



Welcome To Behavior Basics!

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Behavior Basics ABA Therapy! We are delighted to have your child start their ABA journey with us, and we value the trust and confidence you have in us. To help you prepare for your child's therapy, we would like to share some important details. Should you have any questions, feel free to reach out to our Director of ABA Services, Maggie Terry, at mterry@behaviorbasicsinc.com or 772-463-0444



Providing Comprehensive Support for Families and Children in Your Community

Behavior Basics, founded in 2004 by Karin Torsiello, M.S., BCBA, supports children and families in eastern Florida by providing tailored services in various settings. We prioritize organic growth and individualized support, treating each family as a valued partner. With a commitment to excellence and partnerships, we offer services in clinics, schools, homes, social skills clubs, and the community to help children succeed.

WHY US?



Individualized Parent Training to what your Family Values

Specialties in ASD, ADHD, DMDD, ODD, Trauma, Feeding,
Social Skills, School Readiness, and Early Intervention

Collaboration with Your Child's Providers.
We know working as a team is best!

Incorporating Movement and Emotional
Regulation

Prioritizing Communication throughout
your ABA Journey!

Valuing Compassionate Care

Medical Treatment for Your Child's Needs. No Minimum
Hours Required!



BEHAVIOR BASICS ACCEPTS MOST MAJOR INSURANCE



ABA Lingo

Acronym	Term	Definition
ABA	Applied Behavior Analysis	A method of therapy used to help improve or change certain behaviors through breaking down complex skills into smaller, manageable steps and systematically teaching and reinforcing them.
ADL	Activities for Daily Living	Daily self-care activities that can be worked on
Auth / Tx Plan	Authorization / Treatment Plan	Document submitted to insurance including behaviors to decrease and skills to increase; must be updated every 6 months
BCBA	Board Certified Behavior Analyst	Graduate-level position in which an individual is certified in applied behavior analysis through the BACB.
BSP	Behavior Support Plan	Part of the authorization including the steps for what to do before and during any behaviors we would like to see less of
IEP	Individualized Education Plan	A plan supporting special education services, accommodations, and assistance for qualified students.
RBT	Registered Behavior Technician	Professional who works with board-certified analysts to implement a treatment plan created by the patient's BCBA (fingerprinted, background checked, and certified).

ABA Lingo

Acronym	Term	Definition
FBA	Functional Behavior Assessment	Primary tool used to understand the function of a child's behavior done through observation
ABLLS-R	Assessment of Basic Language and Learning Skills	Assessment and curriculum guide for child's current skills
AFLS	Assessment of Functional Living Skills	Assessment and curriculum for independent skills at home, work, or community
VBMAPP	The Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program	Assessment for children reviewing verbal operants levels and barriers to learning
FCT	Functional Communication Training	Teaching communication to replace challenging behaviors
	Verbal Operant	Types of verbal behavior (detailed below)
Verbal Operants	Mand	Request (you say it because you want it)
	Tact	Label (you say it because you see, hear, smell, taste, or touch something)
	Intraverbal	Conversation (answering a question, responding when someone else talks)
	Echoic	Repeating what someone else says
	Imitation	Repeating someone else's movement
	Listener Responding	Following directions of others
	Reinforcement	A response to someone's behavior that will increase the likelihood that it will occur again in the future.
	Punishment	A response to someone's behavior that will decrease the likelihood that it will occur again in the future.

About Our Programs



Clinic-Based Services

At Behavior Basics, we're all about creating a haven of support and growth through our ABA Therapy services. Our Clinic-Based sessions are the perfect blend of individual attention and behavior modification techniques, custom-made to each little one's unique needs.

Our top-notch strategies and materials are carefully selected and matched to your child's learning style, while our RBTs are under the close supervision of BCBAs to guarantee excellence in every step of their progress. Clinic-Based services can be a perfect stepping stone before entering a school setting, or can be a perfect long-term space for your child!

Clinic based ABA therapy allows for consistent individualized support designed for your child with exposure to typical school-day activities such as Circle Time, Music, Arts and Crafts, Play, and Socialization.

Skills Addressed:

- Verbal Behavior
- Communication across modalities
- Decreasing unwanted behaviors
- Potty Training
- Feeding Needs
- Social Skills
- School - Readiness
- Caregiver Training and Support
- Trauma-Informed Care





Typical ABA Session



**Typical ABA sessions
are 2-4 hours long.**

**Sometimes, sessions can run
back to back, (usually in the
clinic) and run like a school day!**

*Specific prescribed hours are
determined by the BCBA and
Clinical Team*

Pairing

Technique used to build
positive relationships
between therapist and
child by following the
child's lead.

*Typically 10-20 minutes at start
of each session and done
throughout the day*

ABC'S of BEHAVIOR

A = Antecedent what happens
right before the behavior
occurs, e.g., a request from a
parent

B = Behavior what the child
does

C = Consequence what
happens right after, like saying
Great Job!

DTT

Discrete Trial Training

Method of teaching that breaks
down skills into smaller
achievable steps
following the ABC's of
behavior*.

*Typically 5-10 minutes each, at
the table, like school, with
frequent breaks!*

NET

Natural Environment Training

Method of teaching that
follows the learners interests
within their environment to
expand skills.

*Typically 20-30 minutes,
repeated through session*

Social Skills

Practice vocal and non-
vocal skills such as:

Body Language
Conversations
Game Play
Peer Play
Turn Taking

FCT

Functional Communication Training

Method of teaching done
throughout session to
replace challenging
behaviors with functional
communication to have
wants and needs met.

Newly diagnosed with a referral for ABA?
Or maybe just curious – what's next?

Documents needed may include:
Registration Form
Insurance Card
Psychological Evaluation
Prescription for ABA

Starting ABA can be scary – we are here to help!

- 1 Check out our website and social media to make sure our values match yours.
If you think we align, go to the next step!
- 2 Inquire with referral@behaviorbasicsinc.com and we will send you all of the information we need from you to start services.
- 3 Once we receive your contact form, we will be in touch! We'll email with the information needed depending on your insurance carrier.
You are now officially on our Waitlist.
- 4 We review your documents and schedule a client intake call or clinic tour with our Director of ABA Services to discuss your individual families' needs.
- 5 We identify a BCBA for your case and begin assessment. This usually involves a parent interview and 3 observations of your child (we want to see all their glows and grows!)
- 6 We work together to identify goals, write our assessment, and review with you. Then submit the assessment to your insurance and wait for approval.
- 7 Upon approval, meet with one of our Clinical Directors and then we will begin 1:1 services!

Educational Support

School-Based Services

In the realm of education, BCBAs collaborate with teachers, parents, and school personnel to develop tailored strategies to address behavioral challenges and skill development. RBTs offer individualized support and implement techniques aimed at fostering positive behaviors in the classroom.

The primary objective is to empower every student to achieve their maximum potential academically and socially, thereby enriching their overall quality of life.

School-based services, like all ABA services, are tailored to your child's specific needs, with regard to the specific school's policies and procedures.*

*Private schools typically allow for the most support, BPS is most challenging to be granted entry for ongoing support in the amount of hours that may be medically necessary.

IEP and Resource Support



Support does not stop at the classroom door! Our ABA team can assist with:

- Development of IEP or 504 Plans
- Engagement in IEP and 504 Plan Meetings
- Collaboration with school support staff (teachers, SLP, OTs)
- Advocating for students

Please schedule a consultation with our Director of ABA Services, Maggie Terry to discuss your child's specific Educational Needs
MTerry@behaviorbasicsinc.com

Education Options



Home School Option

Your child may do best staying in our Clinic setting and enrolling in Home School, and we can help!

- Assist in enrollment to Home School and Curriculum Selection (if applicable) or continuing to address Foundational / Learning Skills.
- Identify and work on goals that can help set up for later-on school success.
- Parents can choose the curriculum (many options both in paper and online) and be conducted in our clinic setting.
- Assist in annual progress monitoring submission to school district.

Public, Private, and Charter School Options

Public Schools: State funded school option that is always available to you. Access to a 504 Plan or IEP, and least restrictive environment is your child's right under IDEA Act. Most challenging to access consistent outside ABA in the classroom.

Private Schools: Privately funded, may have small class sizes or specialties. They do not have to follow or take your child's IEP. Typically allow outside ABA in the classroom!

<https://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/information/privateschooldirectory/>

Charter Schools: Public school of choice that does not have to meet the same standards of Public School and can accommodate a diverse population. Must adhere to IEP or 504 Plan. Typically allow for outside ABA in the classroom.

<https://web01.fldoe.org/CSA/PostToWeb/DownloadSchoolList.aspx>

Home School



Steps for Initiation and Continuation

Enrolling in home-school options for your child can be easier than you think! Here is a list of the steps the state of FL requires for home-school enrollment and continuation:

Step 1: Send a **notice of intent** to your district school superintendent.

Step 2: **Choose a curriculum**- Florida parents can choose their own curriculum.

Step 3: **Create a portfolio** - You'll need to keep a portfolio of your children's work and make it available for inspection by the superintendent or their agent upon 15 days' written notice.

(If your child is attending our clinic for ABA services while enrolled in home school, we can assist with this - the programs and materials we use, along with our authorizations, can supplement the portfolio)

Step 4: **File a notice of intent**- You can download a Home Education Affidavit from the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) or get a free template from the Florida Parent Educators Association (FPEA).

<https://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/other-school-choice-options/home-edu/parent-resources.shtml>

Step 5: **Provide annual evaluations** - You'll need to provide annual student evaluations to the superintendent, either through a standardized test or portfolio evaluation. See step 3 for how we can assist with this!

If you decide to stop home-schooling: File a letter of termination

When you're done with your homeschooling program, you'll need to file a letter of termination with the school district.

Education Options



School Choice - Funding

Florida implements school-choice, which allows a variety of schooling options for your child.

<u>School or Funding Option</u>	<u>Details</u>
Public School of Choice / Charter Schools	Free of charge; for accessing a school of choice, typically student must enter a lotto to enroll
Step Up For Students Scholarship:	Includes scholarship options for Private School, Unique Abilities, Transportation Stipend, Personalized Education Program, New World Scholarship https://www.stepupforstudents.org/scholarships/
Private School: The Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC) and the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FES-EO)	This scholarship covers up to \$7,700 for private school tuition for any student.
Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options for Students with Unique Abilities (FES-US) (Formerly Gardiner)	This scholarship provides financial support of up to \$10,000 for students with disabilities. The funds can be used for various purposes such as tuition, therapies, supplies, tutoring, and homeschooling.

Caregiver Training and Support

Individual Caregiver Training

Caregiver training is an integral component of ABA Therapy. Not only do all insurance carriers require caregiver engagement in ABA Therapy, but research shows that active engagement in a child's ABA therapy yields more positive results.

Caregiver training sessions will be tailored to meet your family's individual needs. Your BCBA will arrange with you when and where caregiver training will occur and together will develop goals to help your family reach their fullest potential. Caregiver training can take place at your home, or our clinic setting.



Group Caregiver Support

We know that it can be challenging to navigate all you do as a parent, and sometimes learning with a group in a similar season is type of support needed.

Talk with our Director of ABA Services about Group Caregiver Support Services.

Held in our clinic setting after clinic hours, this service allows for multiple caregivers to flow through our Parent Curriculum together.

Please schedule a consultation with our Director of ABA Services, Maggie Terry to discuss enrolling in our group caregiver training sessions
MTerry@behaviorbasicsinc.com

In-Home-Based Services



We understand that taking care of a child with exceptionalities can be overwhelming at times. That's why we're here to bring a little sunshine into your life. Our team of highly skilled BCBA's and RBTs are here to provide unmatched home-based services. Collaborating with you, we'll develop custom-made ABA therapy plans specifically tailored to your child's needs. We're here to support and guide you every step of the way, making your life easier.



Community-Based Services

Having trouble with day-to-day activities outside of the home? With a focus on sharpening social skills, increasing communication, and mastering behavior management, we'll help your family conquer community and recreational activities like a champ!

No need to trek to a clinic, we'll have your back in your natural stomping grounds, meeting goals and boosting independence like a superhero.

Attendance Overview

Please refer to our Client Attendance Policy for full attendance details

- Consistent attendance to ABA services at Behavior Basics is crucial for a child's success. Clients must attend a minimum of 80% of scheduled hours as per the approved treatment plan for medical necessity.
- For pre-planned absences like vacations or appointments, please provide a minimum 2-week notice. For changes to therapy schedule or location, give a minimum 30-day notice and obtain BCBA approval.
- Caregiver training is crucial in ABA therapy for continued skill maintenance, and ensuring we are meeting your family values, it is also required by your insurance carrier. At BBI we know want to work around what is best for your family and ask for a minimum of 1 caregiver training session per month.

No minimum
hours required -
hours based on
your child's
needs!

Sick Policy



In the event that your child is sick (fever, vomiting not due to illness, diarrhea, viral infection), please cancel session. ABA services can resume once your child is fever-free for 24 hours without medication, 24 hours free of vomit or diarrhea, or cleared by a Physician if due to viral infection (e.g., pink eye). Sessions should be resumed in a capacity that is determined between you and your ABA team.

If your child starts showing symptoms of being unwell during their session (excessive and uncharacteristic drowsiness, fever of 100.4 or above, vomiting (that is not deemed to be unrelated to illness), diarrhea, rash, or new or worsening coughing, sneezing or green mucus), we will call you to have you come pick up your child.

*If your child requires medication while in the clinic, please fill out a medication form with our Clinical Director

Brevard Clinic Hours of Operation



OPEN

Monday 8AM-4PM

Tuesday 8AM-4PM

Wednesday 8AM-4PM

Thursday 8AM-4PM

Friday 8AM-3PM

You child's individual therapy schedule will be determined with collaboration from your BCBA, determination of medically necessary hours, and your family's availability

Closed for:

New Years Day

MLK Day

Memorial Day

Independence Day

Labor Day

Thanksgiving Day and
the day after Thanksgiving

Christmas Eve

Christmas Day

New Years Eve

What to Pack:



Label your child's belongings with their name for the following:

- Water or Drink to last through the day
- Lunch, Snacks, and Silverware packed in a lunch box
- Diapers, Pullups, Wipes if needed
- Sunscreen or lotion as needed
- Change of Clothes and Extra pair of Shoes

Additional labeled items may be left in the clinic

Treasure Coast Hours of Operation



OPEN

Monday 8AM-430PM

Tuesday 8AM-430PM

Wednesday 8AM-430PM

Thursday 8AM-430PM

Friday 8AM-430PM

You child's individual therapy schedule will be determined with collaboration from your BCBA, determination of medically necessary hours, and your family's availability

Closed for:

New Years Day

Memorial Day

Independence Day

Labor Day

Thanksgiving Day and
the day after Thanksgiving

Christmas Eve

Christmas Day

New Years Eve

What to Pack:



Label your child's belongings with their name for the following:

- Water or Drink to last through the day
- Lunch, Snacks, and Silverware packed in a lunch box
- Diapers, Pullups, Wipes if needed
- Sunscreen or lotion as needed
- Change of Clothes and Extra pair of Shoes

Additional labeled items may be left in the clinic