

Self-contained classroom



Some schoolchildren have special needs. Recognizing these needs, educators should find out ways to satisfy the needs, and provide these children the appropriate program of instruction. Most often, the regular classroom instruction is not the answer to the problem. In such case, the self-contained classroom may be a good consideration. Self-contained classroom works best for students with the same academic requirements. For instance, gifted children in a school may be contained in one classroom in order to focus on their individual development.

In the classroom, these students will be guided according to their own levels, by some teachers or aides. By doing this, each student's need is given priority, and students individually receive the appropriate attention they need. One case I handled proved the benefits of self-contained classroom. The subject is a ten-year old Jewish boy who is classified to be emotionally disturbed. He is a fourth grader in general education class. Basically, the child is very bright, and demonstrated social skills with other students. However he had a difficult time making friends.

To help the child get into the right direction, the school decided to give him a one-on-one aide, but due to his emotional disturbance which occurred from time to time, his aide withdrew from him or vice versa, which caused the disruption in his progress. This proved the one-on-one aide to be inapplicable. In order to help the child further, the child study team, which includes some teachers and the school psychologist, proposed to place him in a self-contained classroom where three adults supervised a small group of children having special needs.

To date, this program proves to be successful as the child is slowly adapting to the situation, and is coping well with the instruction. He now works with one teacher and two aides in a classroom of __ children. Factors such as biological, family, culture, economic, etc. should be considered when helping children with special needs. Most often, kids who lack attention from parents suffer from attention disorders, and later this need becomes apparent in the behavior of the child in class, (i. e. , throwing tantrums on others, or misbehaving). In such cases, it would be ideal for parents and the school to collaborate in order to help the child.

Reference

[http://giftedkids. about. com/od/glossary/g/selfcontained. htm](http://giftedkids.about.com/od/glossary/g/selfcontained.htm)