

What can you expect when you call for a screening:

- Marc will ask you questions about your child's abilities, health and other experiences. He will also get your contact information and schedule an appointment for a screening.
- Marc will then mail you a letter confirming your appointment date and time. He will also provide you with a questionnaire to fill out to bring to the screening appointment.
- You will be provided with information about the Sparkler system to provide additional information about your child's development. This is required for the screening.

What happens at a screening appointment?

- You will bring your child to Grace Lutheran Preschool at 1055 Randolph Road in Middletown, CT.
- You and your child will attend a playgroup from 10-11am with other children and their parent/guardian.
- During the playgroup, Board of Education staff will interact with you and your child to gather more information.
- A formal communication screening will be conducted as needed directly after playgroup. This will take no more than an additional 30 minutes.
- At the end of the screening, you will be informed about the next steps regarding your concerns for your child.

Possible next steps:

- Children develop at different rates, and it is possible that your child simply needs more time to grow. Therefore, nothing further is needed.
- Other times the team may feel that more monitoring or observations are necessary. If this is the case, the team will arrange for additional visits with your child in their classroom or at Snow School.
 - A member of the team will follow up with you after these additional visits. They may provide you and your child's teacher with strategies, suggest an additional screening in the future, or recommend a referral to special education.
- Another possibility is that the team would like to do further evaluations. If this is the case, they will make a formal referral for Special Education, and a date will be set for a Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meeting.

What happens at a PPT:

- At the screening, you will be given an invitation to the meeting, a copy of the referral, a notice of referral, Procedural Safeguards, your parent rights, and information about the PPT process.
- Later that day you will receive an email with a calendar invitation and zoom link. Parents can also choose to have the meeting in person.
- The PPT will be a short meeting with the Preschool team, and your child's preschool teacher if applicable, to formally discuss planning an evaluation.
- After the meeting you will receive an email with paperwork that is discussed at the meeting.
- Evaluations are held in person, either at your child's preschool, or by appointment at Snow School.
- Another meeting will be scheduled 4-6 weeks later to discuss the evaluation results and determine if your child is eligible for special education services.
- Special education services are any additional supports your child may need to be successful in their education environment. Speech therapy is a special education service.
- A referral to special education and being eligible for special education services do not guarantee preschool enrollment. If you would like assistance with enrolling your child in a preschool program, please contact Dawn Dubay: dubayd@mpsct.org