

About IU13 School-Age Autistic Support Classrooms

The goal of the classroom-based School-Age Autistic Support Program at IU13 is to provide individualized and rigorous programming in order for students to make meaningful progress in a school-based setting. To meet this goal, the instruction provided within our classrooms is well-structured and differentiated to meet the needs of each student.

A Braided Use of Research-based Programs

“One size does not fit all.” Every child served by our program is unique and learns differently than his/her peers. Some students are working on language and communication skills, while others are focused more on behavior management. This is why our team of educational experts creates an individualized plan for each child. They draw from a variety of proven research-based instructional strategies rooted in the PA Core Standards and Alternate Eligible Content used in conjunction with the 14 established practices identified by the National Standards Project for students with Autism.

As your student progresses, the teaching practices are tailored to his/her evolving needs, using techniques including: Intensive Teaching, Shared Reading, Scaffolding, NET, Video and Visual Modeling, Social Stories, Data-based Decision Making, and Reciprocal Teaching.

All School-Age Autistic Support classes at IU13 focus on:

- Instructional skills rooted in and measured using the Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program (VBMAPP)
- Use of the 14 established interventions identified by the National Standards Project, Phase 2 (NSP2)
- Data-based decision making and evidence-based instructional practices
- Intensive teaching and errorless learning
- Schedules providing for more than 30-minute instructional sessions with 75% of the day including instruction in targets/IEP goals

Furthermore, the School-Age Autistic Support classes at IU13 are led by teachers and paraeducators trained to provide intervention that is based on data-based decision making and evidence-based instructional practices. Our educators continually adapt and refine their professional skills to meet the needs of each student, guided by research and training from experts including the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN), IU13 Training and Consultation (TaC) Team, and highly-experienced IU13 professionals.



WHAT ARE THE 14 ESTABLISHED INTERVENTIONS?

According to the National Standards Project [National Autism Center. (2015)], “there are 14 Established Interventions that have been thoroughly researched and have sufficient evidence for us to confidently state that they are effective.” All are part of the IU13 School-Age Autistic Support Program.

- Behavioral Interventions
- Cognitive Behavioral Intervention Package
- Comprehensive Behavioral Treatment for Young Children
- Language Training (Production)
- Modeling
- Natural Teaching Strategies
- Parent Training Package
- Peer Training Package
- Pivotal Response Training
- Schedules
- Scripting
- Self-management
- Social Skills Package
- Story-based Intervention

Designed to Meet Your Child's IEP Goals

The Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals of each student are supported by our educational team by:

- Use of established interventions measured by integrity checks by the teacher and support team, as well as formal and informal observations by the supervisor
- Expected implementation of the classroom practices provided in writing and supported in the classrooms by support team members
- Inclusion opportunities, with their amount and purpose determined by the student's IEP team
- Communication methods as determined by the student's IEP team
- Recording of student progress using various forms of data collection depending on the goal
- Positive behavior support focused on antecedent strategies with the purpose of teaching the student a replacement behavior
- Academic instruction paired with Verbal Behavior (VB) operants to maximize students' ability to generalize skills

Additionally, for high school students, we offer educational programming that focuses on preparation for a successful transition from school to adult life.

A Team of Qualified Educational Experts on Your Side

We are here for you! As part of the School-Age Autistic Support program at IU13, you have a team of qualified educational experts working on behalf of your child. Each classroom is supported by a School Psychologist, School Social Worker, Special Education Consultant and Behavior Consultant (BCBA).



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