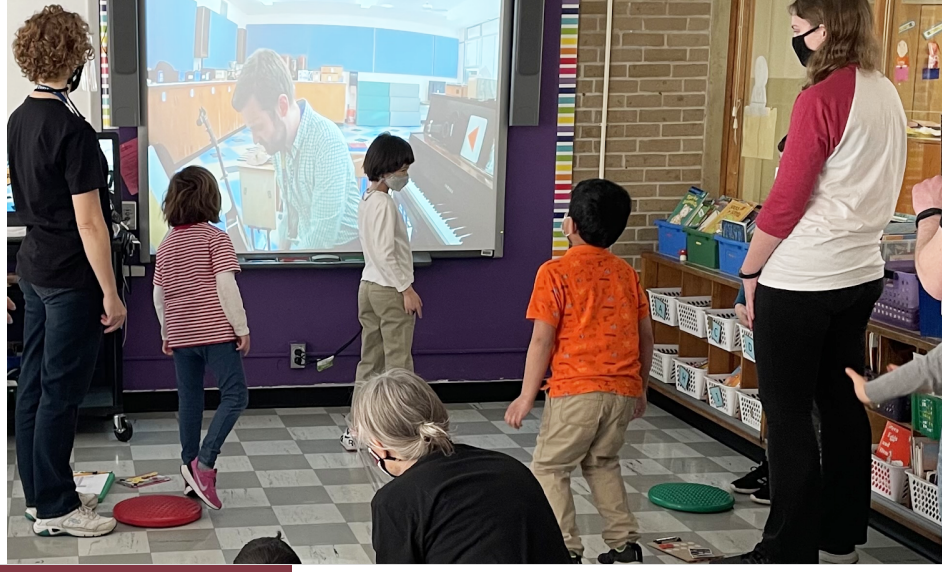
RISe Ridgewood Intensive Services



A Comprehensive PreK-12 Program

In the RISe program, students work on reading directions, identifying tools needed for each step, and following the steps as independently as possible. This student assembled an entire shelf in one period!

ABOUT THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The Ridgewood Public Schools recognizes its responsibilities to locate, identify and provide appropriate services for students in the district who may have special needs and/or disabilities. These special services are administered by the Special Programs Office and are consistent with both State and Federal regulations. Ridgewood's special programs include Basic Skills instruction, English as a Second Language Instruction and Special Education programs and related services.

What is RISe?

The Ridgewood Intensive Services (RISe) program is a highly structured, individualized educational program designed for students who demonstrate needs consistent with those on the autistic spectrum. The classroom is a highly structured, one-to-one and/or small group setting, which utilizes a comprehensive Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) approach to support acquisition, generalization, and maintenance of skills. Students receive positive behavioral support to foster a strong foundation for good classroom work habits and appropriate social behaviors. The program is supported by a District Behavior Coordinator and District Behaviorist Consultants.

Our Mission

The goal of Ridgewood Public Schools RISe program is to provide each student with the necessary academic, functional, and social skills in order to lead productive, successful, and happy lives.

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What are the goals of RISe?

The RISe program is designed to meet the **ACADEMIC**, **SOCIAL**, and **BEHAVIORAL** needs of our students in a highly structured and supported environment. Individualized and standardized assessments (VBMAPP and AFLS) are conducted regularly in order to develop appropriate and functional goals and objectives. Objective data are collected and analyzed regularly to ensure the delivery of quality instruction. Opportunities for supported inclusion experiences within our schools and community are available and tailored to meet each of our student's needs and preferences.

The RISe Approach

RISe is rooted in an Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) approach, a peer-reviewed and evidence-based best practice intervention, according to the Autism Program Quality Indicators and the American Psychological Association, that involves a systematic approach toward improving socially significant behaviors to a meaningful degree. Decades of research validate a number of ABA techniques used to teach across a variety of curriculum areas.

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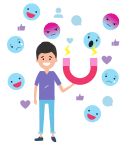
STUDENTS DEVELOP LIFE SKILLS

- Play Skills
- Leisure Skills
- Academic Skills
- Social-emotional Skills
- Self-help Skills
- Vocational Skills
- Home-living Skills
- Academic Skills
- Behavior Management
- Community Living Skills



RELATED SERVICES

Related services are provided as needed using a collaborative approach with classroom instruction and integration into the child's programming.

- Speech Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy

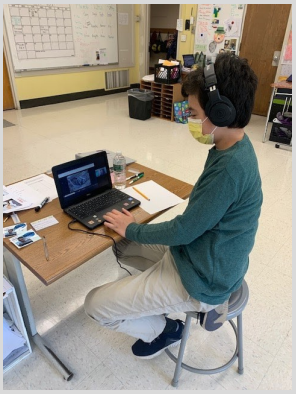
The Path to Independence from Pre-K through Grade 12

At the Pre-K Level

Our goal is to provide a fun and nurturing environment for our little ones where learning is stimulated. We focus on developing play and social skills utilizing games and group activities such as yoga, gym, and music classes. The preschool curriculum, combined with specialized instruction, is used to guide the development of foundational academic, functional communication, and social-emotional skills.

At the Elementary Level

As our students enter the elementary grade levels, the continuum of learning extends to the areas of executive functioning, fine & gross motor, and self-help skills. Research-based and district-wide curricula are used to guide the instruction across the core content areas and opportunities in lesser restrictive environments are available as appropriate.



At the Middle School Level

In the middle school years, students gain exposure to prevocational, personal relationship and life skills in addition to their continuum of learning in the academic and social realms. Standardized assessment outcomes, combined with state standards, are used to guide the development of functional goals for students as they enter the teenage years.

At the High School Level

Community-based instruction, vocational, and inclusion/transition planning and programming are components of a student's education to assist in bridging the learning between classroom and real-world environments. Opportunities for structured learning experiences (SLE) that can include job sampling and volunteer opportunities are offered within our school and community based on student strengths and preferences.

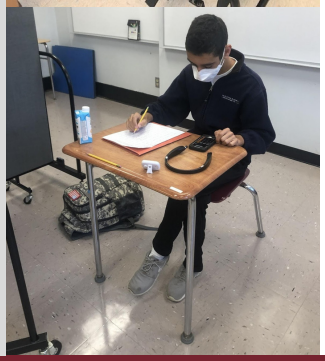
Family Support

Parent clinics are offered quarterly that involve collaboration with the classroom teacher and behavior consultant in order to provide opportunities for parent training, progress sharing through student program/data review, and direct observations.

Inside the RISe classroom

Our preschoolers gather for circle time each day filled with songs and dances! They learn about numbers, counting, weather, and calendar skills all while taking turns at classroom jobs which they love.

RISe students are working hard every day on functional academic skills. This student is learning how to collate paper into a binder.



Students learn to work independently. This student enjoys setting a timer and challenging himself to complete his independent work before the timer goes off. He is extremely focused. These are skills he practices regularly!

LEARNING SERVICES HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Additionally, Ridgewood's Learning Services Home & School Association (LSHSA) is dedicated to providing support, education, and information to families with children receiving special education through their network of caring parents and their relationship with the District Administration. To learn more, visit **www.LSHSAridgewood.org**

Contact Us

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