



# Monarch Center for Autism

*A Division of Bellefaire JCB*

## MONARCH SCHOOL

Founded in 2000, Monarch School is a chartered, non-public school for children ages 5 through 21 with Autism Spectrum Disorder. We are licensed by the State Board of Education in Ohio, and an Approved out-of-state residential school in Massachusetts, Illinois, Washington, and California.

### MONARCH MODEL

- Visual language immersion teaching Model developed through an ongoing partnership with Dr. Howard Shane at Boston Children’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School
- Combines concept-driven language instruction, visual supports, technology, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), and other evidence-based interventions
- Leverages the strong visual processing abilities of students with autism, supports communication, comprehension, language development, social skills, behavior support, sensory intervention, and academic achievement
- Helps students develop modes of communication that alleviate frustration, build confidence, and enrich lives

### STUDENT PROFILE

- Ages 5-21 with autism and often other co-occurring psychiatric, neurological, and behavioral diagnoses
- Abilities and learning styles vary greatly
- More than 80 students from 5 states and 50 school districts
- 80% day students and 20% residential students

### INTERDISCIPLINARY STAFF

- Intervention Specialists & Supervisory Teachers, Instructional Assistants, Speech-Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs), Behavior Specialists & RBTs, Art, Music & Horticulture Therapists, Psychiatrists, Mental Health Therapists, Nurses

### CLASSROOMS

- Classrooms typically have 4-8 students and an interdisciplinary team of staff with a high clinician to student ratio
- Students are assigned based on age, language level, academic/functional abilities, and day vs. residential
- Multiple options for transition-aged (14+) students including Monarch Transition Education Program (MTEP)
- Residential students are educated together, but they share space and opportunities with day students



### ENVIRONMENT

Located on a beautiful 32-acre campus in Shaker Heights, Ohio

### SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

- Odorless paint and carpeting
- Natural lighting
- Technology, visual, sensory and behavioral supports
- Delayed egress doors
- Sensory and gross motor rooms
- Quiet zones with padded walls/floors
- Small group and 1-on-1 learning spaces
- Sensory garden
- Life skills spaces (kitchen, laundry)
- Adapted playgrounds



## A DAY IN THE LIFE

- Day students attend school for 180 days (plus 15 optional days of ESY), and Residential students attend for 195 days
- The school day begins at 8:25am and ends at 2:40pm
- Sessions are scheduled in 30- to 45-minute increments
- IEP/ISP goals and objectives are taught in 1-on-1 and small group sessions
- Students learn academics, executive functioning, activities of daily living, community exploration, job skills, social skills, communication, self-care, personal safety, and more
- Based on assessment results and individual student needs, Speech Therapy is offered approximately 3 to 4 times per week, and Occupational Therapy approximately 2 to 4 times per week
- Most students receive Art, Music & Horticulture Therapy weekly
- Students eat lunch in their classrooms or a common area, followed by recess/leisure time
- Daily schedules and visual/sensory/behavioral supports are individualized for all students
- Educational software and technology are used liberally throughout the school day to support students' IEPs/ISPs



## COMMUNITY & SOCIAL INTERACTIONS

- Partnerships with more than 20 work sites for prevocational training opportunities
- Daily community explorers groups visit grocery stores, restaurants, local stores, parks, and pet stores to practice everyday skills
- Simulated on-site work experiences teach manufacturing, sales, graphic design, hospitality, and office work
- Many opportunities for socialization including dances, talent shows, field day, cooking clubs, spirit weeks, graduations, annual art show, ballet performances, field trips, and more

## EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR (ESY)

- 15 days of ESY are available to existing day students
- Residential students' last day of school coincides with the last day of ESY
- Provides academics, prevocational training, speech and occupational therapy, art, music and horticulture therapy, and summer leisure skills
- Helps maintain the consistency of skills learned throughout the school year

## PROGRESS AND PLANNING

- Student and program progress are assessed through a unique data collection system that measures performance through independence, accuracy, participation, and behaviors
- Assessment results drive academic and therapeutic instruction

## FAMILY/CASE MANAGER COLLABORATION

- Family/Case Manager involvement in making treatment, education, and re-integration decisions is vital to each student's success
- Communication includes daily updates, quarterly progress reports, and annual IEP/ISP meetings

## ADMISSIONS

### MONARCH SCHOOL

For more information about Monarch School (day students), please contact Jenny O'Keefe at 216-320-8598 or [okeefej@bellefairejcb.org](mailto:okeefej@bellefairejcb.org)

### RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION & TREATMENT

For information about Residential Education and Treatment (residential students), please contact our Intake Department at 216-320-8502 or 800-879-2522 or [INTAKE@bellefairejcb.org](mailto:INTAKE@bellefairejcb.org)

