

# Special Education (SPED)

- Free, individualized services and specially designed instruction for children with disabilities, to meet their unique needs and ensure educational progress.
- Under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), eligible students receive an Individualized Education Program (IEP), which outlines their goals and necessary supports, including specialized instruction and related services.
- Services can be provided within general education classrooms, small groups, or specialized settings.

## Individualised Educational Program (IEP)

*An Individualized Education Program (IEP) is a written, **legal document** developed by the IEP team. The IEP outlines the special education and related services a student with a disability will receive. It includes the student's present performance, measurable annual goals, the supports and services to help meet those goals, and how progress will be measured.*

**Referral to Special Education:** If a member of the staff or a family member suspects a student may benefit from special education services, they can be referred to the school team using the school services request form.

- A school team will review the student's records, current levels, and attendance.
- Based on the available data and documented input from the referral, the student may (a) be referred for evaluation, or (b) the team may need more information before making a referral.
- Evaluation takes place with a School Psychologist and includes records from families and physicians to determine diagnosis and recommend services.
- If the evaluation determines eligibility, the school team will hold an IEP meeting with the student, family, school and advocates and develop the educational program that will meet their needs.

### Examples of eligibility in the state of Oregon:

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Learning Disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual Disability         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Autism Spectrum Disorder     | <input type="checkbox"/> Emotional Behavioral Disability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deafness/Blindness           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Health Impairment         |