

MCPS Autism Services

History and Overview of Autism Services in MCPS

- Autism Unit Overview
- Classic Autism
- Darnestown Learning Center
- Autism Resource Services (ARS)
- Asperger's Services

Classic Autism Services





Preschool (CAPP) Locations



Fields Road ES
Maryvale ES
Roscoe Nix PS
Rosemary Hills PS
Rosemont ES
Woodfield ES



Elementary Service Locations



Bells Mill ES

Carderock Springs ES

Cedar Grove ES

Cloverly ES

College Gardens ES

Fields Road ES

Gaithersburg ES

Matsunaga ES

Meadow Hall ES

Roscoe Nix PS

Rosemary Hills PS

Rock Creek Forest ES

Sherwood ES

Strawberry Knoll ES

Westover ES

Woodfield ES



Secondary Service Locations



Middle Schools

Cabin John
Rosa Parks

Montgomery Village
Earle B. Wood

High Schools



Churchill
Magruder
Rockville
Wootton

Student Characteristics

- **Students require support in all areas due to difficulties with communication, language acquisition, behavior, and adaptive skills**
- **Are not able to learn from traditional special education instruction and require discrete trial instruction to learn**
- **Have difficulty learning in group lesson format**
- **Need to be taught skills to mastery and continue to practice in order to maintain and generalize skills.**

Service Features: Pre-Kindergarten

- Incorporate consistent routines, visual supports, motivation systems, and daily instruction on behaviors and adaptive skills
- Classroom based instruction is delivered via individualized discrete trial instruction, group instruction, and instruction in the natural environment.

Service Features: Elementary School

- Incorporate consistent routines, visual supports, motivation systems, and daily instruction on behaviors and adaptive skills
- Classroom based instruction is delivered via individualized discrete trial instruction, group instruction, and community based instruction.

Service Features: Middle & High School

- Incorporate consistent routines, visual supports, motivation systems, and daily instruction on behaviors and adaptive skills
- Classroom based instruction is delivered via individualized discrete trial instruction, group instruction, community based instruction, and job training

Darnestown Elementary School Learning Center



Student Characteristics

- Designed to serve students diagnosed with autism who are likely to pursue a high school diploma & take the same assessments as their general education peers.
- The students are typically two grade levels below and require instruction in a smaller setting
- Students have delays in expressive and receptive language skills and deficits in social (pragmatic) language

Program Features

- The special educator & paraeducators provide instruction to students in self-contained mixed grade K-5 classrooms, with opportunities for inclusion provided as individually determined. Inclusion is a focus this year.
- The classrooms are highly structured, language enriched settings with familiar routines, clearly defined rules & expectations, structured teaching at a modified pace & motivational systems to support academic, social, and behavioral needs.
- Students are instructed in both small & large groups and require instruction in working independently with faded adult support

Autism Resource Services





Service Locations



Middle Schools:

Westland MS

Gaithersburg MS

Silver Spring International MS



High Schools:

Winston Churchill HS

John F. Kennedy HS

Watkins Mill HS

Academic Characteristics

- Are accessing general education curriculum but are currently 2-3 years below grade level.
- **Students require a modified pace of instruction & individual accommodations due to academic needs.**
- **Require support due to difficulties with task initiation, organization, and cognitive rigidity**

Social and Language Characteristics

- **Have marked delays in expressive and receptive language skills and deficits in social (pragmatic) language**
- **Some students have the desire to develop social relationships, but they lack the requisite language and social skills to engage with peers appropriately.**

Areas of Need

- Academics
- Language & social skills
- Organization
- Executive Functioning
- Behavior
- Support for small & large transitions

Service Features: Middle & High School

- Incorporate consistent routines, visual supports, motivation systems, direct social skills instruction, and transition support
- On grade level instruction delivered in self-contained *or* supported general education classrooms
- General education classes with support for Electives and Physical Education

Aspergers Services





Service Locations



Elementary Schools

Diamond ES

Sligo Creek ES



Middle Schools

Tilden MS

Ridgeview MS



High Schools

Walter Johnson HS

Quince Orchard HS

Academic Characteristics

- Are accessing general education curriculum on or above grade level in academic subjects
- Are motivated to perform academically, but typically require support due to difficulties with task initiation, organization, and cognitive rigidity

Social and Language Characteristics

- **Have above average expressive and receptive language skills, but may have deficits in social (pragmatic) language**
- **Have the desire to develop social relationships, but may struggle to find friends among their age group peers**

Areas of Need

- Written language
- Social skills
- Organization
- Executive Functioning

Service Features: Elementary

- Highly structured classroom incorporating consistent routines, visual supports, and motivational systems
- Daily social skills instruction
- Grade level or above reading, language arts , and social skills instruction delivered in self contained classrooms
- Gradual increase in supported time in general education and other academic areas

Service Features: Middle School

- Incorporate consistent routines, visual supports, motivation systems, and daily social skills instruction
- Advanced Level instruction delivered in self-contained or supported general education classrooms for English
- General education classes with support for Math, Science, Social Studies, and Physical Education
- Self contained instruction for social skills and resource classes

Service Features: High School

- Incorporate consistent routines and direct adult support for managing assignments, and organization
- Build skills in advocating for/obtaining support from general education teachers
- On or above grade level instruction delivered in supported general education classrooms for all academic subjects