Incoming 7th Grade Special Education – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Great Valley Middle School

Will special education services continue in middle school?

Yes. Students continue to receive services based on their Individualized Education Program (IEP). Supports may look different because middle school schedules are more complex, but services continue as outlined in the IEP.

How is middle school different from elementary school?

Students have multiple teachers and move between classrooms. Support staff help students learn routines, schedules, and expectations.

Will my child be pulled out of class for services?

In most cases, services are built into the schedule. Related services such as speech, OT, and PT continue as needed.

Schedules look confusing. How will my child manage?

Students are not expected to figure this out alone. Support teachers review schedules, use easy-to-read versions, and practice routines.

What if my child struggles with organization?

Organization is taught and supported. Teachers help students set up binders or folders and find a system that works for them.

What are Guided Study, Labs, or Core Extensions?

These are support classes that provide extra academic practice, organization support, or reinforcement of core content.

What is Canvas and how is it used?

Canvas is the platform teachers use to post assignments, homework, and materials. Students learn how to use Canvas as part of daily school routines.

Can parents access Canvas?

Yes. Parents have their own Canvas access to view assignments and due dates.

Who will know about my child's IEP?

Learning support teachers review IEPs before school starts and share important information with staff who work with your child.

Will we still have IEP meetings?

Yes. Each student has a case manager who contacts families if meetings or revisions are needed.

Are students expected to self-advocate?

Middle school is a time to learn self-advocacy skills. Students are supported and not expected to do this independently right away.

Who should I contact if I have questions?

Families may contact their child's case manager, learning support teachers, counselors, or administrators. A full contact list is included in the transition materials.