholic Education](#).
 - 4.6. For information on resources that have been approved for use in CTR Catholic, please contact the [Director of Catholic Education](#).
5. External Parties Presenting Learning and Teaching Resources
 - 5.1. External Parties presenting learning and teaching resources that deal primarily and explicitly with human sexuality, gender identity, and sexual orientation will require approval in all contexts including religious instruction, classroom instruction, volunteer or extra-curricular activities and must directly contact the Ministry.
 - 5.2. Requests for approval from the Minister must also be approved by CTR Catholic. Requests will be directed from the school principal to the Director of Catholic Education.
 - 5.3. For information on resources external parties that have been approved to present in CTR Catholic, please contact the [Director of Catholic Education](#).