



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 and are designed to support inclusive practices within the child's preschool, childcare, or home. Instruction incorporates the routines and activities of the child's environment, while focusing on the individual needs and goals of the child. Some children receive their services in a small group setting, located within selected WCPSS elementary schools, facilitated by Itinerant teaching staff. Instruction in these groups follows a framework of best practices for young children with developmental needs. 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. Those therapies may be provided in the child's natural setting or at a WCPSS preschool site, depending on the needs determined by the IEP team.

PART DAY SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Our part day programs typically serve our younger preschool students through a developmental approach to teaching and learning. The program incorporates 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.

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. Some full day programs are designed to serve only children with special needs in a lower teacher to student ratio. Other full day programs are inclusive and serve both children with and without disabilities in a larger setting. 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 independent organizations with whom we contract for the delivery of special education services for children with disabilities. These programs use a developmental approach to teaching and learning. Developmental Day centers offer inclusive educational classrooms and opportunities. Special education services are delivered according to the child's IEP.