

## *Moving Towards Independence*

\* *The Autism Program* at Sonora is designed to promote a child's independent working through organizing and structuring their environments. Our goal is to match research based educational strategies to the needs of our students in order to improve adaptation, skill enhancement, meaningful outcomes, and ensure an optimal learning environment.

\* Our program utilizes a standards based curriculum, which is modified/adapted to best address students' individualized needs. Integral within the program is social skills acquisition, development and generalization, along with vocational training opportunities and life skills instruction.

\* We use a predictable and structured learning environment with visual supports to increase students' communicative process.

\* Our program provides focused support, meaningful educational benefit, and offers several mainstreaming opportunities for students consistent with the principles of the Least Restrictive Environment.

\* Our Best Buds, IMPACT, Ag. Mentor and Medical Academy Mentor programs enhance the life of students through social/learning opportunities and friendships



## SONORA HIGH SCHOOL

*A California Distinguished School*



SONORA HIGH SCHOOL  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
THE COMMUNITY AND PARENTS OF  
LA HABRA, BREA, AND FULLERTON

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# SONORA

## HIGH SCHOOL

*A California Distinguished School*

# Autism

# Program



A program combining relevant classroom and community learning with a pathway towards independence.

# Moving Towards Independence

## About Autism

\*Autism is defined as a spectrum disorder ranging from mild social and language disabilities to severe mental retardation and behavioral disorders.

\*One of the most common developmental disabilities in the world, affecting approximately 1 out of every 133 births.

\*By conservative estimate, more than 400,000 people in the U.S. today have some form of autism.

\*The symptoms of autism tend to appear very early in life, usually within the first three years. In general, these include:

➤ Significant problems in language development

➤ Significant problems with understanding and engaging in social interactions

➤ Inconsistent sensory response patterns—for instance, periods when hearing appears to function normally and periods of apparent deafness

➤ Uneven pattern of intellectual development

➤ Significant, highly-focused restriction of interests and activities

The main goal of an Autism program is to increase students' quality of life and functional independence.

Approaches include:

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

Developmental Models

Structured Learning

Speech and Language Therapy

Social Skills Therapy

[www.teach.com](http://www.teach.com)

The educational path is determined by the members of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team.

### Diploma

Students who earn 240 credits, pass Algebra, the District Competency Exams, and the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) will be eligible for a Sonora High School Diploma.

### Certificate



of

### Completion

Students who receive instruction in functional academics, social skills training, independent living training, and community-based instruction will be eligible for a Certificate of Completion. Student will have the opportunity to participate in workability and service learning experience.

## Elective Courses at Sonora High School

Auto Shop, Agriculture Program, Agriculture Mechanics, Woodshop, Forensics, Floral, Art, Theatre, Medical Careers and Culinary Arts



## Partnerships

Sonora High School has partnerships with:

- St. Jude Medical Center, Fullerton to provide vocational training.
- La Habra Bowl which will provide an opportunity for students to bowl during the semester.
- La Habra City Community Services Department.
- Regional Center of Orange County.
- Local business in the city of La Habra

