

Educational Strategies for DCF-Involved Children

<u>Area of Need</u>	<u>Educational Strategy</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>School/Team Role</u>
School Stability	Immediate school enrollment per ESSA	Preventing academic disruption	School district liaison
Attendance Issues	Daily attendance monitoring & check-in/check-out system	Improve school engagement	School social worker
Trauma Impact	Trauma-informed classroom practices	Reduce behavioral triggers	Teachers & support staff
Behavioral Concerns	Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) & Behavior Intervention Plan Address (BIP)	Address underlying causes of behavior	School psychologist
Learning delays	Academic screening within 30 days of placement change	Identify gaps early	SPED Staff/Guidance counselor/SAC
Special education needs	IEP or 504 plan implementations	Ensure accommodation & services	Special education team/Behavioral specialist
Emotional Regulation	Access to school-based counseling	Improve coping skills	School clinical/behavioral specialist
Frequent Placement changes	Credit recovery & flexible grading policies	Prevent credit loss	Academic counselor
Executive Function deficits	In school supports (smaller class, planner, checks in, assignment chunking)	Build independence	Teachers, SAC, Guidance counselor
Caregiver Engagement	Including foster parents, kinship caregivers, group home staff in monthly caregiver-school meetings as part of the communication plan	Maintain shared expectations	EN / DCF worker/Parent Partner
Social Skills Deficits	Social Skills groups or peer mentoring	Improve peer relationship	School counselor
Transition Planning (14+)	Postsecondary planning & vocational assessment	Prepare for adulthood	Transition coordinator
Suspension/Discipline risk	Restorative justice practices	Reduce exclusionary discipline	School administration
Academic Gaps	Tutoring (in-school or after-school)	Close skill deficits	Academic interventionist
Advocacy Needs	Educational surrogate or advocate if required	Protect educational right	DCF/ Court-appointed surrogates: CASA/SESP/ED GAL