



SPECIAL NEEDS | FIELD GUIDE

Before an emergency drill at school

Prepare your child for the signal without weakening the safety practice.

A note from Victoria

A loud drill can be startling even when a child knows it is coming. Preparation is not a request to skip safety; it is a way to help your child take part.

What to do

Ask when drills may occur, what sounds and movements to expect, and who will guide your child. Work with the school on a preview in your child's communication format, sensory supports allowed by the safety plan, and a clear reunification point. Practice the sequence briefly without promising an exact time the school cannot guarantee. After the drill, ask what worked and what the team should change next time.

Words you can use

"How will [name] learn the drill sequence in advance, and which adult will help them follow it safely when the alarm sounds?"

One useful step I can take today:

I could start with: Write the first signal, the trusted adult, and the next place your child will go.

The strength I see in you

You are helping your child access safety with dignity.

Educational peer support, not individualized medical, legal, or school advice. Partner with your child and their care or school team; consult a qualified advocate about rights questions.



SPECIAL NEEDS | WORKSHEET

Before an emergency drill at school

Use this page in your own words. You can leave any part blank.

The drill signal my child can expect

The adult and route in the plan

What to ask after the drill

My next manageable step

A person, service, or place I can turn to (if useful)

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