

Intervention Assistance Team (IAT)

The purpose of the IAT is to provide you and your child's teacher with additional intervention strategies to assist your child in being more successful in his/her classroom. At Our Lady of Grace, we believe that the intervention process is a very important part of helping our students overcome challenges and fulfill their potential.

Below is a list of commonly asked questions about the IAT process. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact your child's classroom teacher(s) or the school psychologist, Mrs. Whitney Walker (931-3070 or wwalker@olgcs.org).

What should I do if my child has a problem?

First you should talk with your child's teacher(s) and share your concerns. If they have the same concern, you can develop strategies or an intervention plan to see if this will help to bring about a change.

Either you or your child's teacher may also consult with another staff member or specialist (for example: Title I tutor, intervention specialist, speech and language therapist, school nurse, or school psychologist). This person may help both you and the teacher to formulate interventions as well as a way of measuring and monitoring any changes. You and the teacher will then gather information and data. If there is little change and the problem persists, you or the teacher may refer the child for support services (e.g., Title I reading or math intervention) or to the school's Intervention Assistance Team (IAT) may occur.

Who will be involved with the Intervention Assistance Team?

You and your child's classroom teacher(s) will always be members of the IAT. Additionally, in order to meet the needs of our students, OLG has a strong team of intervention staff to help guide the intervention process and develop strategies. The following staff members are at the school five days a week and may be involved in the IAT:

- Three Title I Tutors – Mrs. Katie Rawlinson (1st – 4th reading), Mrs. Stephanie Linemann (Kindergarten reading and 1st – 3rd math), and Mrs. Amy Hagedorn (4th – 8th math)
- Two Intervention Specialists – Ms. Briana Marsh (K – 4th) and Ms. Julie Ford (5th – 8th)
- School Psychologist – Mrs. Whitney Walker
- Speech and Language Pathologist – Mrs. Linda Shore

What does the Intervention Assistance Team (IAT) do?

The IAT will look at the information and data gathered. The team will work to formulate, implement, and monitor other or additional interventions to help the student to succeed. After a trial period the team will review student progress and decide to continue to implement the interventions, or if a disability is suspected, to refer the student for formalized testing (Multi-Factored Evaluation).

What is a Multi-Factored Evaluation (MFE)?

A Multi-Factored Evaluation is the process that determines if a student has a disability that is adversely impacting their educational performance and if they are eligible to receive special education services. This team process usually involves several teachers and specialists who evaluate the student's performance. The evaluation team then decides if the student's functioning meets the definition a disability according to the *Ohio Operating Standards for the Education of Children with Disabilities*.

What is an IEP?

An IEP is developed after the evaluation team determines that a student has a disability. It is a legal document under the Individuals with disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA) that specifies the special education services that the public school is required to provide to help the student gain access to the general curriculum. An Individual Service Plan is the non-public school document which outlines the special education services available in that school building. **Our Lady of Grace Catholic School utilizes the ISP or Individual Service Plan.**

What are special educational services?

Special educational services are individualized and vary depending on student need. They may include, but are not limited to, speech and language, additional interventions/strategies from the intervention specialist, occupational and physical therapy as well as specific help for medical and learning needs.

What if my child has a medical diagnosis or had a private evaluation?

If your child has had a private evaluation or a medical diagnosis and the problem that was identified is having a negative impact on their academic performance, a referral to the IAT team would be appropriate to determine if they are eligible for educational services as a student with a disability and if they may need an Individual Service Plan or a 504 plan.

What is a 504 plan?

A 504 plan is a legal document falling under the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 that is used in the public school system. It is designed to plan a program of instructional services to assist students with additional needs who are in a regular education setting. **Since Our Lady of Grace Catholic School is a non-public school, we utilize a Classroom Accommodation Checklist that is completed when a student has specific educational needs. This Checklist is NOT a legal 504 document. This is completed by the members of the IAT.**