

Frequently Asked Questions

I need to go and pick up my other child. Can I leave my child alone with the therapist?

- *No, someone 18 years or older must be present while services are being given in your home.*

My child has difficulty navigating playground equipment and approaching peers at the park. Can my therapist take my child to the park?

- *Yes, in Early Intervention services and ABA can be provided in the home, office or in the community, depending on your child's needs. It may be beneficial to work on specific targets in the home then generalize them to the community. If you are going into the community you or another adult 18 years or older must be present. If your child is in CPSE/CSE then service location will be indicated on the IEP. If your child does not have community indicated on the IEP then services cannot be delivered there. To add community to your child's IEP you must contact the CPSE/CSE chairperson for your school district.*

Can my therapist bring their own children to the session in order to work on social skills?

- *No, at no time should a therapist bring their own child to a therapy session.*

Can my therapist use an iPad/iPod touch to teach my child?

- *Yes, the iPad/iPhone/iPad touch/Smart Devices may be used on a limited basis during therapy sessions as a reinforcing item or to generalize skills. At no time should these devices be used to teach skills that are on an IFSP/IEP or any pre-requisite skills that lead up to an IFSP/IEP goal unless specified on the child's IFSP/IEP.*

Why is my child's therapist asking me for food?

- *Food may be used initially with children who have limited items/toys that act as reinforcers. The food items you provide the therapist with will only be used in small quantities during the first few sessions to condition the therapist with reinforcement and to condition other toys as reinforcers. It is important that your child have a wide variety of reinforcers. If at any time you do not want the therapist to use food please let the therapist know.*

I feel that my child needs an increase/decrease in services. What do I do?

- *If you suspect a change in services is needed, you will need to contact your service coordinator (for EI) or your chairperson for the CPSE/CSE (for preschoolers or school age children). At that point StarBright ABA will request specific documentation from the therapist which will detail why that increase/decrease in services is warranted. Once that change is authorized by the Department of Health (DOH) or the school district and the appropriate documentation is received your therapist will be notified as to when the change in service can be made. Something to consider when you think an increase in services is needed is that “more is not always better”. Discuss your concerns with your therapist so that as a team you can look at the pros and cons of an increase in services.*

What do I do if my therapist is showing up late consistently/cancelling sessions?

- *Please contact the ABA Field Program Supervisor for your area; please see the included phone contact information sheet.*

Why isn't my therapist bringing in/leaving toys for my child?

- *Your therapist may choose to bring some items in initially when working with your child. But it is important that your child learn how to play with the toys in his/her environment. This is important because what you want to see is that the child generalizes these skills when the therapist is not there. If your therapist brings in toys to work with your child keep in mind that this is in part to help condition him/herself with reinforcement as well as to help develop programming. The amount of toys and the type of toys may change as they begin to work with your child.*