Language Support Program & Learning Resource Center

Cathedral's Language Support Program is the first of its kind

The Cathedral High School Language Support Program (LSP) began in 1980, making it the first private high school program in the area designed to serve college-bound students with language processing challenges such as dyslexia.

LSP graduates succeed in college and graduate school

The Language Support Program prepares students with Language-Based Learning Disabilities for success at the high school and university level through multimodal instruction and hands-on learning. By utilizing small class sizes and leveraging their own skills, students will improve in reading comprehension, written expression, and self-advocacy as they become college-ready and lifelong learners.

Students achieve their potential

Our objective is for students to achieve their strong potential as learners, while fully participating in other holistic growth opportunities.

Cathedral High School Language Support Program offerings

- Small English classes, instructed by specially trained teachers
- Latin I, II, and III option for World Language Requirement
- Accommodations for all course assessments (not modifications) and documentation for future high-stakes assessments
- College selection assistance for college compatibility match
- Multi-sensory techniques

Faculty with specialized training

The Language Support Program is a department within the English Department. Faculty in this program are trained as teachers of Core English and hold additional coursework in Exceptional Learners.



Julie Hum ('03), PhD, LSP Graduate

Organization and learning strategies

Our English classes of 12 to 14 students provide direct instruction in literature and vocabulary for comprehension development, and an additional course to strengthen written expression. Organization and learning strategies are given great emphasis for present and future learning needs.

LSP students offered Latin

Students in the Language Support Program take all other coursework from Cathedral requirements at the College Preparatory, Academic, and Honors levels. Also offered through this department is a one, two, or three year study of Latin, this being helpful for comprehension, vocabulary, and college entrance testing.

Dynamic curriculum

- Challenges Students in completing the International Baccalaureate Curriculum during their Junior and Senior year
- Promotes an understanding of key concepts, content, standards, & methodology through research, communications, technology, & practice
- Honors cultural diversity & meets the needs of all students
- Utilizes literature, technology, & community resources to encourage students to become lifelong learners



About Cathedral's Learning Resource Center

Cathedral's Learning Resource Center is designed to provide a variety of supports for students with diagnosed learning needs.

This is a space for meeting with the LRC staff and/or independent work to enhance holistic success in Cathedral's college preparatory curriculum. While this is not content skills tutoring, the LRC helps students implement research-based approaches for all course work.

The LRC Staff Provide These Services:

- Additional math instruction
- Academic coaching and learning strategy instruction
- Executive function skills building such as planning, organization, and monitoring of coursework and grades
- Fostering habits of success, growth mind set, and metacognition
- Learning styles awareness and goal setting
- Directed study in an ideal environment
- Test prep, such as ISTEP
- Guidance in preparing papers and projects
- Collaboration with students' teachers and counselors for a team approach to success
- Implements self-advocacy skills

The Learning Resource Center services are in addition to Cathedral's unique Language Support Program that provides direct language instruction for students with diagnosed language-based learning differences. The LSP students are also eligible for the LRC services.

For other Cathedral students with a broader range of diagnoses, eligible students can participate in the LRC if they have a diagnosis such as ADHD, anxiety, autism, certain medical conditions or disabilities in math.

Steps for Participation in the Learning Resource Center

- Documentation of a diagnosis is provided to the director of the Learning Resource Center
- The student, parent, and director have an Accommodation Plan meeting, making the student eligible for individualized accommodations, as identified in this meeting

Students are then encouraged to arrange and utilize the LRC and testing accommodations such as extended time and small group testing. The LRC is one additional tier of support for our students with medical or individualized learning needs. Cathedral does not charge a fee for this program. The LRC helps transform students into confident self-advocates, capable of compensating for his or her learning challenges, thus allowing them to fully engage in the Cathedral experience.

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