

# OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Services are determined by the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team based on your child's individual needs. The IEP Team consists of the parent and appropriate professionals.

Preschool Special Education Services are based on the Individualized Education Program that is written for each child. Goals are written according to an educational model. Any related services that the child receives are designed to support the educational goals. The IEP determines the frequency, duration, and location of services based on the child's needs. Preschool children with disabilities are served in a variety of settings and natural environments which may include home, child care centers, private child care homes, Head Start, mental health operated programs, private preschool programs, designated preschool speech therapy sites, and public school classrooms.

#### **SPEECH PRIMARY SERVICES:**

Children who are identified with the eligibility of Speech/Language Impairment are served by a Preschool Speech-Language Pathologist, typically at one of the preschool speech therapy sites located in various Wake County Elementary Schools. Children are often paired with another child or in a small group to facilitate communication among peers.

#### ITINERANT SERVICES:

Itinerant special education services are provided by a licensed Birth-Kindergarten (B-K) teacher in the natural environment of the child's preschool, childcare, or home setting. Instruction incorporates the routines and activities of the natural environment while focusing on the child's IEP goals. Children receiving related services (*Speech/Language Therapy*, *Occupational Therapy*, *Physical Therapy*) will be scheduled by the therapist providing that service with input from the family.

## PART DAY SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

Our part day programs use a developmental approach to teaching and learning while also incorporating structured methods and techniques into the daily routine. Part day classrooms have both a morning and afternoon session each day and meet 4 days per week for 2 hours and 45 minutes. Instruction is provided by a licensed Birth-Kindergarten (B-K) teacher. Related Services are sometimes required to support the special education needs of a child and are delivered during the school day.

# **BLENDED PROGRAMMING:**

Our blended programs use a developmental approach to teaching and learning. Blended programs meet 5 days per week for 6.5 hours and instruction is provided by a licensed Birth-Kindergarten (B-K) teacher. Students receive instruction in an inclusive environment which is comprised of children with and without disabilities. Related Services are sometimes required to support the special education needs of a child and are delivered during the school day. The classroom teacher and related service staff may use an integrated approach to instruction.

# **FULL DAY SCHOOL PROGRAMS:**

Our full-day programs are designed using a developmental approach to teaching and learning. Full day programs meet 5 days per week for 6.5 hours and instruction is provided by a licensed Birth-Kindergarten (B-K) teacher. Full day classes use systematic and structured methods and techniques. Related Services are sometimes required to support the special education needs of a child and are delivered during the school day. The classroom teacher and related service staff may use an integrated approach to address the goals for the child.

# **DEVELOPMENTAL DAY:**

Developmental Day programs are contract providers for service delivery. Service duration varies between programs and each program has their own focus and way of providing services. The school system cannot assign a child to a Developmental Day program without prior agreement of the agency and the parents.