

Special Needs

Early intervention does make a difference.

Skilled educators and involved family members working together can enhance each child's potential for learning and development of skills.



East Whittier City School District

Whittier Area Cooperative
Special Education Program
(WACSEP)



WHITTIER AREA INFANT-FAMILY PROGRAM

LEFFINGWELL SCHOOL
10625 S. Santa Gertrudes Avenue
Whittier, California 90603

School: 562-907-6300
Program: 562-907-6358



WHITTIER AREA INFANT-FAMILY PROGRAM

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EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES



Leffingwell School
562-907-6300

Infant-Family Program
562-907-6358

INFANT-FAMILY PROGRAM

Young children with and without special needs are more alike than they are different. All children need to be cherished and respected. All children need opportunities to learn through exploring an environment rich in stimulating experiences, rich in carefully arranged play activities, rich in social responsiveness from peers and affectionate adults, and rich in recognition for their efforts as well as their achievements.



The more challenges a child may have, the more important it is that he or she has access to these opportunities.

Early intervention leads to the learning of more functional, adaptive behaviors and skills rather than maladaptive ones that tend to accumulate, compound, and take over when a child with special needs is left to learn on his own from the everyday environment.

Through early intervention services, parents and educators, together, can take advantage of the early critical periods of learning and begin to provide every child with the opportunity to live and grow in a nurturing environment.



Public School Program

The Whittier Area Infant-Family Program is a free, public school program, operated jointly by the East Whittier City School District and WACSEP. The program is designed to meet the needs of families with young children—birth through three years—who have significant developmental delays, or who are at risk for significant delays. Services are family centered, providing support and information in conjunction with providing facilitation of an individualized early intervention program. Year round services are available and may include intake and referral, assessment, consultation, and ongoing direct service.

Comprehensive Services

Services are provided by credentialed teachers with necessary support staff available for consultation and direct services. A combination of center based and home based services are available. The child's age, family priorities and concerns, along with ongoing team assessment determine the individual services, which may be provided in coordination with other agencies such as Regional Center, CCS, etc.



Individual programs and activities are designed to emphasize the major curriculum

areas of cognition, communication, emotional and social development, fine motor, gross motor, and self help. Each child participates in individual and group activities in order to meet individual needs and to enhance total development.

Family Participation

Our staff encourages active family participation in all aspects of their child's program. Family members are invited to take active roles in the center based component. Regular home visits provide the opportunity for teachers and care givers to develop appropriate in-home programs for their children and to privately discuss each child's development and other family concerns.

Early intervention does make a difference, and can do so more surely and more rapidly than later intervention.

Referrals for early intervention services can be made directly to the Whittier Area Infant-Family Program by calling (562) 907-6358.

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