

# Did you know?

## THE INTERVENTION PLAN: A QUESTION OF TRUST



The relationship between parents and school support services influences a student's schooling, regardless of the student's level of difficulty.

When a child has special needs, several things can be a source of frustration. They may feel:

- helpless when it comes to making a difference in their child's school life
- fearful as a result of previous negative experiences at school
- easily judged and isolated
- at fault
- worried

Once it has been determined that a student has special needs, the school team will implement an intervention plan in consultation with the student's parents. This plan, managed by the school, brings together all the objectives, means, services and resources to be put in place to help the child meet their challenges and reach their full potential. In addition to the teacher, there are school staff members who coordinate the educational interventions and other interventions for the child's benefit. The school's management and the special education coordinator are responsible for implementing the plan in the classroom and in the school.

However, some parents may feel a sense of inferiority toward school personnel or other parents. Parents are often unaware of their rights in the school environment. They also sometimes feel that their views are not sufficiently taken into account.



You can influence the outcomes when you are invited to a meeting:

- Whatever your child's level of difficulty, as parents you are the first "experts" on their education.
- Don't make snap judgements; listen to what the school team has to tell you about your child.
- Ask questions and express your point of view while remaining open to suggestions.
- Keep your child's best interests in mind.
- Participate in decision-making and help find solutions (supportive attitude, follow-up at home, etc.).
- Ask for clarification and examples of classroom situations.
- Inform the school team of the steps that have already been taken.
- Request a copy of the intervention plan.





***Above all, know that the school team has asked you to be there to help your child, not to judge you as parents.***

Here are some tips to help your child:

- Love and accept your child regardless of the challenges they face. He or she will always be your child.
- Believe in their abilities.
- Let your child make decisions and bear the consequences of their choices.
- Be consistent (do what you say).
- Check that your child has understood what you have asked of them.
- Give firm instructions. The clearer it is in your head, the clearer it will be in your child's head.
- Encourage obedience instead of punishing disobedience.
- Use "I" when speaking to your child.
- Accept your spouse and your differences; do not believe you can do better. Focus on complementarity rather than opposition.
- If your child's intervention plan has behavioural goals, tell them that it is the behaviour that is not acceptable, not them as a person.
- Remember: Children imitate their parents!
- Be patient with yourself and your child throughout the entire process.
- Finally, celebrate successes, big and small, instead of focusing on the challenges. This will positively encourage their growth.

***Remember that, at all times, you play an important role!***

**I'M INVOLVED!**

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