

Serving Children with Disabilities Policy

Parents with concerns regarding their child's development may refer their child to the teacher or the school's principal for a meeting. At this meeting the team will discuss if any evaluations are necessary to determine eligibility for special education or other services. The program will provide ongoing training to staff regarding serving children with disabilities.

The Eastford Readiness Program is committed to serving children with disabilities who have an Individualized Educational Program (IEP). In order to ensure that IEPs are effectively addressed in the Readiness Program, IEP goals and objectives will be established at Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meetings with the teacher, parents and specialist present. Ongoing communication, updates and consultation will be provided by the specialists to the teacher and the family. Children with disabilities transitioning to kindergarten will have a PPT prior to the end of the school year. The kindergarten teacher will attend this meeting to ensure a smooth transition.

The Eastford Readiness Program ensures that the percentage of children with an IEP in the Readiness classroom is similar to the percentage of K-12 students enrolled in special education by the Eastford School district, the local education agency (LEA). All services provided to children with an IEP will be provided within Readiness classrooms unless a PPT has determined that the services will not benefit the child unless they are in a separate location. The parent(s), the School Readiness Program, and the LEA will collaborate to plan a program best suited to meet the goals in the IEP in the least restrictive environment. All children with an IEP who are receiving special education and/or related services are entitled to all the Eastford Readiness services as defined by the School Readiness legislation, regardless of space type.