



PEP Prentiss Autism Center

PEP Prentiss Autism Center supports young people ages 5-22 with autism and other complex developmental disabilities in discovering new ways of relating and communicating with the world around them. PEP has worked extensively with children with autism and their families since the mid-1980s – long before it became a high-profile diagnosis. PEP Prentiss' programming is designed around the specific needs and hopes of each child and family. The goal is to build upon students' existing strengths and teach toward independence.

Prentiss' calendar is carried out **over the course of a full year**, rather than just nine months, to provide the consistency and structure children with autism need

A state-of-the-art, **33,000-square-foot facility** designed specifically with this student population in mind

A team of **multi-disciplinary specialists** supporting each child – a group that includes intervention specialists; board-certified behavior analyst (BCBA); and speech-language, occupational, and physical therapists

PEP Prentiss Autism Center 21755 Brookpark Road Fairview Park, Ohio 44126 | 440-471-8200



PROGRAM DETAIL

To facilitate its highly individualized approach, PEP Prentiss' staff-to-student center ratio is nearly one-to-one. Classroom teams include an intervention specialist, an associate teacher whose focus is social-emotional learning and two to three other professionals supporting a small cohort of students.

These teams work with a roster of other experienced professionals – intervention specialists, a BCBA, speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, art and music therapists, and nurses. PEP Prentiss' approach also extends well beyond the classroom through its strong partnerships with families and other caregivers.

PEP Prentiss seamlessly blends center-based instruction with community-based experiences that emphasize socially appropriate communication and self-regulation. PEP also partners with local businesses and other service organizations that help instill life and vocational skills in students so that they can ultimately thrive in the community.



“From the moment we walked into **PEP Prentiss**, we knew it was a perfect fit for our son.

The staff at PEP are all patient, understanding and caring people who have helped our son tremendously — both socially and academically. Our only regret is that we didn't find PEP sooner.”

— Sue and Bob Price

The decision to enroll a child in **PEP Prentiss** is made by the parent in partnership with the school district.
The actual referral is made by the school district.