

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ASD STUDENTS

LEARNING SUPPORT ACTIVITIES • TEACHER RESOURCE

Accommodations provide students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) meaningful access to instruction and assessment without changing the learning objectives. The purpose is to reduce barriers, support communication, and create opportunities for students to demonstrate what they know.

Classroom Environment

- Provide a predictable classroom routine.
- Give advance notice of schedule changes.
- Reduce unnecessary visual and auditory distractions.
- Offer a quiet area for independent work when appropriate.

Instructional Accommodations

- Present one direction at a time.
- Use visual schedules, checklists, and graphic organizers.
- Model signs before expecting student performance.
- Break larger assignments into manageable steps.
- Allow additional processing time when needed.

Communication Supports

- Pair students with supportive peers.
- Clearly teach classroom routines and expectations.
- Provide opportunities to rehearse before presentations.
- Use clear, direct, and consistent language.

Assessment Accommodations

- Quiet testing location when appropriate.
- Extended time if documented in the student's plan.
- Alternative assessment formats that maintain the same learning objective.
- Visual prompts or checklists during assessments when appropriate.

Sensory Considerations

- Minimize sensory distractions whenever possible.
- Allow documented movement or sensory breaks.
- Be aware of lighting, noise, and classroom arrangement.
- Respect individual sensory preferences.

Important Reminders

- Follow the student's IEP or Section 504 Plan.
- Collaborate with special education staff, related service providers, and families.
- Build upon student strengths and interests.
- Maintain high expectations while providing meaningful support.

★ Key Takeaway

Effective accommodations help students with ASD access instruction and demonstrate learning while preserving the same academic expectations. Consistency, visual supports, and an understanding of each student's individual strengths are key to student success.