

SAC is an intensive, highly structured, language and social skills based classroom model offering intensity through the concentrated number of quality opportunities for learning engagement.

Each classroom utilizes behavioral modification strategies throughout the course of the day in addition to other evidence based practices for success with children with autism.

Each student is provided a highly individualized and flexible program by well trained teachers and service providers.



**Kindergarten -
5th Grade Program**

This is a full day program per school calendar.



Capistrano Unified School District

Education Support Services

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**Capistrano Unified
School District**

**Elementary
Structured
Autism
Class
(SAC)**



A structured environment to help students achieve skills in behavior, language, and social skills
**Kindergarten – 5th
Grade**

Structured Autism Class teachers receive ongoing advanced training in the following areas:

Evidence based practices for children with autism
 Assistive technology
 Inclusion and mainstreaming
 Generalization and maintenance
 Behavioral Management

ABA methods
 Social skills
 Structuring environments
 Data collection
 Errorless Learning

Naturalistic and incidental teaching
 Communication and language
 Assessment
 Curriculum
 Prompting and Reinforcement

Structured Environment

- Individual student schedules, as needed
- Lessons taught in short, planned intervals
- Frequent repetition and breaks
- Clear classroom visual boundaries
- Environmental supports for facilitating student's ability to predict events, anticipate change, and understand expectations
- 1:1, 2:1, and small group learning
- Visual strategies and supports
- Structured teaching
- Increasing ability to attend in presence of distractions

Social Skills Development

- Techniques for increasing interaction and responses to peers
- Direct instruction in pro-social behaviors
- Peer buddies and models
- Reverse mainstreaming
- Social stories
- Role plays and social scripts
- Development of perspective taking

Curriculum

- Integrated model of education strategies for ASDs
- Functionally appropriate activities & materials for meaningful learning
- Modified core curriculum
- Direct instruction in all skill domains
- Language and social skills emphasis across all activities
- Instructional adaptations and accommodations
- Mainstreaming opportunities
- Varied materials to teach concepts

Each site has access to the following support providers:

- Speech-Language Therapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Physical Therapist
- Adapted Physical Education Teacher
- Assistive Technology Teacher
- Behavior Support Services Team
- Coordinator II, Program and Behavior Support

Behavioral Supports

- Promoting active engagement
- High rate of positive reinforcement
- Prompting to ensure success
- Maximizing independent functioning
- Increasing attending for learning and social interactions
- Token economies, as needed
- Self-regulation and self-monitoring
- Generalization and maintenance
- Data collection for evaluating progress
- Building routines
- Solving behaviors functionally
- Alerting and calming strategies
- Replacement and shaping of maladaptive behaviors
- Antecedent and consequence-based behavior plans and interventions
- Individualized lessons broken down into component skills
- Strong collaboration across providers, staff, and parents