

Communication & Education Support (CES) Program

Students Served: Students with Autism Spectrum and related disorders

Grades: PK3- 12

Program Lead: Manager, Communication and Education Supports

The Communication & Education Support (CES) program is designed to meet the individual needs of students with significant communication issues and significant behavior issues. Primarily, CES classrooms serve students who have Autism Spectrum Disorders. Students who have self-contained IEPs (20+ hours of specialized instruction outside of general education) may also be served in CES classrooms.

Academic Programming

The CES program integrates an Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) instructional framework that includes discrete trial instruction, natural environment training, prompting and fading, and reinforcement.

Academic Component	DSI Program Elements and Guidance
Student to Staff Ratio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PK3–PK4: 6 students: 1 special education teacher: 2 instructional paraprofessionals K-12: 8 students: 1 special education teacher: 2 instructional paraprofessionals
Core Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students take ELA, mathematics, science and social studies utilizing the modified DCPS Scope & Sequence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CES classroom instruction is aligned to the Common Core State Standards and scaffolded to meet the needs of individual students. Attainment Core Curriculum Solutions supplements the curriculum
Interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edmark Reading Intervention (Grades 3-12) Failure-free Reading Intervention (Grades 6-12) Eureka Math
Transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grades PK3-5: Foundational Skills Course, Elementary Transition Activities (ETAs) Grades 6 – HS: Secondary Transition Courses, IEP Transition Plan
Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students performing below five-year-old developmental level are assessed using Verbal Behavior Milestone Assessment and Placement Program (VB-MAPP) Students in DSI-selected PK3/PK4 classrooms are assessed using Strategies for Teaching Based on Autism Research (STAR) Students take the PARCC or MSAA assessment with individual accommodations as indicated on the IEP.

Additional Programming

Partners

Special Olympics: This non-profit organization provides year-round training in a variety of sports for DCPS students with intellectual disabilities.

RSA: The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) connects students with disabilities to employment opportunities. All students who are interested in working and have a documented disability can apply at their local school through their case manager. RSA will then meet with students to determine eligibility for services to support them in their pursuit of employment.

Inclusion

Students are included for lunch, recess, and specials. Students should be included into other classes as soon as they are ready. Some schools have inclusion strategy programs. In these programs, CES students are included most of the day and pulled out for social skills.

Facilities

Life Skills Suite (for high school): This instructional space provides students the opportunity to master daily living skills in a real-life setting.

Multi-sensory space: Multi-sensory spaces are specifically designed and utilized to provide a relaxing, safe and engaging experience for students in the CES program. By establishing a controlled environment, students can self-organize and build positive behaviors.

Student Profile

Students in CES are most commonly identified as having ASD, a Developmental Delay (DD) and require support in communication development, social-emotional development, adaptive behavior, and academic support. An expressed goal of CES is to include students with their non-disabled peers once they achieve academic and social readiness, as measured by the individual IEP.

Student Profile	
Most common primary disability served	Autism Spectrum Disorder or Developmental Delay
Hours of specialized instruction outside general educations	20+ (related service hours are not factored)
Related Services	Per IEP.
Graduation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students in the CES Program earn a High School Achievement Certificate upon exiting school.• Students who are able to pursue a High School diploma are included with their general education peers.

Staff Profile

Teacher certification and experience

CES program classrooms are staffed with certified special education teachers who are responsible for planning and leading instruction. This includes aligning lessons to individual IEP goals and Common Core State Standards.

Paraprofessional certification and experience

Classroom instructional paraprofessionals are consistent, active members of the classroom team and can provide specialized instruction under the direction of the special education teacher. CES paraprofessionals are also responsible for data collection and small group or individual interventions. They co-plan with classroom teachers and provide additional ABA support to students.

A strong CES teacher or paraprofessional candidate has experience in the following areas:

- Applied Behavior Analysis instructional techniques and practices
- Edmark, Failure Free reading interventions, or Eureka Math interventions
- De-escalation strategies

- Functional communication instruction
- Culturally responsive pedagogy
- Engagement with family and community members

CES Specialists

CES programs are supported by itinerant Division of Specialized Instruction (DSI) CES Specialists. Itinerant DSI CES specialists, develop, train, and monitor teachers' application of ABA principles, while focusing on student learning and outcomes.

Communication & Education Support Program Classroom (SY21-22)

Grades PS/PK	Grades K-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12
Barnard	Barnard	Barnard	Brookland	Anacostia
Beers	Beers	Beers	Cardozo	Ballou
Boone	Boone	Boone	Deal	Cardozo
Brightwood	Brightwood	Brightwood	Eliot-Hine	Coolidge
Browne	Browne	Browne	Hardy	Dunbar
Bunker Hill	Bunker Hill	Bunker Hill	Hart	Eastern
Burroughs	Burroughs	Burroughs	Ida B. Wells	Roosevelt
Dorothy Height	Dorothy Height	Dorothy Height	Johnson	Woodson
Garfield	Garfield	Garfield	*+School-Without-Walls @ FS	
Garrison	Garrison	Garrison	Sousa	
Hearst	Hearst	Hearst	Stuart Hobson	
King	King	King		
Houston	Houston	Houston		
Langdon	Langdon	Langdon		
Langley	Langley	Langley		
	Ludlow-Taylor	Ludlow-Taylor		
Military Road	Moten	Moten		
Moten	Patterson	Patterson		
Patterson	Plummer	Plummer		
Plummer	Raymond	Raymond		

Raymond	Seaton	Seaton		
School within School @ Goding	Simon	Simon		
Seaton	+School-Within-School	+School-Within-School		
Shepherd	Takoma	Takoma		
Simon	Tyler	Tyler		
Takoma	Walker-Jones	Walker-Jones		
Thaddeus Stevens Early Learning Center	Wheatley	Wheatley		
Tyler	Whittier	Whittier		
Walker-Jones				
Whittier				