

ASD Nest Program School-to-School Articulation Planning Overview

This document is an overview of the articulation planning guidelines for the ASD Nest Program. It summarizes the steps of the articulation process from a Sending (e.g., elementary) to Receiving (e.g., middle school) School. NYU ASD Nest Program Support Staff provide consultation services, as needed. The timeline and steps in this document are offered as general guidelines, each school can make adjustments as needed.

October - November

- 1. Families Visit and Apply to Receiving School:** Through same articulation process used by other students.

January- February

- 2. Sending School Articulation Team Visits Receiving School:** To start the articulation process, the Sending school's principal designates a point person (i.e., coach cluster or Nest liaison) to set up a date for the Sending School articulation team¹ to visit the receiving school.

Visit focus:

- School tour & classroom observations
- Brown bag with the receiving articulation team²
 - Daily routine/student expectations
 - Academic/instructional programs
 - IEP collaboration (discussing related services, bussing related issues, content areas etc.)
 - Q&A
- Gather visuals (e.g., pictures of the classroom without the students) and of the staff

- 3. Sending School Articulation Team Develops Individual Articulation Plans:** The Sending School articulation team meets to discuss all articulating students and develops plans based on each student's current level of functioning. The level of support each child needs will vary depending on his/her individual needs.

Main focus:

- Build independence
 - Increase focus on self-monitoring strategies, independent use of relaxation/coping skills
 - Decrease level of adult presence/dependence with daily routines
- Academic/Social/Behavior/Self-Regulation
 - Current level, strengths and supports needed

February - April

- 4. Prime Students for Articulation:** Based on the information they gathered at the Receiving School, the Sending School articulation team begins to prime their articulating students and works with the Receiving School articulation team to set up priming activities. Priming process continues until the students' articulation to the receiving school is complete.

Possible priming activities may include:

- Q & A session with students (about articulation process), reviewing video/visuals of visit to receiving school
- Pen Pals w/ Receiving School students
- Receiving School student ambassadors visit sending school (presentation, Q&A session)

¹ *Sending school articulation team: Coach-cluster (if applicable), student's current teachers, related service providers, guidance counselor/social worker, and administration.*

² *Receiving school articulation team: Coach-cluster (if applicable), receiving grade teachers, related service providers, guidance counselor/social worker, and administration.*

March

5. **Parents Review Related Services (for Middle School articulation):** The transition into Middle School is a good time for parents to review their child's individual mandates. Middle School Nest students receive:
 - SDI as a speech mandate three times per week, in a group of five.
 - OT twice per week, in a group of three, in-class. OTs facilitate classroom adaptations, help students with organization strategies, and provide individual supports for children who need them.

6. **ASD Nest Parent Articulation Meeting (at the Sending School):** The purpose of this meeting is to inform ASD Nest parents about the articulation process, and to build the home-school connection. The Social Worker/Guidance Counselor will set up and facilitate the meeting. Members of the Sending School articulation team take an active role at the meeting.

Meeting focus:

- Summary of the articulation process

April-May

7. **Receiving School Articulation team visits the Sending School:** The point person of the Receiving School sets up a date for their articulation team to visit the Sending School.

Visit focus:

- School tour & classroom observations
- Observe an SDI session
- Brown bag with the sending school articulation team
 - Sending School articulation team presents a preliminary articulation package for each student, and Q&A

June

8. **Students visit the Receiving School:** The articulating students visit the Receiving School.

Possible activities may include:

- Tour of the School (w/ student ambassadors)
- Ice breaker activities (e.g., small group activities, participating in SDI)

9. **Nest Parent Receiving School Open house:** This event may take place toward the end of the school year, after acceptances are received. *Dates/details will be determined by the Receiving School.*

10. **Articulation Packages sent to the Receiving School Articulation team:** The Sending School articulation team finalizes the articulation packages and sends them to the Receiving School articulation team along with student IEPs.

August -September

11. **Student/Parent orientations:** These events may take place right before or shortly after the start of the school year. *Dates/details will be determined by the Receiving School.*

12. **Follow up/Compare Notes:** The purpose of this meeting is for the Receiving School articulation team to raise any questions/concerns they may have, or to seek advice, regarding individual students. This meeting can be set up as a conference call or an online meeting.