

Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School



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Welcome to O'Neill – Grade 9
“Once a Titan Always a Titan”
2025 – 2026



Welcome to Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School. We want to ensure that your transition to high school is a smooth process, and we thank you for joining us as you prepare for your future. As a school community, we are committed to providing a Catholic education rooted in the Gospel values Christ taught us which guide the students, staff, and parents to grow and learn together. The home of the Titans is a community where all are welcome, and we promote an environment of trust and acceptance where students can affirm their identity and strive towards personal and academic excellence.

O'Neill High School offers a dual track program (English and French Immersion programming) as well as advanced placement courses and modified programming. We have a Student Support team which includes 10 members who provide services and support to students and families in many capacities. Along with a comprehensive academic program, we offer a full extra-curricular program including athletics, arts and various clubs.

Archbishop M. C. O'Neill Catholic High School opened in the fall of 1966 with an enrolment of 250 students and a staff of 26. Presently, our enrolment is approximately 930 students and 70 staff. An addition in 1976, as well as the addition of 4 portable classrooms in 1990, has expanded the present facility to cover over 100,000 square feet. The school takes its name from Archbishop M. C. O'Neill who was a positive force in bringing about Catholic secondary education in the Archdiocese of Regina.

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Through a partnership of the staff, students, parents, church and community, Archbishop M. C. O’Neill Catholic High School fosters an atmosphere of academic excellence which promotes the development of Christian values, recognizes the many facets of human development and prepares young people to cope with the challenges of change.

We believe:

- That our students can and will maintain a high level of respect within our school. It is our intent to create a welcoming atmosphere built on a foundation of respect and acceptance.
- That our four “Keys for Academic Success” which are emphasized throughout the year will help students succeed. The four “Keys for Academic Success” are:
 - attend class regularly and punctually;
 - come to school each day with a positive attitude and a willingness to work hard;
 - complete every assignment and submit all work by due dates; and
 - study and prepare for all exams.

SEMESTERED CLASSES

Archbishop M.C. O’Neill Catholic High School offers its courses over two semesters. Each semester consists of five one-hour periods of instruction per day with the opportunity to add band and/or choral to this. English (ELA) and mathematics are taught over both semesters.

Students must carry a full class load (5 hours each day). They may also select band and/or choral as additional classes.

Compulsory subjects for students registered in the English program include: Catholic Studies, Social Studies, English Language Arts A9/B9, Mathematics A9/B9, Science, Arts Education (art/music/drama) and Physical Education/Health.

To complete the year, students in the English Program are required to **choose one** from the following three electives:

- 1) French
- 2) PAA Survey AT 9 (Industrial Arts)
- 3) PAA Survey BT 9 (Business and Technology)

French Immersion students are exempt from taking a grade 9 elective. Their schedules will be filled with compulsory subjects including: Études catholiques, Sciences sociales, English Language Arts A9/B9, Français, Mathématiques A9/B9, Sciences, Arts Education (art/music/drama), and Physical Education/Health.

As well, students have the option to take choral, which is offered two days a week in the morning before period one. Choral will appear as “Early Bird” on the students’ timetable. Students also have the option to take band, which is also offered two

hours a week. This may include times involving an “Early Bird” class or a noon hour class. Many students get involved in both band and choral.

TECHNOLOGY AT ARCHBISHOP M.C. O’NEILL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Regina Catholic Schools has provided each staff member and each student with a Microsoft Office 365 account. This “cloud-based” environment will allow all students to access their school documents anywhere, anytime, and from any device. Office 365 also provides all students with automatic access to important Microsoft Office programs such as Word, Teams, OneNote, PowerPoint, Excel, and Outlook (email and calendar options). The web-based site can be accessed by connecting to <https://login.microsoftonline.com>. Each student then utilizes their RCS email account (legalfirstname.lastname@rcsd.ca) and their established school password.

O’Neill provides technology access to students via computer labs (one Mac lab), portable laptop carts and the Resource Centre, which has many computers for student use and is open before school and during the noon hour. Students also have access to technology such as digital cameras, video cameras, 3D printers and VR glasses for class projects.

Students are provided education in digital citizenship and are required to sign an Acceptable User Policy Form before accessing the RCSD wireless network. Each of our RCSD schools supports Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT), allowing students to use their own devices, with the guidance of their teachers.

All students and parents/guardians have access to a program called Edsby (<https://rcsd.edsby.com/>). This web-based program can be accessed from any computer/device. It allows 24/7 tracking of attendance, upcoming assignments/exams, current grades, and other pertinent information. Students access the program by using their username and password. Parents/guardians will receive a one-time login username and password when their child is enrolled at O’Neill.

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

ARTS EDUCATION 9

Arts Education uses three classes on an equal rotational basis and includes:

- i. **Visual Arts 9** Students will develop their understanding of ways that people affect and are affected by the visual environment. The course examines sources of ideas for visual art and will permit students to convey their own ideas visually using various processes such as drawing and painting.
- ii. **Music 9** Basic theory is presented with students learning to read notes and rhythms. Students will learn to form major scales and apply this information to the creation of basic chord structures. This eventually leads to the formation of chords for the guitar or piano. Everyone will be given the opportunity to play guitar using the chord information obtained in the theory portion. This is an introductory course that gives students a preview of the Music 10, 20, 30 courses.
- iii. **Drama 9** The Drama course is intended to introduce the student to the basic elements of drama. The class will involve the use of imagination, improvisation, speech, and rudimentary acting skills. A major focus is on the development of self-concept and confidence.

CATHOLIC STUDIES 9: JOURNEYING IN FAITH WITH COMMUNITY

The aim of Catholic Studies is for students to understand, value, and engage in their faith so that they may hear an invitation, or deepen their commitment, to live as followers of Jesus Christ. Throughout all grades, students investigate, apply and reflect on various aspects of these actions, which call upon the Church to:

- i. proclaim Jesus Christ
- ii. worship Christ through the sacraments
- iii. form a communion of people
- iv. give witness, and
- v. serve.

The Catholic Studies 9 curriculum focuses in part on the importance of community in supporting and deepening one's faith.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS A9

ELA A9 utilizes an integrated literature and language approach focusing on the strands of reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, and representing. A variety of genre arranged thematically in the forms of fiction and nonfiction - short stories, novels, modern plays, essays, and articles - are explored to achieve the outcomes under the three course goals: comprehending and responding, composing, and creating, and assessing and reflecting. This course comprises 50% of the ELA 9 grade. Students will study a minimum of two of the following three thematic units:

Theme 1: Conflicts, Challenges, and Choices: Do the Right Thing

Theme 2: Indigenous and Norse Narratives

Theme 3: All That I Am: The Search for Self

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS B9

ELA B9 utilizes an integrated literature and language approach focusing on the strands of reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, and representing. A variety of genre arranged thematically in the forms of fiction and nonfiction - short stories, novels, modern plays, essays, and articles - are explored to achieve the outcomes under the three course goals: comprehending and responding, composing, and creating, and assessing and reflecting. A Shakespearean play is also studied. This course comprises 50% of the ELA 9 grade. Students will study a minimum of two of the following three thematic units:

Theme 1: Exploring Love, Loyalty, and Relationships

Theme 2: Surviving and Conquering

Theme 3: Exploring New Worlds, Imagining the Future

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS A9 AD and ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS B9 AD (Advanced)

Do you enjoy reading, thinking, and writing? Does discussing literature, analyzing writers' crafts, and challenging yourself sound like fun? Students who have a strong interest and skills in English Language Arts will excel and should select the English Language Arts Advanced courses. These academically rewarding courses have more depth and rigor than regular ELA A9 and ELA B9 courses. Academically driven students that exhibit a strong work ethic, self-motivation, and dedication to go above and beyond in reading and writing are considered ideal candidates for these advanced courses. **Students are evaluated according to the same outcomes and indicators as for all ELA A9 and ELA B9 students.**

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS A91 and ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS B91 (Restricted Entry)

ELA A91 and ELA B91 follow the same themes/units as ELA A9 and ELA B9 with adjusted outcomes to meet the needs of the learner and foster student success.

MATHEMATICS A9 and MATHEMATICS B9

This course extends material covered in elementary school, introduces new concepts, and provides a foundation for future high school math courses. The units of study in math include integers, rational numbers, polynomials, circles and prisms, linear relations/equations/inequality, and statistics and probability. This is a regular Grade 9 math program, which is taught over two semesters (semester 1 & semester 2).

MATHEMATICS A91 and MATHEMATICS B91 (Restricted Entry)

Mathematics A91 and Mathematics B91 follow the same themes/units as Mathematics A9 and Mathematics B9 with adjusted outcomes to meet the needs of the learner and foster student success.

SCIENCE 9

This class has three areas with four units: *Physical Science* (Electricity, Atoms, and Elements), *Life Science* (Cellular and Human Reproduction), and *Earth and Space Science* (Exploring Our Universe).

SCIENCE 91 (Restricted Entry)

Science 91 follows the same themes/units as Science 9 with adjusted outcomes to meet the needs of the learner and foster student success.

SOCIAL STUDIES 9

This course covers four main concepts: time, change, causality, and culture. The objectives are to introduce the origins of our society's customs and beliefs; to highlight how these customs and beliefs have become engrained in our culture; and to develop an understanding of the influence of our society's customs and beliefs on our behavior patterns. The course will investigate the traditions of the Middle East, Europe, and North America.

SOCIAL STUDIES 91 (Restricted Entry)

Social Studies 91 follows the same themes/units as Social Studies 9 with adjusted outcomes to meet the needs of the learner and foster student success.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH 9

i. Physical Education 9

The aim of the physical education course is to support students in becoming physically educated individuals who have the understandings and skills to engage in movement activity, and the confidence and disposition to live a healthy, active lifestyle. This would include focus on:

- Active Living – Enjoy and engage in healthy levels of participation in movement activities to support lifelong active living in the context of self, family, and community.
- Skillful Movement – Enhance quality of movement by understanding, developing, and transferring movement concepts, skills, tactics, and strategies to a wide variety of movement activities.
- Relationships – Balance self through safe and respectful personal, social, cultural, and environmental interactions in a wide variety of movement activities.

ii. Health 9

The health program consists of a variety of topics that allow the student to discover and obtain important health and lifestyle values. Evaluation is based on exams, project assignments and class participation.

FRENCH IMMERSION

ÉTUDES CATHOLIQUES 9: JOURNEYING IN FAITH WITH COMMUNITY

The aim of Études catholiques is for students to understand, value, and engage in their faith so that they may hear an invitation, or deepen their commitment, to live as followers of Jesus Christ. Throughout all grades, students investigate, apply and reflect on various aspects of these actions, which call upon the Church to:

- i. proclaim Jesus Christ;
- ii. worship Christ through the sacraments;
- iii. form a communion of people;
- iv. give witness; and
- v. serve.

The Études catholiques 9 curriculum focuses in part on the importance of community in supporting and deepening one's faith. **This course is taught entirely in French and students are expected to speak French at all times to both teachers and fellow students.**

FRANÇAIS 9

Français 9 provides the students with the opportunity to focus on communication skills in the French language. The primary focus is the development of French language skills including reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will be given the opportunity to develop French language skills through a variety of print such as magazines, newspapers, novels, essays, short stories, videos, and films. Students will be invited to analyze the works of others and then to create their own. **This course is taught entirely in French and students are expected to speak French at all times to both teachers and fellow students.**

MATHÉMATIQUES A9 and B9

This course extends material covered in elementary school, introduces new concepts, and provides a foundation for future high school math courses. The units of study in math include integers, rational numbers, polynomials, circles and prisms, linear relations/equations/inequality, and statistics and probability. This is a regular Grade 9 math program, which is taught over two semesters (semester 1 & semester 2). **This course is taught entirely in French and students are expected to speak French at all times to both teachers and fellow students.**

SCIENCES 9

This class has three areas with four units: *Physical Science* (Electricity, Atoms, and Elements), *Life Science* (Cellular and Human Reproduction), and *Earth and Space Science* (exploring our universe). **This course is taught entirely in French and students are expected to speak French at all times to both teachers and fellow students.**

SCIENCES SOCIALES 9

This course covers four main concepts: time, change, causality, and culture. The objectives are to introduce the origins of our society's customs and beliefs; to highlight how these customs and beliefs have become engrained in our culture; to develop an understanding of the influence of our society's customs and beliefs on our behavior patterns. The course will investigate the traditions of the Middle East, Europe, and North America. **This course is taught entirely in French and students are expected to speak French at all times to both teachers and fellow students.**

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

BAND 9 (Non-semestered) (Early Bird / Noon)

The O'Neill High School Band is a performing ensemble. The Band takes part in meaningful performance experiences such as Concerts, Retreats, Optimist Festival Performances, annual Band Trips, etc. The Concert Band meets in the early bird period from 7:40am – 8:35am two to three times a week. Additionally, every student has a sectional once a week at lunch. Band 9, 10, 20, and 30 are credit courses. Music is a unique art form that offers experience in and opportunities for self-expression. The Band program will provide students with an opportunity to pursue musical excellence as individuals and as a team. The specific aim of the band program is to enable students to communicate effectively through instrumental music and to understand and value a variety of musical expressions throughout life. We seek to provide as well-rounded a musical education as possible with the hope that students will enjoy being involved with music, not only while they are in school, but for the rest of their life.

CHORAL 9 (Non-semestered) (Early Bird) (Choral will always appear as Early Bird on students' timetables)

Students are expected to participate in co-curricular choir, which performs at school music functions throughout the year. Evaluation is based upon individual musical growth, attitude, preparation and attendance.

FRENCH 9

This course is designed to allow students to learn the French language by means of themes that focus on student experiences. Much of the instruction is in French, and students participate in individual, pair and group activities to provide them with many opportunities to communicate orally in French. Students will develop listening, reading, comprehension

and grammatical skills as they progress through the given thematic units. (French 10/20/30 or Spanish 10/20/30 are courses that are also offered at O'Neill to support this.)

PRACTICAL AND APPLIED ARTS AT 9 (Industrial Arts)

An introductory experience in the following areas: Drafting – an introduction to pictorial sketching and orthographic drawing with a brief introduction to AutoCAD Light (depending on computer lab availability); Woodworking – the safe usage of hand tools and electric tools. Students will make a variety of take home projects.

PRACTICAL AND APPLIED ARTS SURVEY BT 9 (Business and Technology)

In Business and Technology 9 students will learn and develop business and personal skills such as teamwork, leadership and communication. This is a hands-on, project-based course intended to build the students' enthusiasm and knowledge in both business and technology creating a foundation for future business electives. Topics covered in this course will be accounting, business applications and software, entrepreneurship, communication media, marketing and personal finance.

VOCAL JAZZ 9 (Non-semestered) (Early Bird / Noon)

The Vocal Jazz course will include performance, history, harmony, and theory all related to the jazz idiom. This course is intended for students who have a great interest in vocal music. Students in this class must also be registered for Choral 9.

TITAN STUDENT SUPPORT TEAM (ACADEMIC SUPPORT, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES)

LEARNING RESOURCE PROGRAM

Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School offers a Learning Resource Program for those students needing extra support in order to meet success in their classes. The Learning Resource teacher(s) may provide in class support or individual and small group support. Students in Grades 9 through 12 completing regular courses may access the Learning Resource Program. This could include a tutorial course in which students are able to use their time to work on homework, complete assignments and projects, and receive the benefits of small group instruction.

MODIFIED COURSES (Courses with Adjusted Outcomes)

Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School offers modified courses and courses with adjusted outcomes at the Grade 9, 11 and 12 levels. Modified courses follow the unit topics of their regular course counterparts but curricular outcomes are modified to meet the needs of the learner. Students enrolled in modified courses will graduate with a Grade 12 standing. Modified courses may limit some post-secondary educational opportunities.

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM (EAL)

Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School has scheduled EAL classes available to students in Grades 9 through 12. Students have the opportunity to build English reading, writing, listening and speaking skills.

ADVANCED (AD) / ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES

Students who take AP courses and write AP exams have the opportunity to earn credits for first-year university courses depending on examination results in Grade 12. AP teachers cover the Saskatchewan curriculum in each subject area and help students to meet the additional requirements and skill development of the AP courses. Advanced courses are available to students who want enrichment. Students may register in Grade 9 English Language Arts A9 and B9 Advanced courses.

STUDENT SERVICES

Student Services personnel are available to support students in a variety of ways as they progress through their academic program. Counsellors will visit classes throughout the year to provide students with academic and career information. Students are also invited to meet with a counsellor for additional information and personal support.

GRADE 9 MENTOR

The Grade 9 mentor helps students succeed in their first year at Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School. Students are monitored and supported for their attendance, academics and behaviour. Communication with parents and teachers is emphasized.

INDIGENOUS ADVISORS'

The Indigenous Advisor offers school and home support for Indigenous students and families. This includes instructional, tutorial and academic programming. Support is also provided to staff members in the areas of cultural awareness issues and classroom instruction to make the educational process more effective for Indigenous students. The Indigenous Advisor also works with students toward appropriate career and post-secondary opportunities.

STUDENT SUPPORT SPECIALIST

The School Support Specialist (SSS) is a liaison between the school, student's homes and the community to promote optimal social – emotional wellness and success for students. The SSS works directly with students in various capacities to ensure their needs are addressed and supports are put in place.

NUTRITION WORKER

The Nutrition Worker oversees all aspects of before school, break, and lunch programming. We have nutritional snacks available each morning and at break and our school population also has access to daily hot and/or cold nutritional lunch options.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO)

The SRO is available to assist staff and students with police matters. Please contact our main office (306-791-7240) to arrange an appointment time with our school resource officer.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

Students may try out for or participate in a variety of Titan athletic teams, Fine Arts programs or clubs throughout the school year. Some teams compete at junior (Grades 9 & 10) and senior (Grades 11 & 12) levels. Those successful in making the team represent the school in league and tournament play. Participants are expected to be involved fully in the practice and game schedules and to attend all meetings involved with the activity.

Athletics

Badminton	Hockey
Basketball	Soccer
Cross Country	Track & Field
Curling	Volleyball
Football	Wrestling
Golf	

Clubs, Committees and Non-sanctioned Athletics

Astronomy Club	Drum Group	Jean Vanier Swim	SRC
Athletic Trainers	E-Sports Club	Light & Sound	Team
Canteen	Flag Football	Liturgy	Handball