

**: What will service delivery for students with disabilities look like in the Hybrid Model?**

- Students will receive a consistent schedule of classes, services, interventions and therapies as outlined in the signed and accepted IEP
- Students will have structured learning time to access state standards
- Students will have frequent interaction with teachers, teaching assistants, related service providers (i.e. Speech and Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Board Certified Behavior Analysts, Physical Therapists) and other trained staff to ensure participation.
- Students will receive their Therapies on their remote days so as to not disrupt their face to face teaching.

**Q: If my child is to receive services remotely, what will that look like?**

Remote learning will be more robust than the experience from the spring of 2020. It is expected that students will receive:

- A regular and consistent schedule of classes, services, interventions and therapies
- Structured learning time to provide access to state standards
- Frequent interactions with teachers, therapists and support staff
- Synchronous lessons via Google Meet and/or video conference
- Asynchronous lessons via recorded lessons and/or Google Classroom assignments

**Q: My child receives “services only” through Swansea Public Schools. How will services be delivered?**

In an effort to maintain cohorts and reduce the visitors to the school buildings, all itinerant services will be provided remotely at this time.

**Q: If a student is scheduled for an evaluation this year, how will that be addressed?**

The psychologists and related service providers will complete as much of the evaluation as they can in person, however, we will look to have parents to bring students to the administration building to meet in person.

When in person, safety protocols will be followed. The staff and student will wear masks or face shields where appropriate and be as distanced as possible. Additionally, Plexiglas dividers may be used when it is necessary for an evaluator to be less than 6 ft. apart from the student.

**Q: What will be the procedure for IEP meetings in the Fall of 2020?**

Given the requirements for social distancing provided by DESE, team meetings for Special Education will be held remotely via teleconference, Google or Zoom.

**Q: How will students who require class support receive it during Google/Zoom sessions?**

Students with IEPs will receive support in breakout rooms or through an additional invite provided by the classroom teacher/special education teacher/teaching assistant (depends upon platform Google, Zoom etc). Also, our teaching assistants work under the license of our special education teachers and will work with them on how to best facilitate push-in services in a remote setting similar to what occurs during in-person learning.

**Q: What support will be in place to help parents of children who struggled with remote learning in the past due to difficulties with attention and focus?**

At the start of the school year, Special Education Case Managers will be reaching out to parents to engage in collaborative conversations aimed at developing comprehensive services. Information from parents regarding their child's primary area(s) of need and ability to access remote learning will be considered and changes may be made. In addition, in a hybrid model, all teachers will be able to prepare students for their remote learning experiences when students are in-person. This will include teaching students the routines of how to use their technology, providing materials to support work at home, and preparing students for their remote activities.

**Q: How will teachers, educational support professionals, as well as related service providers of students with complex needs, deliver services when close proximity and physical prompting is needed? Will they still be required to have a 3 or 6 foot space?**

Staff will wear a mask and/or shield and other PPE as warranted by situation protocol provided by DESE's Guidance on Fall 2020 Special Education services. Staff have been trained on the proper use of PPE. In these scenarios providers may need to be within a closer proximity.

**Q: Will there be MCAS/MCAS-ALT this year?**

DESE will be making the determination about the MCAS & MCAS-ALT for the upcoming year.

**Q: Are there exceptions to wearing masks or face coverings?**

Exceptions to mask/face covering requirements must be made for those for whom it is not possible due to medical conditions, disability impact, or other health or safety factors, as outlined in a physician's note.

**Q: Do parents need to send their students onto the bus or van with a mask?**

Yes. transportation policy states that all students are required to wear masks. The drivers and monitors are aware that students are sometimes unable to wear masks or keep masks on for the durations of the ride.

**Q: Can students in Pre-K who are unmasked sit together on the rug?**

We aim to keep all students six feet apart but lesser distances are acceptable (but no less than three feet). Classrooms will be reconfiguring space to discourage prolonged close contact and encourage activities that allow children to spread out. Classrooms may design their own strategies to implement this recommendation – such as spacing chairs at tables, designing games and group activities where children may engage in play that can be spaced apart (for example, by using visual cues, like hula hoops or tape on the floor), and increasing outdoor time.

**Q: Will there be role model peers as part of the preschool program?**

Yes, role model peers will be part of the preschool program, but due to health and safety guidelines, we will be limiting the amount of peers.

**Q: My child was referred to the District through Early Intervention and turned three during the time of school closure. Services are currently being offered through Early Intervention until October 15, 2020. What is the plan moving forward for determining eligibility for Early Intervention (EI) referrals?**

Mrs. Danielle Costa is reviewing each and every referral on an individual case. Collaboration with EI is assisting with providing updated information in regards to continued service delivery and child presentation. The Team will be contacting families to either schedule evaluations or to schedule a Team meeting to utilize available information to determine eligibility.