

What YOU Need To Do

Change is never easy, however, the transition from the early intervention system



Start early to prepare yourself for the next step in your journey

into your local school district can be a smooth one if you start early and are prepared. Begin talking to your service

coordinator when your child turns 2.

Here is where you can begin.

- Ask your service coordinator about transition. Ask what it means. Ask what happens.
- Make a request to start the transition process at least 9 months BEFORE your child's 3rd birthday.
- Ask what preschool programs are in your district.
- Talk to other families!
- Know or learn your rights.
- Don't be afraid to seek help and resources.

What Will Be Changing...

- Once your child leaves early intervention you will no longer have a service coordinator.
- The law that protects your rights changes from IDEA Part C (Early Intervention) to IDEA Part B (Special Education).
- An Individualized Education Program (IEP) will take the place of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).
- You are an important member of the IEP team that will decide the services your child needs to help him/her learn.



Create a system for storing and organizing your child's records.

Take Time To Think About YOUR Vision for Your Child

You are the expert on your child. Know that you have a voice creating your child's educational program. Share your hopes and dreams for your child with the IEP team; this vision should be a large part of the program the IEP team creates for your child. When thinking about what your child's program should include, focus on your child's individual needs.

Take your time and use your vision to help you create specific goals you would like to see your child work toward. Think about high quality early childhood settings that serve all children.



Write YOUR Vision. Take notes during meetings. Write down the questions you want to ask. Try to stay organized.

CONTACT

Kent and Sussex Counties

Child Development Watch

18 N. Walnut Street

Milford DE 19963

Phone (302) 424-7300

(800) 752-9393

FAX (302) 422-1363

New Castle County

Child Development Watch

2055 Limestone Road, Suite 201

Wilmington DE 19808

Phone (302) 995-8617

FAX (302) 995-8363

RESOURCES

In addition to your Child Development Watch Service Coordinator, there are many resources available to you to help you along the way:

- Delaware Department of Education
Exceptional Children and Early Childhood
302-735-4210
- Your Local School District Child Find Coordinator _____

- Parent Information Center of Delaware
www.picofdel.org
888-547-4412
- Wrights Law — IDEA 2004, NCLB, Special Education and Disability Law Information
www.wrightslaw.com
- The Family & Workplace Connection
www.familyandworkplace.com
800-660-6602
- National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities
<http://www.nichcy.org/>
(800) 695-0285
- The National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC)
<http://www.nectac.org/>
(919) 962-2001
- Other Families

NOTES:

What is my vision for my child?

What are my goals for my child?

What strengths and interests does my child have?

What else do I need to prepare myself and my child for transition?

Other questions and notes:

ATTENTION PARENTS



**It's Time
To
Transition**

*At Age 3, Things Change!
Start Getting Ready
Now!*