

Placement

Choosing the right placement is an important part of the IEP process. Placement refers to where your child will receive services. By law, schools must offer support in the least restrictive environment, meaning students should learn alongside their peers as much as possible. Below is a list of common placement options to help guide your discussion during IEP meetings.

1. General Education Classroom (Full Inclusion)

Your child learns alongside peers without disabilities in the regular classroom, with accommodations or support services provided as needed.

2. Co-Teaching (General Ed + Special Ed Teacher)

Both a general education teacher and a special education teacher work together in the same classroom. They share responsibility for planning, instruction, and support so all students benefit, including those with IEPs.

3. Resource Room (Pull-Out Services)

Your child receives specialized instruction in a smaller group setting for part of the day while spending the rest of the time in the general education classroom.

4. Special Education Classroom (Self-Contained)

Your child receives most or all instruction in a smaller class led by a special education teacher. This setting offers more individualized support.

5. Separate School

Your child attends a school that focuses specifically on students with disabilities. These schools offer intensive support and may serve students with more complex needs.

6. Home or Hospital Instruction

If your child cannot attend school due to medical or emotional needs, instruction may be provided at home or in a hospital setting temporarily.

7. Residential Placement

Your child lives at a specialized school where they receive 24-hour support, including education, therapy, and care. This is typically considered only when all other placements are not sufficient.

