

Monarch Autism Virtual Program

Online program of Monarch School for students with Autism that offers comparable academic and related service minutes to a student's IEP or ISP

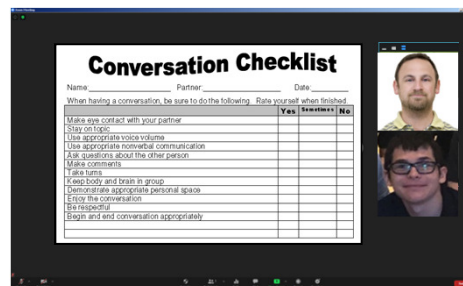
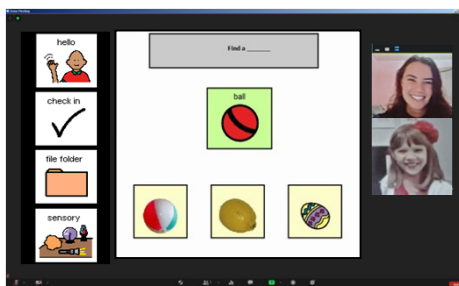


Our Story

In March 2020 when the Governor of Ohio mandated the closing of all schools in the state due to COVID-19, Monarch quickly shifted to an online academic and therapeutic service delivery model for more than 100 of our community students with autism. Thanks to new distance learning technology platforms, programs, training, procedures, and personnel, we effectively supported our students and their families and gained a new appreciation for the online delivery model. From the hardship of the pandemic arose Monarch Autism Virtual Program, which benefits students with autism who prefer to learn outside of the traditional classroom environment.

Students

- Ages 5 through 21 years
- Confirmed diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Enrollment is intentionally limited



Staff

- Monarch's professional team includes an Academic Supervisor, Coordinator of Distance Learning, Intervention Specialist, Speech Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Behavior Specialist, and Associate Teacher.
- Daily collaboration and ongoing training/coaching with the student's Parent/Caregiver/Tutor are integral to the success of the program.

Monarch Model

- All academic and therapeutic instruction is grounded in Monarch's visual language immersion teaching Model, which combines visual supports, technology and Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA).
- Developed through an ongoing partnership with Dr. Howard Shane at Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital, the Model leverages the strong visual processing abilities of individuals with autism and supports communication, comprehension, language development, social skills, behavior support, sensory intervention, and academic achievement.

Academic & Related Services

- Therapeutic instruction includes academics, speech language pathology, occupational therapy, and behavior support.
- Students receive a combination of synchronous (real-time interaction) and asynchronous (online content) lessons including Zoom sessions, web-based activities, hands-on and digital materials, supplemental art, music and recreational therapy classes, as well as prevocational training, virtual field trips, social skills groups, caregiver coaching/consultation, and more.
- Each student's day is programmed from 8:30am to 3:00pm with a combination of synchronous and asynchronous lessons, organized in 30-minute increments.
- Daily schedules with corresponding Zoom links are provided
- Students who reside outside of the state of Ohio will have Individualized Service Plans (ISPs).

Assessments

- Upon acceptance into Monarch Autism Virtual Program, licensed staff will conduct virtual assessments of students in key areas including but not limited to academics, speech and communication, occupational therapy, and behavior support (if needed).
- Assessment results will help inform individualized instruction.

Data Collection

- Data, which also helps drive individualized instruction, measures performance through parameters of independence, accuracy, participation, and behavior. Data is tracked through performance assessments, observational records, and anecdotal reports from staff, parents/caregivers and/or tutors.

Instructional Resources

Each student enrolled in Monarch Autism Virtual Program will receive packages of instructional and therapeutic materials which may include:

- Laptop (for instruction)
- iPad with case and mount (for reinforcement and observation)
- Headphones (for caregiver coaching)
- Student-specific Apps and online, interactive, instructional resources in the areas of communication, academics, sensory, fine motor, typing, reinforcement, behavior, leisure, and more
- Classroom organization platform
- Tools to support sensory, instruction, organization, communication, and behavior needs
- Materials and manipulatives updated based on student's interests and aptitude (both online and hard copy)
- Individualized visual supports organized by Instruction, Expression and Organization

Parent/Caregiver/Tutor Resources

- Real-time coaching
- Student-specific trainings
- Autism webinars
- Team meetings



Sample Schedule

Below is a sample schedule. Times and activities may vary depending on the student's interests, aptitude and availability.

Time	Sessions	Time	Sessions
8:30	Morning Meeting	12pm	Gross Motor
9am	Speech/Language 1-on-1	12:30	Occupational Therapy
9:30	Academics	1pm	Academics
10am	Google Classroom / VizZle	1:30	Google Classroom / VizZle
10:30	Music / Art Therapy	2pm	Afternoon Group
11am	Speech/Language Group	2:30	Art / Music Therapy
11:30	Lunch	Sessions occur in 30 min increments	

Application Process

- Please contact Director, Debra Mandell at 216-320-8945 or mandell@bellefairejcb.org to request a copy of Monarch Autism Virtual Program's Student Application, which should be submitted with the child's most recent IEP, ISP, ETR, Behavior Plan, and/or Progress Report.
- Members of the Treatment/Admissions Team will review the child's Application and documentation, and if they feel the student would benefit from the Virtual Autism Program, they will contact the family to schedule several Zooms – one with the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) and another with the child.
- All parties will discuss whether a placement is appropriate for the child.
- If the placement is approved, a start date will be determined, followed by an Initial Remote Learning Plan, Assessments, and the development of an IEP or ISP.