

Autistic Support

Central Education Center (CEC)

Autistic Support at Central Education Center (CEC) focuses on meeting students' behavioral needs while providing individualized academic instruction at the students' ability levels. With a low student-to-staff ratio (class size ranges from 4-6 students/classroom), this program serves Lancaster and Lebanon county students from kindergarten through age 21 who have struggled in a traditional classroom/school setting. We have recently opened a hybrid classroom to support those students who benefit from both Autistic Support programming to increase communication and Emotional Support programming to teach and reinforce social skills.



Classroom

Autistic Support at CEC offers a low student-to-staff ratio with a maximum of four to 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. The students receive individual and small group instruction. Staff provide an eclectic range of services that focus on the core deficits of Autism Spectrum Disorder, including 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 a Family Consumer Science Room and 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 Earned Free Time Room and Discovery Room where for free play and 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.

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