

Special Education Recovery Services

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the school year begins, we know that many of you are concerned about the return to full-time in-person learning. We have strived to keep students engaged and progressing, but know that all students have experienced some learning disruption during the pandemic. We are writing to share our plans for meeting the needs of students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).

Beginning this fall, every DOE school will offer an afterschool or Saturday program (or a combination of the two) to deliver Special Education Recovery Services. Special Education Recovery Services are specialized instruction and related services, targeted to each student's individual needs. These services will be provided to students with IEPs in addition to their regular school day. They offer the opportunity for your child to receive additional services as soon as possible, without any need for you to make a request or wait through an administrative process.

As we welcome students back, schools will be closely monitoring your child's progress toward IEP goals. We also value your input about your child's progress and needs at any point during the school year. By mid-November, your child's teacher or related service provider will reach out to you, and based on your input and any scheduling preferences, will develop a plan for your child's Special Education Recovery Services.

For most students, Special Education Recovery Services will begin in November or December. Accepting these services does not waive any rights your child may have to additional services, including compensatory services. We will contact you later in the school year to discuss whether further services will be needed, taking into account your child's progress and services that have been provided from March 2020 on.

We are committed to partnering with you to best support your child to learn and grow this school year. To learn more about Special Education Recovery Services, please join us on October 5, 2021, at 7:30 PM, for a [live virtual information session for families](#), or visit our [website](#). You can also contact your child's school, email specialeducation@schools.nyc.gov, or call 311.

Warmly,

Christina Foti

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