

Tips and Tools for Itinerant Therapists

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What did the “experts” say?

- ▶ Good/Active Listener; Asks Questions
- ▶ Problem-solver
- ▶ Flexible
- ▶ Sense of Humor
- ▶ Knowledgeable
- ▶ Reliable
- ▶ Integrity, ethical
- ▶ Positive Attitude
- ▶ Student Focused
- ▶ Accessible, approachable
- ▶ Analytical, Organized

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A Comparison of Therapy in Noneducational and Educational Settings

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Key Players in a School Environment

- Student
- Special Educational Teachers (LRC, Life Skills, Adapted Physical Education Teachers)
- Other Teachers (general ed., music, art, PE, shop, etc.)

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- Parents/guardians
- Other specialists (Speech, Autism, Behavior, Vision, Hearing, Aug Com)
- Principal
- Educational Assistants
- Secretaries or Office Assistants or Administrative Assistants

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- Cafeteria Workers
- Campus Steward/Custodian/Physical Plant
- Librarian
- Bus Driver
- IT Specialists

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Collaboration

- ▶ Work together as a team
- ▶ Work towards a common goal

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Methods of Collaboration

- ▶ Options:
 - Email
 - Phone
 - Joint visits
 - Monthly teaming
 - Specialist notebook in classroom
 - Informal meetings
 - Prep periods
 - Palm Pilot , etc.

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Role of a Consultant

Practical Aspects

Let's talk!

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After the Visit

- ▶ Provide something in writing
- ▶ Clarify
- ▶ Schedule next visit
- ▶ Clean up and put away

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Logistics

“Nuts and Bolts”
&
“Forms”

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Resources

- ▶ The Consulting Therapist: A Guide for OTs and PTs in Schools by Barbara Hanft and Patricia Place
- ▶ Physical and Occupational Therapy in the Educational Settings (RSOI)
- ▶ RSOI Website www.RSOI.org
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