

Autism in High School

Not Attending Classes Checklist

1. Warning Signs

Questions to ask if school refusal is becoming a concern

- What alternatives can be put in place if attending school daily becomes too overwhelming?
- Is there a school social worker?
 - If so, what role does he/she play?
 - How do we access the school social worker?
- Is there a mental health nurse?
 - If so, how do we set up an appointment with him/her?
 - How do we access the mental health nurse?
- What is the role of the “monitor teacher”?
- What is the role of the attendance counsellor?
- During the school day, where can students go when they are too anxious or overwhelmed to attend class?
- What school staff can help when students are feeling too anxious or overwhelmed to go to class? What is the process for connecting with this person?
- What is school’s role in helping the student get back to school after missing several classes?
- What is the school’s role in helping parents get their student to school?
- How can parents speak with other parents whose student with ASD is not attending high school?
- What are other supports at the school board that parents and students can access?
- Which community agencies will accompany a parent to a school meeting?
- What community agencies can help us look for community supports?
- If we are not receiving the help we need from our school who should we contact at the school board?

Questions to ask if school attendance has completely stopped

- What is the school’s role in helping students get back to school when they stop attending?
- What is the school’s role in helping students complete high school outside of class?
- What are the alternatives for completing school credits when attending class is no longer possible?
- What community programs can help students who are unable to attend high school classes?
- If we are not receiving the help we need from my school, who should we contact at the school board?