Perpetua Isherwood

Special Education Teacher

Richmond, VA · perpetua.isherwood@example.com · (804) 555-0155 · LinkedIn

SUMMARY

Special education teacher with 6 years of experience across self-contained and inclusion settings, holding a K-12 Special Education endorsement in Virginia. Manages a caseload of 14 students with IEPs, writing and tracking goals that raised reading levels by an average of 1.3 grade levels last year. Co-teaches with 3 general education teachers and trains paraprofessionals on behavior support plans.

EXPERIENCE

Special Education Teacher — Cedarbrook Elementary School

Richmond, VA · Aug 2021 – Present

- Manage a caseload of 14 students with IEPs across grades 2 through 5, writing measurable goals and tracking progress that raised reading levels by an average of 1.3 grade levels over the past year.
- Co-teach math and reading with 3 general education teachers, adapting instruction for 22 inclusion students and leading to 9 students exiting resource support.
- Write and run behavior intervention plans for 6 students with significant behavior needs, cutting office referrals for that group from 40 to 11 over a semester.
- Train and supervise 2 paraprofessionals on data collection and prompting strategies, standardizing how behavior data is logged across the classroom.

Special Education Teacher, Self-Contained Classroom — Oakhill Intermediate School

Petersburg, VA · Aug 2018 – Jun 2021

- Taught a self-contained classroom of 8 students with moderate to severe disabilities, designing individualized instruction across academics and daily living skills.
- Led 8 annual IEP meetings with parents, administrators and related service providers, maintaining 100% compliance with state timelines over 3 years.
- Introduced a visual schedule and token economy system that cut classroom transition time from 12 to 5 minutes and reduced escalations by half.

SKILLS

IEP and compliance: IEP writing, present levels, progress monitoring, state and federal timeline compliance

Instruction: Differentiated instruction, co-teaching, assistive technology, Orton-Gillingham basics

Behavior: Functional behavior assessments, behavior intervention plans, PBIS, de-escalation

Documentation: IEP Direct, Google Workspace, data collection systems

CERTIFICATIONS

Special Education PK-12 Endorsement, Virginia Department of Education

Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI) Certified, 2024

EDUCATION

M.Ed. Special Education, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2018

B.A. Elementary Education, University of Mary Washington, 2016

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