

St. Laurence Catholic School FAQ concerning Accommodations

How can my child receive classroom accommodations?

To receive classroom accommodations, a student must have a diagnosed disability (formal evaluation including academic testing) and show an academic need in the classroom.

What do I do if my child has a diagnosed disability?

- 1) Contact the instructional coordinator to share the evaluation. The evaluation must include academic testing showing a student's strengths and weaknesses. The evaluation must be less than 3 years old.
- 2) Instructional coordinator will review the information and gather teacher input to determine if accommodations in the classroom are needed to make learning accessible to the student and allow them to demonstrate what they know.
- 3) If it is determined that there is a need, a Catholic Accommodations plan will be created by the Instructional Coordinator.

How is a Catholic Accommodations Plan (CAP) created?

The instructional coordinator follows these steps to create a CAP to meet the needs of your child:

- a. Recommendations from evaluation will be reviewed
- b. Teacher input will be gathered concerning student's needs in the classroom
- c. Plan will be created considering what the student needs to access learning in the classroom compared to his peers
- d. Decisions are made based on the child's unique individual need, not on what we do for all kids with this particular disability.
- e. A CAP (accommodations meeting) is held to discuss the student's strengths, challenges, and recommended accommodations.
- f. All of the student's teachers receive the CAP to implement.
- g. Accommodations will then be monitored throughout the school year. Data will be collected to add or remove any accommodations
- h. The CAP is effective for one year, but changes can be made any time a need arises that is backed by evidence.
- i. Accommodations are put in place to level the playing field, but are not put in place for the following reasons:
 - i. To help make school easier for the student
 - ii. To help the student make straight A's
 - iii. To not hold the student responsible

What do I do if I need to get teacher input for the evaluator or doctor?

Reach out to the instructional coordinator. They will have you sign a release of information and handle the paperwork to ensure that the teachers fill it out and that it is returned to the doctor in a timely manner.

How often do I need to have my child evaluated?

A child needs to have an evaluation completed every three years to continue to receive classroom accommodations.

What do I do if my child is still struggling even with accommodations?

If your child continues to not make progress, a meeting can be called to discuss options of different interventions and accommodations to try.

Can my child receive modifications in the classroom?

Children who have received accommodations in the classroom and who continue to be unsuccessful despite the accommodations and interventions tried can be referred to the SPICE committee and considered for the SPICE program. Only children who receive SPICE support receive modifications in the classroom. The goal is to challenge students to work on the same curriculum as their grade level peers to the maximum extent appropriate.

The evaluation says that my child needs extra time, why is my child not getting this accommodation?

An evaluator spends only a few hours with each child; therefore, recommendations from the evaluation are considered, but there must be evidence that the accommodation is currently needed in the classroom. The teacher sees the child every day, so the need for the accommodation must be present in the classroom. If the student is completing all his or her assignments and tests in the allotted time, including standardized test, then the accommodation is not needed. If something changes during the school year, and the student is unable to finish his or her work even though they are diligently working a change to the CAP can occur.