

Parent Input & Concerns Worksheet

A Planning Guide for Your Child's IEP

Your voice belongs in your child's IEP.

The Parent Input and Concerns section is one of the few places in the IEP written from the parent's perspective. Use this worksheet to organize your thoughts before the meeting. Then revise your answers into a concise parent statement that you can ask the team to include in the IEP.

Remember: This is a professional, legal document. Focus on your child's needs, strengths, and goals while keeping your writing clear, concise, and solution focused.

Section 1: Safety Concerns

What are your top safety concerns at school?

These may include physical safety, health, emotional safety, communication, or independence.

Safety Concern #1

Why is this important?

Safety Concern #2

Why is this important?

Safety Concern #3

Why is this important?

Section 2: Academic Priorities

Determine your primary academic priorities for your child over this year. This is the place for progress that can be achieved over this one year. Be as specific as possible.

Academic Priority #1

Current concern:

Desired outcome:

Academic Priority #2

Current concern:

Desired outcome:

Academic Priority #3

Current concern:

Desired outcome:

Section 3: What Motivates My Child and/or What Calms My Child.

Help the team understand what helps your child learn best.

My child responds well to:

- Specific praise
- Stickers
- Token system
- Breaks
- Preferred activities
- Choice-making
- Positive notes home
- Visual schedule
- Quiet voices
- Animated faces
- Taking a walk
- Music (specific songs)
- Preferred or trusted people
- Fidgets
- Noise canceling headphones

Other:

Things that build my child's confidence:

Things that increase frustration:

Section 4: Our Long-Term Vision

Think beyond this school year.

Complete these sentences.

Five years from now, I hope my child can...

As an adult, I hope my child will...

The skills we are building today will help my child...

Section 5: Strengths We Want to Celebrate

What does your child do well?

Before You Finish

Review what you wrote and ask yourself:

- Did I focus on my child's needs?
- Is my language professional and respectful?
- Did I remove emotional or repetitive statements?
- Would someone who has never met my child understand what is most important?
- Does this reflect the future I want for my child?

Many parents find it helpful to ask an AI writing assistant, such as ChatGPT, to help edit their draft for clarity, organization, and tone while keeping their ideas and priorities intact.