

Who to turn to at your child's school

No matter your concerns, there are professionals at school to talk to. Not all schools have all of these professionals, so you may need to speak to more than one person depending on the topic. Typically, it's best to speak with the teacher first. Here's who to reach out to for different issues.

<p>Your child's teacher:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullying • Behavior • Homework, testing, and classroom support • Field trips (preventing meltdowns, preparing chaperones) • General classroom concerns and ongoing communication 	<p>School principal or vice-principal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullying • Class placement and setup • Discipline concerns, like detention or suspension • Teacher-related issues that couldn't be resolved by speaking to the teacher directly • School policies
<p>Guidance counselor or social worker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullying • Behavior • Social/emotional issues (coping skills, conflict resolution, crisis intervention) • Standardized testing accommodations • Graduation planning • Postsecondary and community resources 	<p>Your child's case manager:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues related to IEPs and 504 plans • Requesting meetings • Behavior support plans • Standardized testing accommodations
<p>School district curriculum coordinator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schoolwide testing and curriculum, state standards, standardized testing • Response to intervention (RTI) 	<p>School psychologist or behavioral specialist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behavior and behavior plans • Functional behavioral assessments (FBA) • Positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS) • Social/emotional issues (coping skills, conflict resolution, crisis intervention)
<p>Head of the study team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation requests 	<p>Afterschool program supervisor:*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision and transportation • Activities and accommodations • Social issues <p>*Note: You may need to find out who oversees the afterschool program. In some cases, it may be the parks and recreation department or an outside agency like the YMCA.</p>
<p>Athletic/activities director:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports team eligibility • Issues with coaches • Student-athlete codes of conduct 	