

Supporting Learning at Home:

A Parent / Guardian's Guide to Success

Video Transcript

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Host: "Hello, and welcome! Today, we're talking about how parents and guardians of children with disabilities can stay actively engaged in the special education process and support their child at home. Your involvement is key to your child's success, so let's explore some effective strategies together."

Host: "Start by thoroughly understanding your child's Individualized Education Program, or IEP. It outlines the specific services, goals, and accommodations designed to support your child's learning. Maintain an open dialogue with your child's IEP team to ensure you're aware of their educational progress and any changes."

Host: "Regular communication with your child's teachers and support staff is important. You will receive regular progress reports, usually aligned with the school's reporting periods, and have yearly IEP meetings. Email, phone calls, and in-person meetings are also great ways to stay connected and advocate for your child. Remember, you can request an IEP meeting at any time."

Host: "Some ideas for support at home include creating a structured routine and a quiet space for your child to focus on homework and learning activities. Use visual schedules or timers to help your child manage their time effectively, and encourage breaks to prevent overwhelm. Practicing skills at home that were taught at school will also support generalizing the skill outside of the school environment."

Host: "Stay informed about special education policies and resources by attending workshops, joining support groups, or participating in online forums. Connecting with other parents and guardians can provide valuable insights and shared experiences to support your journey."

Host: "Encourage your child's independence by involving them in decisions about their education when appropriate. Your child will feel more in control and have more buy-in if their opinion is part of their support plan. Teach them to express their needs and self-advocate, fostering confidence and empowerment in their learning journey."

Host: "If you choose, you can explore available outside resources such as tutoring, therapy services, and assistive technology to enhance your child's learning experience. Your child's

school, local community centers, or online platforms can be excellent sources of support and information."

Host: "Engaging with your child's special education process and supporting their learning at home creates a nurturing environment for growth and success. Thank you for your commitment and involvement in your child's educational journey!"

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