Continuity of Education Plan

School District: Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech (Clarke Philadelphia)

Superintendent: (Director) Judy Sexton M.S., CED LSLS Cert AVEd

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Goal of Plan:
Replicate Clarke Philadelphia’s five-day-a-week Preschool Program remotely via a HIPPA compliant ZOOM platform while implementing a theme-based curriculum following Pennsylvania’s Learning Standards for Early Childhood that teach content and concepts across a range of subject matter. In addition, address individualized auditory, speech and language goals led by teachers of the deaf and speech-language pathologists (SLP) with the skill sets and knowledge of listening and spoken language (LSL).

Overview of Plan:
To ensure continuity of service and equity of instruction, the virtual class meets daily from 9:00 am -1:30 pm. Learners and their families join the teacher(s) in live video sessions during regularly scheduled class times. Outside of these sessions, families have the continued ability to message or meet with the teacher or SLP directly and to continue individual speech sessions daily with their SLP. The classes during the designated time create opportunities for real-time activities, engaging projects and interaction with classmates and Clarke staff. The virtual class schedule is posted on our private blog. We also post about materials or toys families can prepare for their child’s virtual experience.

Expectations for Teaching and Learning:
• The curriculum follows the Pennsylvanian Early Learning Standards using the Work Sampling System to measure progress in the seven domains of learning while simultaneously addressing the individual listening and spoken language skill development of each child.
• Data collected from standardized assessments administered in the fall with regards to specific auditory, speech and language skills are being used as a baseline to track rate of progress.
• The program nurtures the social, emotional, physical, cognitive and creative development in deaf and hard-of-hearing children between the ages of three and six with the ultimate goal for all children enrolled in the program to be mainstreamed comfortably into their typical private or public community programs prior to or at kindergarten.
• Our virtual classroom model will maintain the state mandated ratio of no more than 8 students per one teacher. Developmentally appropriate curriculum-based activities and daily one-on-one remote sessions for
individualized auditory, speech and language therapy, the children are equipped with the listening, language and speaking skills necessary to enter a school in their neighborhood as early as kindergarten.

• The Clarke Philadelphia virtual learning platform will continue to provide a learning environment that encourages the children’s self-confidence and development, and ultimately prepares each child for transition into mainstream schools with their hearing peers with the pre-literacy/phonological skills on par with their hearing peers.

• Auditory speech and language therapy is scheduled daily for 30 minutes per child.

• Clarke provides families with ongoing support in the form of workshops, support groups and educational consulting remotely.

Communication Tools and Strategies: Clarke Philadelphia uses Listening and Spoken Language Approaches and Practice
The Listening and Spoken Language model means that staff members have similar knowledge and skills and work on behalf of the child and family. Their interaction with families and children in virtual/remote settings includes:

• working in individual or group/classroom settings.

• working one-to-one in all intervention sessions including speech-language pathology sessions or sessions with the classroom teacher of the deaf.

• following developmental models of audition, speech, language, cognition and communication.

• using evidence-based practices.

• striving for excellent outcomes in listening, spoken language, literacy and independence for children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Access (Devices, Platforms, Handouts):

• HIPPA compliant Zoom platform for classroom and one-to-one speech therapy sessions daily

• Students are utilizing their own hearing technology including cochlear implants, hearing aids, mini mics, etc.

• Packets/handouts are emailed to families weekly to compliment the language and vocabulary of the themed curriculum of the week allowing children the ability to increase their skill set in all seven domains of learning.

• Selected videos are used for music activities weekly.

• Use of HIPPA Compliant Zoom invitations to guest speakers such as a “puppy cam” for a dog breeder during pet week, “Tuesday with Teddy” reading of a book by an alumni, etc.

• Theme boxes of materials mailed to each family for spring theme and insect and bug themes.

• Resources regarding COVID-19, child development and community resources emailed weekly to families.

• Parent meetings on topics such as mental health provided by a school psychologist, hearing technology provided by the school audiologist, etc. All meetings are presented via a HIPPA complaint platform.

• Clarke staff works with individual families in an effort to ensure they have accessibility in some form to the virtual classroom lessons.

Staff General Expectations:

• All professional staff follow the children’s IEP goals and objectives
• Preparation of and posting online of the weekly lesson plans that include the performance indicators from the Work Sampling System as an authentic assessment of the seven domains of learning reflecting the early learning standards for each lesson
• Teachers team teach classes virtually following our typical preschool curriculum schedule
• Daily lessons are recorded so teachers can go back to collect data to support progress monitoring
• Teachers of the deaf provide instruction following a theme-based curriculum based on the Pennsylvania State Standards
• Speech therapists plan weekly for daily, 30-minute lessons for each child on their caseload that reflect the individual auditory, speech and language goals using the theme of the week as the platform
• Audiologist participates in virtual class once a week as well as provides availability of parent contact and a parent afternoon session to support technology use, troubleshooting, and general guidance. In addition, the Audiology Team continues to monitor audiological reports to ensure that they are up to date in reaching out to families
• Teacher aides assist in the virtual class, participate in trainings and assist the team in any remote paperwork necessary to implement the class
• Attendance is taken daily by the teacher of the deaf and by the SLP
• All staff support children who are deaf or hard of hearing to develop spoken language and literacy through listening
• All staff focus on education, guidance, advocacy, family support, and the rigorous application of techniques, strategies, and procedures that promote optimal acquisition of spoken language through listening by newborns, infants, toddlers, and children who are deaf or hard of hearing
• All staff guide caregivers in helping their children develop intelligible spoken language through listening, and coach them in advocating their children’s inclusion in the mainstream school
• Ultimately, caregivers gain confidence that their children will have access to the full range of educational, social, and vocational choices in life.

Student Expectations:
• Participate actively with their family in daily virtual classes
• Participate actively daily with their family in speech sessions

Attendance/Accountability:
• Students are expected to participate daily according to the school schedule of 180 days for the school year
• Attendance is taken daily
• Staff follow up with families to investigate reasons which may be prohibiting them from participating
• Staff work closely with families to assist them with resources to ensure availability of services

Good Faith Efforts for Access and Equity for All Students:
• All families receive weekly letters from administration providing the link to the Zoom platform
• Teacher and SLP’s follow up with families weekly
• Resources are provided to families to ensure accessibility
• If a family is not able to participate in a few classes, the staff member reaches out and can provide a one-to-one session, email lessons or follow up with administration for other reasons unique to a family
• Our intent is to ensure that no family or child is left behind
• Investigate possibilities for interpreters for families who do not speak English

Special Education Supports:
Clarke Philadelphia’s Preschool Program uses a theme-based curriculum based on Pennsylvania’s Learning Standards for Early Childhood that teaches content and concepts across a range of subject matter; in addition, individualized auditory, speech and language goals are addressed by teachers of the deaf and speech-language pathologists with the skill set and knowledge of listening and spoken language (LSL).

Building/Grade Level Contacts:
Director: Judy Sexton M.S. CED LSLS Cert AVED
Education Support Specialist: Sherri J. Fickenscher, M.S., LSLS Cert. AVEd
Speech Supervisor: Lindsay Petersen, M.A. CCC-SLP/L
Educational Audiologist: Dr. Rebecca Huzzy, AuD, CCC-A

Resource Links:
Information for Educators
New Guidance from the Department of Education (3/22/20)
https://cec.informz.net/informzdataservice/onlineversion/ind/bWFpbGluc29mdW5jZm9yZmVyZW5kZWZzZWFyZ2hlY2t6b2d2aXJhZnVuY3RlZmZlZWRkZGJvZ3RhbmlNlaWQOTIxNTc3OCZzdWJzaWQ9OTIxNTc3ODg2MQ==
COVID 19 Information and Resources for Schools and School Personnel
US Dept of Education
https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus
US Dept of Education Releases Webinar, Fact Sheet for Protecting Students’ Civil Rights During COVID-19 Response
The two resources below from the National Deaf Center are geared to higher ed, but they may contain some helpful information for those providing online classes to older students:
• Five Tips for Disability Service Professionals to Provide Accessibility in Online Classes
https://mailchi.mp/nationaldeafcenter/5-tips-for-disability-service-during-covid19?e=ea9cc0e648
• Your Questions, Answered
https://mailchi.mp/nationaldeafcenter/your-questions-answered-live-captioninginterpreters-online-captioned-media-vendors?e=ea9cc0e648
Free Memberships Available During COVID-19 Crisis:
Free Membership with CEC (Use promotional code: CECE60) Free CEC Webinar Recording: Teaching Online During COVID-19
Learning/Activity Resources:
ASL eBooks and Resources for Deaf Kids
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rgAG1vqyU1RAIoZOXsvdyPkoY4gPN51jOFTq
Scranton School for the Deaf list of activities for children:
https://www.facebook.com/thescrantonschool/photos/a.160339083976489/3139408829402818/?type=3&theater
San Diego Zoo: https://kids.sandiegozoo.org/
PBS Kids: https://pbskids.org/
ABC Mouse: https://www.abcmouse.com/ (code: SCHOOL 7771)
Coolmath Games: https://www.coolmathgames.com/
Adventure Academy: https://www.adventureacademy.com/
Swithceroo Zoo: www.switcheroozoo.com
National Geographic for Kids: www.kids.nationalgeographic.com
Into the Book: www.reading.ecb.org
Suessville: www.seussville.com
ABCYA: www.abcyaa.com
Fun Brain: www.funbrain.com
Star Fall: www.starfall.com
Highlights Kids: www.highlightskids.com
UK Math Work site: https://corbettmaths.com/contents/

Math:
Play.prodigygame.com
www.khanacademy.org

Science
Mysterydoug.com
Reading
www.squigglepark.com
www.storylineonline.net/

Social Studies
www.historyforkids.net
https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home
https://www.kennedy-center.org/education/mo-willems/
https://fluencyandfitness.com/
https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html
https://www.studyisland.com/ (code: Edmentumsupport2020)

Facebook events:
Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden - weekdays at 3pm highlight one of their animals
Atlantic White Shark Conservancy - shark story time @ 10 am

Instagram:
@petethecatofficial - live virtual storytime at noon

Companies offering free memberships:
ALBERT
Backpack Services
2Simple
Boardmaker
Book Creator App
Brain Pop
Buncee
Century
CheckMath
Classroom Secrets
Class Hook
EdConnect
EdPuzzle
Education Perfect
Epic!
Explain Everything
Fiveable
Flipgrid
Freckle
Free Math
Gamilab
Good2Learn
Google For Edu
Gynzy
HippoCampus
Ideas Roadshow
IDEA
Kids Discover Online
Minecraft: Education Edition
MobyMax
NearPad
Outschool
Schoology
Seesaw
Scholastic
Sight Reading Suite
SmartMusic
Storyboard
TechSmith
Typing Club
Vroom App
We Video
Zoom