

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



Parent Testimonials

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

.....



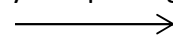
Testimonial from the Parents of a Monarch Middle School Student:



“Our son, Max (age 15), has been participating in Monarch’s virtual school for the past school year. My husband and I would highly recommend this program. Aside from being nonverbal and on the autism spectrum, Max has several other health issues which prompted us to select 100% virtual school. Max participates in independent or small group, virtual classroom Zoom sessions with his teachers and therapists about 6 times throughout each school day.

Along with his academics, Max has occupational therapy, speech therapy, art, music, and gross motor time throughout the week. Due to Max’s ability level and attention issues, I sit with him during his 6 daily Zoom sessions. I help the staff provide support, prompting, sensory input activities, and behavior management. The staff directs and implements all of Max’s virtual lessons. I am there to assist as needed, and the staff encourages my input, suggestions and feedback on his progress. I feel it has really turned out to be a great collaboration! In the small group Zoom classes, there are students who require varying levels of support. Some of Max’s classmates participate with complete independence.

Throughout the year, Max’s teachers, assistants and therapists have worked diligently to provide Max with a quality and successful school program that really caters to his individual needs and interests. These Zoom lessons are presented in a variety of ways from teacher-led lessons on the computer, hands-on activities (e.g., cooking, cleaning, measuring), to social skills groups with peers. We have a set daily schedule, which also includes individual assignments and practice tasks that support his IEP goals and objectives. These assignments are posted in Google Classroom and can be completed independently throughout the school day or as homework. It really provides some flexibility and the ability to do tasks and practice assignments as many times as you want. The activities and lessons that Max’s teachers and therapists have planned for Max really keep his attention by tapping into his interests, as well as working with his strengths and encouraging growth. For example, Max really enjoys going to the library and putting



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

.....



Testimonial from the Parents of a Monarch Middle School Student (Continued):

books and DVDs in order. In Max's speech sessions, he is asked to answer questions, sort and describe pictures of his favorite characters, books and DVDs. He also puts images of his favorite DVDs and books in alphabetical order on a shelf in a library scene designed by his therapist. The staff does a great job of breaking down the curriculum into familiar, smaller tasks in order to maximize Max's attention, confidence and success. Max's teacher develops creative materials and implements lessons that really encourage Max to be engaged and actively learn. The team is so supportive providing materials, supplemental worksheets, manipulatives, task instruction visuals, and ideas to try at home. We cannot say enough about the dedication and caring the staff have shown Max. It is very apparent that careful planning and thought go into each lesson . Max has made such wonderful progress this year, and it has been an amazing opportunity for me as a parent, to witness him learn and achieve mastery of so many skills. Although he had been making great, consistent progress in years past attending Monarch School, I feel the virtual classroom with parent support has been a great alternative. Although in-person learning may be ideal for some students, the Monarch staff have gone above and beyond to encourage each child to succeed and flourish in the virtual classroom. Having Max at home, learning virtually, has given us (his parents) valuable insights as well as the opportunity to be more directly involved in his education. We appreciate everything."

- Kristi and Rob Fisher

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



Testimonial from the Parents of a Monarch Lower School Student:

"When virtual learning was first established due to the outbreak, my husband and I immediately observed the numerous hours of dedication by our son's educational support team at Monarch.

We couldn't have asked for a better team leader than Mrs. Heidi Pitlor, and each team member we engage online has formed a special bond with Rhema and is dedicated to tailoring the curriculum to motivate Rhema based on his personal interests. As parents, we've had to step up in our roles and be flexible with our time, so that Rhema and the team are supported, but it has really paid off!

The dynamic of working on screen is no longer futuristic but very present, and we have supported Rhema in making the transition, which has gone over so well. Each team member has been working with Rhema on a consistent basis and providing support to where he looks forward to presenting his progress from the hard work he has put in.

I am extremely proud of my husband in how he has been working through the curriculum we get in the mail. The 1-on-1 time we've spent with our son completing tasks and celebrating those accomplishments have contributed to Rhema's win!

I actually prefer virtual and remote learning over in-class learning for Rhema because he can get distracted easily with others physically present, and we've been able to minimize his distractions and challenges. He occasionally misses his friends, which is why it is such a treat when he gets to visit for evaluations and testing. He even gets to have screen time with his bestie and his lead instructor, which he gets ecstatic about, and this has really helped keep him motivated throughout the week!

We've been able to learn so much more about the way our son learns which has helped us as a family all across the board. We all feel supported, and our team at Monarch goes above and beyond to show how much they care about the details of what is important to our son, and that makes the world of difference!

I would recommend Monarch's virtual learning program because of the exceptional quality of educators, the high level of dedication, and the compassion they have for our kids! They all get an A+ in my book!"

- Robert and Rosetta Daniels

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



Testimonial from the Parent of a Monarch High School Student

"Our daughter has been receiving online learning since March 2020. Although you may think this virtual style might miss the mark, it actually has enhanced many of her skills. Virtual learning, through Monarch, is structured, interactive, student tailored and most of all, focused on growth and goals.



Many strides that we've seen over this past year have been in areas possibly overlooked had this type of learning not been in place. Advances in computer skills, social awareness and behavior management, have all been pleasant outcomes of this now welcome learning alternative. "

- Laura Gee

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

.....



Testimonial from the Parent of a Monarch Lower School Student

“Here is what I have to say about Natalie's virtual learning. I think it is very helpful and beneficial to Natalie because her teachers and everyone who works with her do everything to make her comfortable with learning online. They send her supplies and activities in the mail to go with all her lessons/sessions. Natalie always looks forward to when her next session is, and she always looks forward to seeing everyone including her friends during the group sessions! I really like how everything is catered to Natalie's needs and wants. She is able to choose the order in which she wants to do her lessons by each point that is covered for each session.

I also like how I am able to help Natalie if she needs it. If her teachers do not understand something Natalie is trying to say, I am able to step in and help out with the words she is trying to say with or without her talker device. I just really like how Natalie took to the virtual learning so quickly and it was easy for her to learn how the Zoom app worked with all of its features.

I like how all of her lessons have an activity that goes with each session, like incorporating a Disney princess into a math lesson or speech lesson, for example. During the mini breaks between points in the lessons, there are activities where she can make pictures with the princesses and make her own stories with them as well.

I am very happy that the virtual learning is available for Natalie.”

- Jennifer Profant

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

.....



Testimonial from the Parents of a Monarch High School Student

“When Governor DeWine closed all schools temporarily due to the Coronavirus epidemic, Monarch School launched its distance learning program – an impressive feat considering the number of individual needs that had to be addressed and coordinated. We were impressed with the school’s flexibility in meeting individual students where they were. Like Monarch, we made changes at home that have proven essential. There is one place in our house, the dining room table, where school takes place. The school day starts and finishes at the same time [everyday]. We have made one concession: a school shirt above the waist and lounge pants below.

Before we discovered Monarch, our son attended a virtual school for several years – so we are familiar with some of the downsides of an all-virtual experience. Monarch addressed those downsides through regular faculty engagement and program adjustments to the virtual world. We have regular contact with our son’s teachers about maintaining an appropriate level of engagement while ‘virtual.’ The difficulties we encountered at the other school did not exist with Monarch’s virtual program. To be fair, part of that is Monarch’s implementation of technology that did not exist a couple of years ago. One of the bonuses of a virtual school day is teaching students how to navigate the online world successfully, a critical skill based on how communication is evolving.”

- Parents of Monarch High School Student