

## Transition into Kindergarten

### Meeting the Child's Needs

*The Case Conference Committee meets to reach a consensus on the type of environment and services appropriate for each student. An Individual Education Plan (IEP) is developed for all students determined eligible for special education. The IEP is developed for one year and parents receive quarterly progress information during that year. An Annual Case Review is held each year thereafter to review and revise the plan. Parents may request a conference at any time to discuss their child's program.*

*Each child's program is reviewed in the spring prior to entering kindergarten. A reevaluation is conducted if necessary. A Case Conference is held to determine continued eligibility for services in the public school. Principals from the receiving schools are invited to attend.*

#### School Districts Served:

Hanover  
Highland  
Hobart  
Lake Ridge  
Lake Station  
River Forest  
Tri-Creek

# NISEC

Northwest Indiana  
Special Education  
Cooperative



## NISEC

2150 W. 97th Place  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
219.769.4085  
219.769.4000

For more information or to schedule a free screening, call 219.769.4000 or go to [www.hobart.k12.in.us/ecd](http://www.hobart.k12.in.us/ecd).

It is the mission of NISEC and each of its member corporations to provide educational experiences which will enable students to develop self-worth, independence, and function to the best of their ability.

# The Early Childhood Program



The Early Childhood Program provides special education for eligible children from three to five years of age. Referrals are made to the NISEC from First Steps of Indiana, physicians, community agencies, private preschools and parents.

Preschool screenings are scheduled throughout the school year to determine the need for further evaluation. If necessary, a comprehensive evaluation will be conducted by a team of professionals. This may include the school psychologist, the educational diagnostician, the speed/language pathologist and any other related support staff. Following the evaluation, a case conference is held to determine eligibility for services.

Parents and caregivers play an important role in the evaluation process as well as in the case conference. When services are needed, an option of classroom or small group are discussed. The early childhood classroom incorporates activities which address development of perceptual motor skills, readiness skills, communication skills, fine and gross motor skills, and socialization skills. The curriculum strives to promote independence in all areas. Related support services are provided within the classroom during the child's regular school day.

When students need less services, small groups or consultation are provided. For example, speech and language therapy is considered as an option for those students requiring less comprehensive intervention.

## Eligibility

Based on State and Federal Guidelines

- Autism
- Blind or Low Vision
- Cognitive Disability
- Deaf or Hard of Hearing
- Deaf-Blind
- Developmental Delay (Early Childhood)
- Emotional Disability
- Language or Speech Impairment
- Multiple Disabilities
- Other Health Impairments
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Specific Learning Disability
- Traumatic Brain Injury

