

Our Approach

Birchtree's autism experts work *in partnership* with students, families, schools, and agencies to develop comprehensive, individualized educational and therapeutic programs. We are committed to **full inclusion** whenever and wherever possible.

Instructional Areas:

- ✓ Academics
- ✓ Communication & Social Skills
- ✓ Self-Care & Hygiene
- ✓ Mobility & Fitness
- ✓ Behavior & Self-Regulation
- ✓ Vocational & Independent-Living Skills
- ✓ Leisure Skills & Community Participation

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Expertise In Action

All Birchtree programs are **data-driven** and based on the principles of applied behavior analysis, with close supervision from Board Certified Behavior Analysts® (BCBAs®). Direct support staff, including Registered Behavior Technicians® (RBTs®), are highly trained in ABA and closely supervised by BCBAs®.

Our Program Team

The autism experts on our team include:

- ✓ Board Certified Behavior Analysts®
- ✓ Certified Special Educators
- ✓ Speech-Language Pathologists
- ✓ Occupational Therapists
- ✓ A Transition Coordinator
- ✓ Art, Music & Physical Education Instructors
- ✓ Registered Behavior Technicians®

Program staff are **highly trained** in applied behavior analysis, special education, occupational therapy techniques, social skill development, and augmentative and alternative communication systems.



One Student's Story

When Ben* first started at The Birchtree Center's day school at age seven, he could barely talk and he struggled to get his needs met. He got so frustrated that he sometimes bit himself or kicked others to communicate.

Birchtree's autism experts worked with Ben year round, one-on-one and in small groups. Ben learned how to speak, how to read, how to regulate his behavior, and more. Birchtree's staff traveled with Ben daily so he could practice using his skills **in the real world**.

Today, you may be in line behind Ben at the grocery store or on a treadmill next to him at the gym. Or maybe you'll see him at his part-time job, where he first volunteered as a student.

Friends like you help make this progress possible! Contact us to discuss how you can get involved.

**Name changed to preserve student & family privacy.*

AUTISM & APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS PROGRAMS & SERVICES



A not-for-profit organization
serving NH, MA & ME
www.birchtreecenter.org

603-433-4192

www.birchtreecenter.org

A nonprofit based in Portsmouth, NH

Our Mission is to promote independence, engaging relationships, and productive lives for children and youth with autism at home, at school, and in the community.

We Serve:

- Children and youth with autism and related disorders.
- Families, caregivers, and educators who work with students with autism.
- Public schools and community agencies serving students with autism.

Our Day School in Portsmouth, NH, is an intensive, year-round special educational day program for students with autism in grades preK-12.

Highly trained and closely supervised staff, including Registered Behavior Technicians® (RBTs®), work with students **one-on-one and in small groups**. All instruction is data-driven and based on the principles of applied behavior analysis.

Birchtree's team of autism experts includes specialists in the fields of applied behavior analysis, special education, communication, and occupational therapy. These specialists design and closely supervise all student programs.



Ours is **the only school of its kind** in our state; over 20 public school districts in Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire send students to attend.

Some students attend the day school for short periods of time and then transition successfully to their neighborhood schools. Other students require the ongoing intensive educational and behavioral supports that the day-school program provides.



Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) & Autism Consultation & Services

are available to benefit children and youth with autism and related disorders. Our autism experts **travel 36,000+ miles per year** in southern New Hampshire, southern Maine, and northern Massachusetts to provide services in public schools, family homes, and other community settings. **Remote services** are available for schools and families outside of Birchtree's typical service area.

School Consultation Services include behavioral and educational assessments by Board Certified Behavior Analysts® (BCBAs®), consultation and training with a student's educational team, direct services by Registered Behavior Technicians® (RBTs®), and the development of interventions and strategies that can be used to **strengthen a student's progress** in a public school setting.

In-Home Services provide instructional help in the areas of behavior, hygiene, self-help skills, social interaction, communication, academics, leisure routines, community access, and more. We offer training to family members and help students learn to **apply their skills** at home and in the community.

Autism Workshops open to the public are offered **online and in-person**. Our autism experts help parents, caregivers, teachers, administrators, para-educators, and service providers learn practical strategies for working with students with autism.

Students Achieving Independence

for Life (SAIL) Activities prepare our adolescent day-school students for life beyond Birchtree. Our autism experts work closely with students' families and local agencies to develop individualized plans to promote **independence for life**.

Students aged 14-21 years receive hands-on instruction in vocational skills, community participation, lifelong learning, and independent living. Students develop and practice their skills across multiple settings at Birchtree and in the community.



How You Can Help: Service fees cannot cover the full cost of Birchtree's intensive programs. That's why our not-for-profit organization depends on contributions from individuals, businesses, and organizations. **Your donation** helps fund teaching technology, therapeutic equipment, classroom supplies, and other program essentials.



The Birchtree Center is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization (EIN 02-0520364). Donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. To discuss how you can get involved, please **contact us!**

The Birchtree Center admits students of any sex, race, creed, color, marital status, national/ethnic origin, and economic status. Birchtree's Outreach Program is made possible thanks to a grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's Greater Portsmouth Rehabilitation Center Fund.

The Birchtree Center
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