

At School and Day Programs

The goal in selecting the right educational or day program setting for your child should be to provide her with the most stimulating program in the least restrictive environment, taking into account each child's own special needs and personality.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Girls with Rett Syndrome can be seen in classrooms of all types, ranging from self-contained special education units to full inclusion in regular schools. The type of school placement is a very personal decision, and should be made by you after careful consideration of all factors. Keep your child at the center of this decision-making process, for she is unique in her own way and the environment she thrives in, separate from her diagnosis of Rett syndrome.

Deciding on the Right School Placement

Advocacy Resources

DAY HABILITATION PROGRAMS AND ALTERNATIVES

In most cases, education in the public schools can continue until at least age twenty-one. Around the age of fourteen, the public school system begins the process of transition to adult life and adult services with a transition IEP. The options available will depend in large part where you live. Adult programs are not mandated and therefore, availability is tied to local funding. Your state Developmental Disabilities Agency should be able to assist you with identifying appropriate programs.

If a day program does not exist in your area, it may be possible for you to start a local program, pooling the energy of other families of adults and accessing local resources.

While there are a limited number of jobs available, some women do have supported employment, either through a workshop or other habilitation programs. There are also may be many volunteer opportunities in your community that your adult child may thoroughly enjoy, with the proper support of an aid or assistant. Some parents have suggested things like delivering the mail at an office, taking tickets at a movie theater, playing with pets at the Humane Society. Be creative!

