



# What is special education?

This tip sheet is a quick summary of what special education is and what it looks like for your child.

## Services

Special education is a set of services for students with disabilities that are found eligible through a special education evaluation. It takes place at school and is designed to help your child make progress in their education.



## Location and time

Special education services can occur in a separate classroom or in your child's regular classroom and alongside peers with and without disabilities. It can take place most of the school day or just a few times a week. Special education is different for every student.

## Individualized Education Program

If your child receives special education, the school will write an Individualized Education Program (IEP). This is a document that explains what services your child will receive. It will also have information about where and how often your child will receive services. You have the right to discuss your child's IEP with the IEP team and tell them if you disagree with it.\*

**\*For more information about how to address disagreements with your child's IEP, check out [How do I disagree with my child's IEP?](#)**