



Exceptional Student Education CLINICAL ART THERAPY DEPARTMENT

Criteria for Determination of Need for Clinical Art Therapy Services

Student Name: _____

School Name: _____

Date: _____

Student ID#: _____

The following criteria is intended to help the Miami-Dade County Public Schools clinical art therapist determine who would benefit from art therapy as a form of remediation, intervention and prevention. The identified student must be unable to access his/her education due to the severity of the emotional disability.

1. The student *MUST* meet all the following criteria:

- ___ A high interest in art media: the student has expressed an interest in art and gravitates towards art related activities; the student uses art as a form of communication.
- ___ A strong recommendation has been made by psychiatrists, psychologists or social workers for art therapy intervention; the student may have difficulty responding to traditional verbal therapy.

2. A student *MAY* be considered if the above criteria are met and any of the following apply:

- ___ **The student has a communication disorder:**
 - ___ has a receptive and/or expressive language deficit as determined by an evaluation;
 - ___ an articulation problem exists making it difficult to be understood.
- ___ **The student has been diagnosed with selective mutism.**
- ___ **The student is at severe risk of harming self or others.**
- ___ **The student is severely withdrawn/depressed:**
 - ___ interaction with others (verbal and physical) is limited or guarded;
 - ___ withdrawal extends beyond the social realm into the academic arena (e.g. does no class work without constant prompting).
- ___ **The student exhibits intense anxiety or phobia.**
- ___ **The student exhibits poor reality testing:**
 - ___ fabricates grandiose stories about self or others;
 - ___ uses fantasy to escape or avoid his/her environment.
- ___ **The student has been severely traumatized:**
 - ___ the student has been given a diagnosis of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder;
 - ___ evidence or documentation of abuse exists.
- ___ **The student has a diagnosis of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder:**
 - ___ exhibits obsessive tendencies;
 - ___ is verbally effusive and/or manipulative and uses excessive verbalizations to circumvent issues and problems.
- ___ **The student exhibits a thought disorder:**
 - ___ tangential thought process is present;
 - ___ exhibits paranoid ideation;
 - ___ is unable to sequence thoughts and has difficulty focusing on a single theme.

3. An approved M-DCPS art therapy assessment MUST be administered prior to services being added to the IEP.