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5 Reasons you might request an Independent Educational Evaluation in the area of Occupational Therapy

1. Your child is transitioning to middle or high school and you do not feel that the school-based occupational therapy evaluation completed adequately reflects your child's sensory needs, motor skills, and/or writing abilities to develop an adequate support plan for the transition
2. You feel your child's handwriting deficits may be more significant, especially as writing demands increase and you would like to fully understand the sensory, visual, fine motor/pencil control, perceptual, visual motor, and graphomotor layers that could be impacting writing so that an appropriate plan can be developed. If the school-based OT found average visual motor scores and reported that OT was not necessary, you may request an independent evaluation to gather additional information.
3. Your child has extreme behaviors or is not attending school and you feel there may be a sensory or motor aspect to the behavioral outbursts such as sound sensitivity, tactile defensiveness, overwhelm in busy environments, etc.
4. You feel that your child has not made sufficient progress with regard to sensory and/or motor skills with the current school supports. He/she has not met many of the goals in the IEP and you are concerned that there may be some unidentified issues that are interfering with progress.
5. The school is saying that your child does not require OT services and/or a sensory diet but you feel strongly that this is an aspect of your child's program that needs to be looked into further.

**For more information about occupational therapy independent educational evaluations, please schedule a phone consultation or in person meeting with
Aubrey Schmale, OTR/L**