

Office of Related Services
OT/PT PROGRAM
TIP SHEET
SEAT AND DESK CONSIDERATIONS

READY TO LEARN:

- Chair/Desk at appropriate height: FEET REST ON FLOOR with hips and knees at 90 degrees. Forearms rest on table with elbows at 90 degrees
 - *Stokke Tripp-Trapp Chair*—adjustable height seat and foot-rest to allow access to smaller students to cafeteria or art room height tables.

ALTERNATIVE SEATING:

- When child has difficulty remaining forward in seat/touching students toward his side(s)/requires definition of his sitting area/constant movement/posture needs:
 - Chair with armrests for seated classroom use: define space or provide support
 - Commercial chair options: Children's Factory Cube Chair, *Howda Hug Chair* or corner chairs for floor time sitting, Consider location/access of chair in room
 - *Wobble Chair*, *Gymnic Disco Air Cushion*, *Ball chairs* (wheeled frames with therapy ball seat, therapy ball on base, therapy ball with four legs
 - *Bean Bags*: alternative seating for wheelchair students or options for reading, sensory area positioning, or floor-time seating options
 - Carpet Squares: assign seating based on color, shape, object on carpet squares

ALTERNATIVE DESK OPTIONS:

- Standing Desks—Desk that allows student to stand while supporting work on incline allowing a student to stand who resists being seated.
- Allow student to stand at an easel or blackboard to write or read.
- Consider allowing student to lay on floor under desk/table and tape their work on underside of their desk/table to allow the student to lay on floor
- Desk Location—consider environmental needs of student-may benefit from front/center location (requires teacher attention/prompting for attend to task/visual need) or toward periphery of room (sensitive to proximity of others)

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL—PT FOR ACQUISITION, SET-UP, AND INSTRUCTION: Students may attend your class using wheelchairs, standers, gait trainers, adapted chairs or walkers.

- PT assistance in instruction in acquisition, fit and use of appropriate equipment
- Training for use of emergency evacuation or transfers of students in wheelchairs
- **NOTIFY PT IF EQUIPMENT APPEARS UNSTEADY, HAS LOOSE PARTS; DISCONTINUE USE**