

Diploma-Track Elementary Services



MCPS

Serving Students on the Autism Spectrum

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Social Emotional Support Services



Agenda

Student Characteristics and Program Features of:

- Elementary Learning Centers
- Darnestown Learning Center
- Asperger's Services
- Gifted and Talented/Learning Disabled
- Social Emotional Support Services

Elementary Learning Centers



Elementary Learning Centers

Service Locations:

- Brooke Grove
- Burning Tree
- Clearspring
- Cresthaven
- Dufief
- Darnestown
- Galway
- Mill Creek Towne
- Little Bennett
- Rock View
- Flora M. Singer
- Sally K. Ride
- Watkins Mill





Student Characteristics

- All students have IEPs
- Students are likely to pursue a high school diploma
- Students take the same assessments as general education peers
- Students are typically two grade levels below
- Require instruction in a smaller setting



Program Features

- **A 1:1:13 Teacher: Paraeducator: Student ratio**
- **All sites have a program coordinator**
- **Special education services are provided in the self contained & general education environments, based on IEP team decisions**
- **Classrooms follow a predictable routine and structure to support academic and behavioral needs**
- **Instruction occurs in both large and small group**
- **Students work independently in centers**
- **4th and 5th grade increases opportunities for inclusion**

Darnestown Elementary School Learning Center





Student Characteristics

- **Designed to serve students diagnosed with autism who are likely to pursue a high school diploma & take the same assessments as their general education peers.**
- **The students are likely to meet the criteria for a SBLC in general.**
- **Candidates may have needs that exceed the services and supports provided in the traditional learning center (e.g. transition support, attention & task engagement, use of spontaneous language, and application of learned skills).**

Program Features

- **A 1:2:9 teacher: paraeducator: student ratio**
- **The special educator & paraeducators provide instruction to students in self-contained, K-5 classroom.**
- **The classroom is highly structured, language enriched setting with familiar routines, clearly defined rules & expectations, structured teaching & motivational systems to support academic, social, and behavioral needs.**
- **Students are instructed in small & large groups, centers & will learn to work independently with faded adult support**

Autism Specific Supports



- Students need high degree *of structured ongoing systematic behavioral intervention* during transitions, large & small group, and independent work.
- Students require a *high degree of reinforcement for compliance and escape behaviors.*
- Require *structured teaching* for transitions, following routines, attention to task, and increased independence.
- Students have *social needs* in the area of pragmatics and sometimes in the area of reducing interfering behaviors.
- *System of communication* for each student
- *Visual cues* are used in conjunction with oral instruction

Elementary Aspergers Services





Service Locations



**Diamond Elementary School,
Gaithersburg**

**Sligo Creek Elementary School, Silver
Spring**



Student Characteristics

Services are designed to serve students diagnosed with Autism who:

- Will pursue a high school diploma and participate in all general education assessments
- Are accessing general education curriculum on or above grade level in academic subjects
- Require specific supports that cannot be provided in the home school or other less restrictive settings
- Require supports that include specialized instruction in a self-contained setting for parts of school day



Service Features

- **1:2:8 Teacher: Paraeducator: student ratio**
- **Highly structured classroom incorporating consistent routines, visual supports, and motivational systems**
- **Motor breaks and daily social skills instruction**
- **Grade level or above reading, language arts , and social skills instruction delivered in self contained classrooms**
- **Gradual increase in supported time in general education and other academic areas**

Elementary GT/LD Services

Lucy V. Barnsley
Elementary School





Student Characteristics

Supports students who:

- **Are intellectually gifted and demonstrate extremely high/superior cognitive reasoning ability**
- **Will pursue a high school diploma and participate in all general education assessments**
- **Have an educational disability that may impact the area(s) of reading, writing and/or math, organization, executive functioning, self-concept, attention**

Service Features

- **1:1:13 Teacher: Paraeducator: Student Ratio**
- **Strength-based instruction is provided to access accelerated and enriched instruction**
- **Elementary services can provide special education instruction in the GT/LD classroom for English/Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies**
- **Research based academic interventions are provided in the area of student need**

Social Emotional Support Services





Service Locations

Fairland

Flower Hill

Flower Valley

Oakland Terrace

Great Seneca Creek

Westbrook

Clarksburg #2

Student Characteristics

Students may be challenged by:

- Task initiation and completion
- Managing stress in the school setting
- Utilizing appropriate coping skills
- Social skills
- Peer and adult interactions
- focus and attention
- Engaging in appropriate behaviors in small and large groups
- Coping with anxiety
- Organizing and planning
- Problem-solving
- Sensory sensitivity
- Mood regulation

Service Features

- Student to teacher ratio 8:1:1 or 2
- Self-contained and inclusion opportunities
- Conflict resolution and problem solving
- Crisis intervention
- Counseling
- Social skills instruction
- Interdisciplinary team approach with social worker, behavior support teacher and psychologist
- Coordination with outside service providers
- Implementation of FBA/BIP
- Strength-based philosophy and a restorative frame of reference