## **Physical Therapy Services**

The Physical Therapist's primary role in the school setting is to facilitate safe and efficient mobility skills. Assessment of readiness in gait, assisted ambulation, and wheelchair mobility is a fundamental practice of the school-based Physical Therapist. Equipment is utilized in the classroom, and teacher training is provided, to support IEP objectives that deal with prerequisite skills in these areas. The physical characteristics of the school environment are assessed in relation to each student's abilities, and modifications are made to encourage maximal independence in mobility.

Physical Therapies are provided as related services to students eligible for Special Education services. We provide educationally relevant therapy services to students, as specified in the IEP. Referrals are generated through the Student Support Team, with input from parents, teachers, and others involved in the student's education. The functions of the PT include evaluation, therapeutic intervention/treatment, documentation, and participation in staffings. We provide inservice training to teachers and other support staff on a variety of topics.

Occupational and Physical Therapy provides and maintains a wide array of adaptive equipment for students with a variety of disabilities. The equipment is utilized to facilitate optimal student performance and participation in the classroom, and, if utilized, is documented in the IEP.

For more information contact the Special Education office at (706) 826-1132.