

Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)

To the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities in the Newport News Public Schools, including those in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are educated with children who do not have a disability.

In this school division, special class placement, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only when the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

In providing or arranging for the provision of nonacademic and extracurricular services and activities, including meals, recess periods, and other services and activities provided for nondisabled children, the Division ensures that each child with a disability participates with children without disabilities in those services and activities, to the maximum extent appropriate to the needs of the child with a disability.

For children in public or private institutions, this school division will, when necessary, make arrangements with public and private institutions to ensure that requirements for least restrictive environment are met.

Newport News Public Schools provides a continuum of alternative placements which are available to meet the needs of children with disabilities requiring special education and related services. These services may be viewed on the Special Education Justification Form which provides documentation of LRE determination at time of IEP development by a properly composed IEP Team.

The time that a child receives special education services is calculated on the basis of special education services described in the Individualized Education Program, rather than the location of services. Available educational environments for all program categories include:

The full range of Level I services means the provision of special education and related services to children with disabilities for less than 50% of their instructional school day (excluding intermission for meals). Level II services means the provision of special education and related services to children with disabilities for 50% or more of the instructional school day (excluding intermission for meals).