

# PREPARING FOR

## an Individual Program Planning (IPP) meeting

Taking a few minutes to prepare before the IPP meeting can help you feel confident and ensure your voice is heard. You might want to jot down notes about your child's strengths, challenges, and daily experiences at home or after school. These insights provide valuable context for the school team. Remember, an IPP is a living document — it can and should be adjusted throughout the year. By sharing ongoing observations, ideas, concerns, and celebrations, you help strengthen the plan and support your child's success.



### Share Your Experiences

Sharing about your child's previous experiences in school could help teachers and other school professionals understand how your child is doing at home and school.

Your perspective provides valuable insight. Consider sharing:

- Your child's **strengths and past successes** in school
- **Challenges** they have faced with learning or emotions (e.g., anxiety, frustration, sadness)
- **Friendships and social experiences**, inside and outside of school

Understanding life outside of school helps teachers support your child more fully. You might share:

- Typical **after-school activities and interests**
- How homework and reading go at home
- **Health concerns, sleep routines**, or relevant **medical information**
- What **supports** your child is receiving outside of school

### Share Who They Are



Life events at home can impact learning and well-being at school. Sharing this helps the school provide appropriate support. Examples include:

- Family changes such as **separation, divorce, or moving between homes**
- **Illness, loss, or grief** in the family (including pets)
- **Financial stress, job loss, or housing changes**
- Other significant events that might affect your child's well-being



### Share Additional Context

Building strong relationships with your child's teachers and school team is key to supporting your child's learning. Your knowledge of your child - both their successes and areas for growth-is essential in helping to create an effective and meaningful plan. Keep in mind:

- An IPP is not just a document; it is a tool for supporting your child's learning and growth
- By sharing your insights, hopes, and priorities, you help ensure that the strategies and goals developed truly reflect your child's needs and potential
- Each team member's insight and expertise are valued - the most impactful plans are those developed through open communication and partnership

### Relationships Matter



Whenever possible, include your child in the IPP meeting. This helps them:

- Learn to advocate for their own learning needs
- See parents and teachers working together as a team
- Understand that their learning goals are created with them, not just for them



### Involving Your Child