How do I know if my Child is Struggling in School?

Changes you might notice in your child

- Declining grades
- Crying over homework; appearing sad or withdrawn
- Increasing complaints about school from a child who previously enjoyed it
- Problems with “spacing out”; difficulty sustaining attention
- School avoidance
- Appears unmotivated
- Behavioral concerns (i.e. “acting out”)

Differences in task performance

- Excessive time on homework
- Forgetting to turn in work; misplacing assignments
- Frustration with assignments
- Inability to work independently
- Trouble completing tasks on time
- Inconsistent performance
- Difficulty retaining information
Next Steps

1. If your child is exhibiting any of the signs above and you are concerned about his/her progress in school schedule a meeting with the teacher or teaching team to discuss your concerns and their observations of your child in the classroom.

2. If your child is already receiving specialized services, request an IEP team meeting to determine what additional supports or services can be added to existing plan to better support your child’s success.

3. If your child is not yet receiving any formalized supports or services, you may consider requesting a school-based evaluation and/or a private neuropsychological evaluation to uncover areas of deficit and determine eligibility for specialized supports.

4. Ask your child’s teacher and/or Principal what supports your child may be eligible for via the regular education process. Available supports vary by school but may include subject area Title One services, school-based counseling or social skills groups, organizational supports, skills classes, after-school extra-help or homework clubs.

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