

Continuum of Service

Bourne Public Schools provides a comprehensive continuum of special education services for students with disabilities, ages 3-22. All students requiring specially designed instruction due to an identified disability are entitled to a free, appropriate public education, as detailed in their Individualized Education Program (IEP). For further information, resources such as the Federation for Children with Special Needs Guide to Special Education and DESE's Notice of Procedural Safeguards are available.

Since 2020, Bourne Public Schools has prioritized increased inclusion opportunities for students with disabilities. Under the guidance of Dr. Deborah Harris, the district has invested in professional development and coaching for staff, focusing on co-teaching, universal design, and collaboration to enhance service delivery.

Service Strands

Specialized services and supports are offered across the following strands for students in grades Pre-K through 12+:

1. Instructional Learning Program

- **Target Groups:** Students with language-based learning disabilities, communication impairments, developmental delays, intellectual disabilities, and autism.
- **Services Provided:**
 - Specially designed instruction in the least restrictive environment.
 - Small group or individualized instruction from trained special education teachers and support staff.
 - Focus on specialized reading programs, math interventions, and written language supports.
 - Instruction tailored to meet Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks standards, with options for modified standards as necessary.
 - Development of academic skills, executive functioning, communication, and self-advocacy.

2. Alternative Learning Program - Therapeutic Support

- **Target Groups:** Students with emotional disabilities or impairments affecting self-regulation.
- **Services Provided:**
 - A range of supports that teach emotional regulation strategies and social skills.
 - Instruction delivered in small group settings, within general education classrooms, and integrated into core content areas.
 - Emphasis on therapeutic instructional practices to support emotional and executive functioning needs.

Bourne Public Schools is committed to providing a robust continuum of special education services that are responsive to the diverse needs of students with disabilities. Through targeted instruction and inclusion practices, the district aims to empower students to make effective progress and achieve their educational goals.