



EDUCATION COUNSELING GRADE SCHOOL

We hope this checklist helps as your child moves through elementary school. Our attorneys who specialize in education counseling and disability rights are here to help.

1 EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENTS

- Request that your school complete a comprehensive evaluation. Ensure your child has undergone a thorough assessment to identify disabilities, difficulties or barriers.
- Ensure goals are measurable and that IEP includes services and accommodations to help your child build skills toward those goals.

2 SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

- Schedule teacher conferences early in the school year to discuss learning preferences and support strategies.
- Provide copies of assessments and relevant documents to the school.
- Keep a communication log with school staff for consistent updates and progress notes.

3 CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

- Visit the classroom with your child to ensure the set up is conducive to your child's learning style.
- Talk to teachers about necessary accommodations, such as seating arrangements, assistive technology, and modified assignments.

4 SUPPORT SERVICES

- Confirm continued access to services (speech, OT, counseling) and request evaluations as needed.
- Monitor effectiveness of assistive technologies and request updates if needed.

5 SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Help your child identify safe adults at school and practice self-advocacy skills.
- Facilitate involvement in extracurriculars that match their interests and strengths.

6 HEALTH & SAFETY

- Ensure the school has up-to-date medical records, including information about any medications or allergies.
- Discuss the school's emergency procedures and ensure your child understands them.

7 HOME SUPPORT & ROUTINES

- Reinforce school routines at home to support transitions and organization.
- Encourage age-appropriate independence in homework, hygiene, and communication.

8 ADVOCACY & SUPPORT KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

- Join parents of children with learning disabilities groups for support and advocacy.
- Attend IEP meetings with support (advocate, attorney, or another trusted person). Learn your rights under IDEA and Section 504.

9 POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

- Recognize and celebrate your child's progress and achievements, no matter how small.
- Encourage self-confidence: Provide positive reinforcement to boost self-esteem.

10 PROGRESS & PLANNING

- Regular check-ins: Schedule meetings with teachers and support staff to monitor progress.
- Adjust plans as needed: Be flexible and willing to adjust plans and strategies based on your child's evolving needs.
- Track grades, behaviors, and services—prepare for re-evaluations.
- Start transition conversations early, especially for middle school.

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