



STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: October 7, 2026

To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities

Route To: Directors of Special Education, Preschool Administrators, Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Child Study Team Members

From: Dr. Tiffany Neill, Acting Chief Academic Officer
Division of Academic Services

Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf: Free Playgroup for Young Children and Families

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), Office of Special Education (OSE), is pleased to share that the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf (MKSD) is hosting a free fall playgroup where young children and their families can play, learn, and grow together in a language-rich American Sign Language (ASL) and English environment. Because the early years are a critical window for language development, this playgroup gives families meaningful language access for their children and a welcoming community of support.

Program Details

- **Who can attend:** Deaf and hard of hearing children ages 15 months to 5 years, Children of Deaf Adults (CODA), and Siblings of Deaf Adults (SODA), with their parents and caregivers
- **Dates:** September 25 and October 2, 9, 16, and 23, 2026
- **Time:** 2:15-3:15 p.m.
- **Venue:** Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf, 320 Sullivan Way, Ewing, NJ
- **Led by:** Certified Teachers of the Deaf and an ASL/English Bilingual Specialist
- **Cost:** Free
- **Registration details:** To participate please send an email to playgroup@mksd.org

What Families Can Expect

- Music, art, circle time, large group play, and snacks
- Opportunities to learn some ASL together with their child
- Connections with other families of young deaf and hard of hearing children
- Information about resources available across New Jersey

Contact Information

For additional information about the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf, please visit the [MKSD website](#).