

Inclusion in PreK

BEST PRACTICES FROM THE FIELD

KEY TERMS

Inclusion / Integration - terms used interchangeably to mean placing preschool students with disabilities into the general education to the greatest extent possible.

Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) - means that the placement of students with disabilities in special classes, separate schools or other removal from the regular educational environment occurs only when the nature or severity of the disability is such that even with the use of supplementary aids and services, education cannot be satisfactorily achieved.” (Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, Section 200.1(cc).

Multidisciplinary Evaluation (MDE) - evaluations used to determine whether or not a child has a disability and, if so, to what extent preschool special education programs and/or services are appropriate. All school districts are approved MDE providers.

Preschool Special Education Program (4410) - pursuant to Education Law section 4410 as well as Commissioner's Regulations Part 200, the Department approves district PreK special education programming to ensure the needs of PreK students with disabilities are met.

Preschool Student with a Disability - is a child who is age 3 to 5 years old identified with developmental delays and/or educational needs. For the purposes of our presentation today, going forward we will use Prekindergarten student with a disability.

Related Services - developmental, corrective, and other supportive services as are required to assist a student with a disability (e.g., Speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy,

Special Class (SC) - a class with only children with disabilities. This could be in a district classroom or a CBO location.

Special Class in an Integrated Setting (SCIS) - a class with preschool students with and without disabilities. Staff includes one general education teacher, one special education teacher, and two paraprofessionals.

Special Education Itinerant Services (SEIS) - Services are provided on an itinerant basis, meaning the special education teacher travels to the childcare or educational setting where the child attends during the day.

Special Education Itinerant Teacher (SEIT) - a special education teacher works with a child in a setting recommended by the CPSE. Provides specialized individual or group instruction to the student(s) and/or indirect services for the child's regular education early childhood program teacher.

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Resources



Office of Early Learning



Office of Special Education
Preschool Guidance



Office of Special Education
Educational Partnership



NYSED Office of Early Learning
Video Series



Planning for High-Quality
Prekindergarten Programs



The Prekindergarten
Early Learning Standards



Blueprint for Improved Results
for Students with Disabilities



A Resource to Special
Education Support Services



U.S. Department of Education
Policy Statement: Inclusion of Children
with Disabilities in Early Childhood
Programs
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