

Student Support Classroom

Philosophy of the Student Support Classroom

The Student Support Classroom(SSC) is designed to meet the varying needs of students served on an IEP. While the SSC can provide a quiet structured workplace for students, it's primary function is to provide specialized instruction and services as written in each student's IEP. The operating philosophy of our program can be summed up in the following quote.

“Give a man a fish; you have fed him for today. Teach a man to fish; and you have fed him for a lifetime.”

-Author unknown

Goals of the Student Support Classroom include:

1. Provide instruction and services as written in a student's IEP(basic academic skills, self-advocacy, career development, study skills, life success skills)
2. Provide career guidance and other related transition instruction and support
3. Provide support services to students(books on tape, use of technology, re-teaching and homework support, proctored testing)
4. Provide support to teachers (provision of student specific information, assistance modifying materials, in classroom support, problem solving support)

Instructional Methods

Instruction provided by the SSC is differentiated to meet the needs of all students and can take on many forms including:

1. **Full group instruction-** The teacher provides direct instruction to the entire group of students in the SSC. Most generally this instruction focuses on study skills, self-advocacy, and career development.
2. **Small group instruction-** Students may work in small groups for the purpose of direct instruction focusing on IEP goals. These groups may take place in the classroom or in an alternative location including community.
3. **Independent Study-** Students all work independently on activities related to IEP goals. Each student fills a plan that they complete during the period.

Curriculum

Curriculum in the SSC is very differentiated and depends on the needs of the individual students attending the Student Support Classroom. Depending on individual IEP goals, student can expect to receive instruction in basic reading, math or writing skills, school success skills, career development, work performance skills, social skills, and self advocacy. Parents or teachers are encouraged to come in and discuss specifics about what an individual student may be doing as there is a great deal of variation among individual students.

Classroom Climate

The Student Support Classroom is intended to be a safe, supportive learning environment. The classroom policies and rules are designed to support this mission. They are based on the rights and responsibilities of students as outlined in the student handbook of Newport High School. As a community of learners, students need to do their best, do what's right, and treat others the way they would like to be treated. Classroom rules are simple and center around these themes.

Class Rules

The classroom rules are based on the rights and responsibilities of students in the Student Support Classroom.

1. Do what's right.

People who do what's right feel "right" about the world and themselves most of the time. They don't constantly have to redo things or make amends. We all make mistakes and can rectify them though should try to avoid mistakes by doing what is right.

2. Do your best.

When you do your best You reap in kind rewards!

3. Treat other how you would like to be treated.

This is the Golden Rule and always pays off in relationships with others and in your own heart and mind.

General Classroom Policies

- Students may bring drinks to class but they **must** be closed top containers
- Student may have "finger" snacks in class. They are required to throw any trash away before leaving class.
- All food and drink is kept away from the computers.
- Students may leave the room during class one at a time and with a pass. (for lockers, bathrooms and the like.) Please sign out and back in on the clipboard.
- Students must have a pass to leave the room.
- Listening to music is permitted with headphones only when it DOES NOT interfere with the student's ability to learn and get their work done.
- Noise should be kept down to respect the learning of others. (Talk in a low voice, raise your hand to get a teacher's attention, and keep talk unrelated to school work a minimum)

Use of computers and other classroom technology

1. The primary function of the computers and other technology is to facilitate learning. Activities unrelated to learning (playing games, downloading music) are not allowed.
2. Computers may be used to access "educational" games only. Educational games may include word games, problem solving games, number games and the like. Classroom staff has the final decision as to whether a game is considered educational or not.
3. Please keep all food away from the computers.

