



Checklist for visiting Specialist Provisions

The list below outlines areas you may wish to discuss/look for when visiting schools.

Good Parent Involvement and Support

- tolerant, respects diversity
- good communication, true partnership with parents
- good routines for sharing information
- parent training and support groups
- interested in family's needs, helps access services

IEP Development and Implementation

- goals specific and measurable
- based on both academic and developmental needs
- use of a variety of interventions eg parent training, classroom environment, assistive technology, and peer interaction
- team approach, with good routines for sharing info

Review and Monitoring of Progress and Outcomes

- use of trial periods
- collaborative, ongoing, and systematic
- scheduled and as-needed meetings
- leading to changes in goals and methods

Management of Challenging Behaviours

- proactive – staff training, crisis planning, clear rules
- positive – supports, rewards, and skill-building

Travel

- Travel time from home: _____
- safe and reliable transport arrangements

Personnel

- good student: teacher ratio _____ : _____
- qualified, knowledgeable, skilled and experienced staff
- ongoing training and support for teachers and support staff

Staff interaction/communication with parents

- good interpersonal skills
- meetings at regular intervals
- good daily/weekly communication, e.g. home/school book/phone/e-mail

Staff interaction/communication with child

- positive focus, using reinforcers and promoting success
- response if child struggles with a task?
- Response if a child behaves inappropriately?
- Response to a conflict situation?
- interacts, doesn't just give orders

Classroom Environment

- clean, safe, spacious and pleasant
- structured and organized
- sensory-friendly equipped for fine/gross motor, sensory & lang. stimulation

Daily Routine and Curriculum

Will my child have a predictable routine which is challenging and goal-oriented?

- covers academic and communication/social/life skills
- variety of structured and unstructured activities
- variety of independent, small- and large-group activities
- predictable routines, use of visual schedules and supports

Instructional Methods, Activities and Materials

- customized and adapted to the individual
- appealing, interesting, and actively engaging
- at the appropriate level of difficulty
- emphasizes interaction and communication
- promotes independence and generalisation of skills

Inclusion

Will my child be actively encouraged to interact with peers and given adequate support?

- informal & planned interaction with peers
- supports, accommodations & social training for the child
- peer training
- training and support for the mainstream teacher(s)

Supervision and Safety

- safe physical environment
- adequate supervision (break times, lunch, field trips, transitions)
- SEN training for all staff

Related therapies

Does the school work closely with other professionals?

If you would like help, please contact:

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This information can be made available in other languages and formats upon request.

