



8th Graders Bound for Lansing Catholic High School – Math Information

- At LCHS, students are placed in a math class according to 8th grade teacher's recommendations.
- In January, 8th grade math teachers will assess their 8th grade students' work habits, ability, and motivation, and send LCHS their recommendation for the most suitable class for each student based on their current body of work.
- Approximately 90% of 9th grade students at LCHS take one of the following classes: Adaptive Algebra 1, Algebra 1 or Honors Algebra 1.
- LCHS also offers the option to test out of Algebra 1 and into Geometry. This option requires both an 8th grade teacher recommendation and scoring well on two Algebra 1 bypass exams. About 10% of 9th graders at LCHS take this option, which is most suited for mature, hard-working students who excel at math.
- Algebra 1 Exam 1 will take place at LCHS in January.
- Algebra 1 Exam 2 will take place at LCHS in June.
- Exam dates and times are listed on the Admissions page at www.lansingcatholic.org

Commonly Asked Questions

Do I have to take the Algebra 1 bypass exams?

The Algebra 1 bypass exams are optional and you only need to take it if you are trying to bypass Algebra 1. If you opt to not take the bypass exams, you will be placed in the class that your 8th grade math teacher recommends for you. The purpose of the bypass exam is to identify the students that excel in math, have a firm understanding of Algebra, and are ready for Geometry. If that doesn't sound like you, then not taking the exam, and taking Algebra 1 in 9th grade is an acceptable option, and the most common option choice for 9th graders.

What if I don't really feel comfortable yet with Algebra, and want to take Algebra again in 9th grade so that I can really understand the material. Is that OK?

Yes! The majority of students all over the country take Algebra as 9th graders. You will in no way be "behind." In fact, we recommend repeating Algebra to gain a solid understanding over barely passing with a shallow understanding. Algebra is the foundation for all of the other math classes you'll ever take.

It's important to me to get in as much math as possible in high school. If I don't pass the exams, will I still have time to get in Calculus before I graduate?

Yes, by doubling up in Honors Algebra 1 and Honors Geometry during your 9th grade year, doubling up with Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra 2 during your 10th grade year, or by taking a Pre-Calculus class at LCC or MSU in the summer between 11th and 12th grade are also options. Keep in mind that colleges and universities do not expect you to take calculus in high school.

How much work should I put into getting ready for 9th grade math and my exams?

We want students to give their best effort as always. However, it is common for both students and parents to over emphasize the importance of the bypass exams. Taking Algebra 1 as a 9th grader is perfectly acceptable. Our main concerns are that you do your best and that you thoroughly understand the material at a pace that is right for you.

I have more questions. Who can I contact?

LCHS Math Department Chair: Ms. Gina Saucedo-Hipple gina.saucedo@lansingcatholic.org

LCHS Admissions Coordinator: Mrs. Karen Gavin karen.gavin@lansingcatholic.org or 517-267-2102