

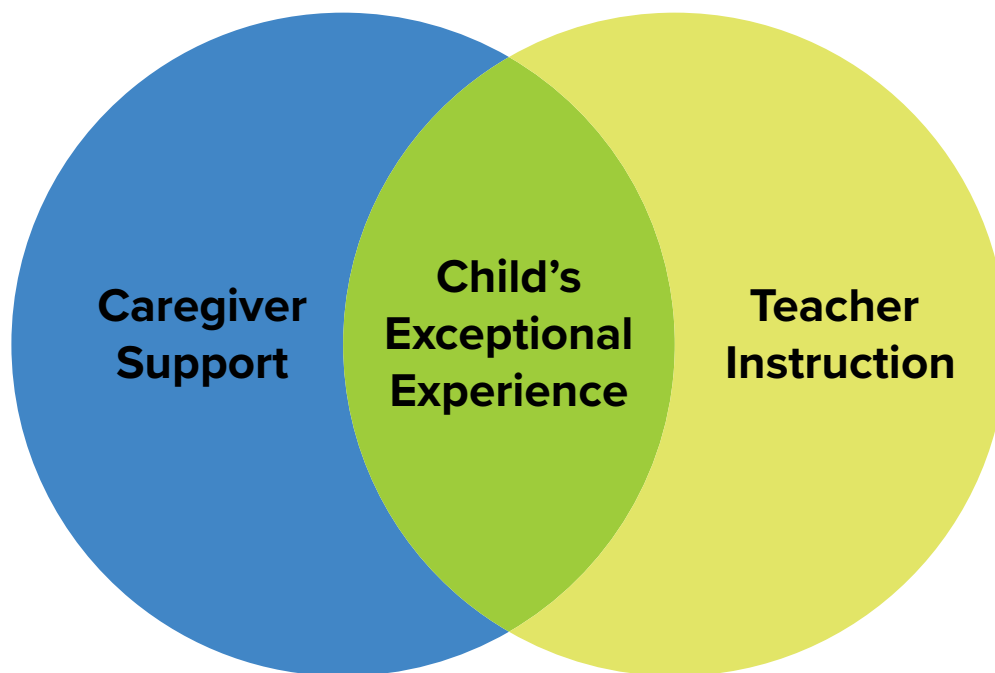
# SOLS Caregiver Introduction Training

## Making the Home Learning Experience a Success

While your child's formal education has typically taken place in the classroom, as your child's caregiver, you have already taught them many things at home! With the move toward remote learning due to COVID-19, the line between formal learning and caregiver-led learning has become blurred. As a result, you may be wondering what your role will be in remote learning.

Your child's educational experience through remote learning will be a combination of efforts between you and your child's teacher using the STAR Online Learning System (SOLS) curriculum.

## STAR Online Learning System



### Teacher Instruction

Your child's teacher will continue to determine the learning targets for your child. They will work with you to identify IEP goals and objectives that support your child's learning as well as align with your family's goals for your child. Over the past few months, your child's teacher has been learning all about the curriculum that they will be using during remote learning. As educators often do, they have adapted to this new way of teaching and learning and are excited to work with you to provide the best education for your child.

Teachers will meet regularly with your child for synchronous learning sessions in which your child and their teacher can see each other and interact via an online platform. These learning sessions will have some similarities to what your child has experienced in the past. There will be opportunities for greeting activities and fun games, as well as focused learning time where your child's teacher will work with them on developing new skills and maintaining previously learned skills.

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### Caregiver Support

It is expected that you will join your child in synchronous learning opportunities led by your child's teacher. Different students will require varying levels of support to participate in the remote learning environment. Your child's teacher will give you ideas for how best to keep your child engaged and help make the most out of each learning session.

### STAR Online Learning System (SOLS)

SOLS is the curriculum that the teacher will use to guide your child's educational experience. This curriculum is built around evidence-based practices that best support the learning needs of students with autism and other developmental disabilities. SOLS includes lessons that your child's teacher will curate to meet the specific needs of your child. These lessons will support your child in gaining skills in communication, socializing, and academics. In addition, SOLS includes many resources that you can use at home during asynchronous learning (learning that occurs without a formal teacher present), including activities, visuals, independent work, and much more.

### Tips for Getting Started

Now that you understand the role of the members of your child's educational team and curriculum, let's look at some other components of the educational environment that you can organize to create the best start to the school year for your child.

- 1. Define and organize a workspace.** Take a look around your home to identify the best workspace for your child. Ideally this will be an area free from distractions, including other children, electronics, and toys. Make sure you have a shelf where you can keep the materials your child will use during their sessions. Try to keep materials as close to the child's workspace as possible to promote independence.
- 2. Set up a visual schedule.** Schedules help everyone feel more in control and prepared for their day. For students with autism and other developmental disorders, schedules often play a significant role in their willingness to transition between activities. While you may not know exactly when your child's teacher-led learning sessions will be, you can get a visual schedule started now to get them accustomed to using one before school begins.
- 3. Review additional materials.** Check out these SOLS resources for additional information to help you get started:
  - ★ Caregiver Information
  - ★ Caregiver Checklist
  - ★ Caregiver Quick Guide to Remote Instruction

**Would you like more information about what remote learning will look like for you and your child? Join the Making the Home Learning Experience a Success session during SOLS instruction to learn more!**