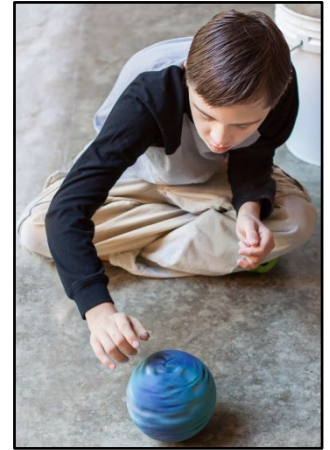


# Autistic Support

## Central Education Center

The Autistic Support Program at Central Education Center (CEC) serves students from Kindergarten through 21 years of age who have struggled in a traditional Autistic Support classroom in the regular school setting. The program operates on behalf of the 22 public school districts in Lancaster and Lebanon counties. The program is designed to meet the students' academic, functional, and behavioral needs while preparing them for a possible return to their home school district or transition to a community setting.



### Classroom

Autistic Support at CEC offers a low student-to-staff ratio with a maximum of six students per classroom. This enables the staff to offer specialized instruction to meet the needs of the students. The focus of the program is to meet the students' behavioral needs while providing individualized academic instruction at the students' ability levels. Instruction related to functional needs and transition services is addressed on an individual basis.

The students are placed in classrooms by grade level and student ability level. Classroom age ranges change as the student population changes.

The students receive instruction through individualized and small group instruction at the students' instructional levels. Staff provides an eclectic range of services that focus on the core deficits of Autism Spectrum Disorder, which include communication and social skills. Instructional practices address verbal and nonverbal communication needs of the child, social interaction skills, sensory experiences, daily routines and schedules, in addition to positive behavior supports.

The students receive instruction in functional areas through the use of the Annex at CEC, a functional on-location site for students to practice daily living skills, and through community-based instruction. For those students of transition age (14-21 years), school-based and/or community-based vocational instruction is part of the students' instruction.

The students also have access to the Discovery Room and a large outside area. Students are able to utilize these areas for free play and to engage in activities that assist them in self-regulation.

### Staff Support

In addition to the classroom staff, the students and staff are supported by a Special Education Consultant, Social Worker, School Psychologist, Behavior Support Assistants, and Job Trainers. The program also utilizes a certified ABA analyst who completes Functional Behavior Analyses that lead to the development of students' Positive Behavior Support Plans and behavior goals.

### Contact Information

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