

Joint Educational Services in Special Education
324 N. Kingston Rd., P.O. Box 418
Plymouth, IN 46563
(574) 936-2627 (800) 388-0054
Fax: (574) 936-8184

JESSE EARLY CHILDHOOD/PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

PRESCHOOL K-TRANSITION TRAINING

KEY DIFFERENCES:

- First introduction to public school without the security of a classroom teacher to assist them through the process.
- The process can be very overwhelming and intimidating to parents.
- Ramifications of not having a child sitting in a general education classroom
 - o Scheduling Evaluations – can't come back the next day when a child is absent.
 - o Parents are accustomed to having services presented in the home.
 - o Much more structured and routine than the family is used to
 - o Often viewed as an inconvenience

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Best to have one preschool contact for the corporation to oversee/facilitate the process – NOT to complete the process. Someone to pull all pieces together and see the big picture.
- Best to start 2-2 ½ months before ACR due date to allow for unforeseen glitches.
- Strongly encouraged to maintain the practice of "Magic Mondays." (Draft reports should have all components "conference ready" at the end of the day on the Monday, of the week before the scheduled conference). Example: Conference on Tuesday, 9/19, information needs to be in IIEP by Monday, 9/11 at 3:30 PM.
- Best to schedule conferences at least 1-1 ½ weeks prior to the ACR expiration date due to all the no shows/hiccups, etc.
- Head Start staff should be invited to conferences involving Head Start preschoolers.
- Service District preschool teacher will serve as TOR for all preschooler with the exception of those kiddos identified as speech and/language only.

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PRESCHOOL LRE (Least Restrictive Education) CODES

General Information:

LREs for a kindergartner can be very confusing. It is important that school districts have a clear understanding of the preschool codes and how they correlate to the grade school codes to avoid conflicting information and red flags on state reports.

LREs for kindergarteners are decided by the child's age on December 1st. If a child is five on December 1st, the preschool LREs will need to be used. If the child is 6 on December 1st, the grade school LREs will need to be used.

Corresponding LRE preschool codes as they relate to grade school codes:

0% in General Education Setting = LRE 33 / 0% = LRE 52
1-35% in General Education Setting = LRE 28 / 1-39% = LRE 52
36+% in General Education Setting = LRE 26 / 40-79% = LRE 51
80%+ = LRE 50

Please do not hesitate to call if you need help working through a child's LRE codes. Proactive dialogue will hopefully avoid having to complete a review/revision.

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REEVALUATIONS

Reevaluations will be initiated/facilitated by current Teacher of Record/Teacher of Service

Preparation:

- Staff collaboration to determine need for reevaluation
- Contact parent
- Contact homeschool preschool contact and make them aware of pending consent/timeline
- Generate consent in IIEP
- Send letter home with consent and Preschool social and developmental history form
- Invite receiving school to come and observe child in current setting

Consent Obtained:

- Date/Sign - when/who received
- Complete assignment sheet - include homeschool/receiving school preschool contact
- Forward to JESSE office for information purposes only

Timeline received - check timeline expiration date with ACR expiration date

Schedule Conference - Approximately 1-1/2 weeks prior to expiration

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RESPONSIBILITIES AS THEY RELATE TO PRESCHOOL K-TRAN CONFERENCES

- All preschoolers who will be age appropriate to transition to kindergarten will be facilitated by each service district's grade school staff.
- Birthdate of August 1st will be used as determining factor.
- Preschool contact for each grade school will be responsible for insuring the process and needed pieces are completed.
- Teacher of Record, Teachers of Service, school psychologists, and related services staff will continue to be responsible for entering all needed information into IIEP. Teacher of Record will serve as team leader and oversee this process.
- Preschool contact will review information in IIEP the week prior to the conference. Therefore, all information should continue to be entered by the end of the day on the Monday before the week of the conference. (MAGIC MONDAY).
- Location of Conferences – To avoid predetermination, staff is encouraged to hold conferences in preschooler's homeschool whenever possible. The scheduling of conferences and location of the conference (host school) should be facilitated by the child's home school staff unless prior arrangements have been made within the service district.
- Teacher of Record/Service school staff should continue to be encouraged to work closely with preschool contacts from all schools involved with the child to insure all needed pieces are completed.
- Scheduling responsibilities (parent contact/attendee contact/notification, etc.) will fall on school hosting conference. (Grade school staff, from the school, where the conference is being held).
- Service school staff (Teacher of Record/Teacher of Service) will continue to be responsible for facilitating the reevaluation process and generating reevaluating consent in IIEP.
- Completion of information in IIEP will be the responsibility of the service school staff – specifically the Teacher of Record/Teacher of Service.