

# Understanding the IEP Process

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*Special Education at VIDA*

# Special Education is a Service not a .....Place.....

State and Federal law ensures that “...all children with disabilities have available to them a free appropriate public education [FAPE] ... designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living.”

An Individualized Education Program (IEP) will be developed if it is determined that your child is eligible for special education services

# The IEP Includes:

- ❖ 1. A summary of your child's **present levels** of performance, including his or her strengths and needs.
  - This justifies ALL Goals and Objectives for your child.
  - This also forms the basis for all services and placement.
- ❖ 2. A statement of the suggested **goals** for your child.
  - There will be a goal written for all of your child's needs.
  - The list of goals will help your child be successful.

# The IEP Includes:

- ❖ 3. A list of special education **services** which are recommended for your child and the **educational setting** where the services will take place.
  - (Classroom, Resource Room, Push-in, and Pull-out)
  
- ❖ 4. The starting date and anticipated duration of special education services.

An IEP meeting will be held at least once a year to review the IEP document.
- ❖ You may request a review of the IEP at any time and a meeting will be held within 30 days of your request.

# Continuum of Services Include:

Special education services are offered in a variety of educational settings, determined by each child's IEP team. Special education services may be offered as follows:

- ❖ General education with specially designed accommodations and/or modifications.
  - ❖ Accommodation decisions are based on the child's individualized needs and include those accommodations that reduce the effect of the disability to access the curriculum
  - ❖ Modifications actually lower learning expectations and should only be used if this is the only way for the child to be successful. Parents must understand if modifications are made to grade level standards their child may be at risk for not meeting graduation requirements

# Pull-Out Services and Study Skills

- ❖ Designed to instruct students in a private setting based on individualized academic goal progression.
  - We re-teach or pre-teach skills taught in the classroom
  - We work on class work that was not completed in their class.
- ❖ Homework:
  - This may be done if time allows, however this is not the norm.
  - Parents can help by providing a routine of expected time set aside for their child to do homework
    - Parents can also help their child to work through the problems even if it is not correct. We value perseverance and grit