



Yael Tsafir, M.A., Ph.D. Candidate

*Special Education Educator | Special Education Pedagogical Coordinator |
Researcher*

Professional Profile

Special education educator and pedagogical coordinator with over 30 years of experience in special and inclusive education, and a researcher. Has extensive expertise in teaching adolescents with Special Educational Needs (SEN), psychoeducational assessment, differentiated instruction, teacher training, and educational leadership. Currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Education, focusing on the effects of an auto-developed MEPAS intervention program on academic achievement, academic motivation, academic self-efficacy, and subjective well-being among adolescents with SEN.

Research Interests

Special and Inclusive Education; Special Educational Needs; Academic Motivation; Academic Self-Efficacy; Subjective Well-Being; Positive Education; Psychomotor Interventions; Self-Regulation and Effortful Control; Differentiated Instruction; Mixed Methods Research.

Education

2022–Present

Ph.D. Candidate in Education

Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

2001–2004

M.A. in Special Education – Developmental Aspects of Education

Tel Aviv University, Israel (*Graduated with Honors*)

1998–2001

Certificate in Educational Assessment and Intervention

Elbaum Institute, Israel

1985–1990

B.A. in Special Education and Psychology

Including Teaching Certificate, Bar-Ilan University, Israel



Professional Experience

2020–Present

Special Education Homeroom Teacher and SEN Coordinator

Begin Six-Year Secondary School (Grades 7–12), Eilat, Israel

- Homeroom teacher in special education classes at junior and senior high school levels.
- Teaching matriculation subjects and preparing students with SEN for national examinations.
- Coordinating special education services in junior high school.
- Promoting students' academic achievement, inclusion, well-being, and transition to adulthood.

2021–2022

Lecturer, Preparatory Program for Special Education Teachers

Levinsky-Wingate Academic Center, Eilat Campus, Israel

2017–2020

Special Education Homeroom Teacher

Darca Ramon Six-Year Secondary School, (Grades 7–12), Gedera, Israel

- Prepared students for matriculation examinations in Mathematics, Hebrew, History, and Civics.
- Achieved a 100% matriculation eligibility rate among graduates.

2014–2017

Pedagogical and Matriculation Coordinator

Tafnit School for Special Education, Beit Shemesh, Israel

- Developed differentiated curricula and instructional programs.
- Supervised and mentored teaching staff.
- Coordinated matriculation examinations and educational programs.

2014–2020

Teacher Trainer and Workshop Facilitator

Municipal Educational Services, Ashdod and Ashkelon, Israel

- Delivered professional development workshops for teachers, principals, and teaching assistants.
- Provided training in differentiated instruction, inclusive education, ASD, and SEN.

1995–2020

Founder and Director, Private Educational and Diagnostic Practice

- Conducted psychoeducational and functional assessments for children, adolescents, and adults.

- Provided educational consultation and interventions for individuals with learning disabilities, developmental disorders, and behavioral difficulties.
- Delivered parent guidance and learning strategy instruction.
- Worked with clients from Israel and abroad, including Italy and the United States.

1999–2003; 2018–Present

Lecturer, Consultant, and Trainer – Italy

- Conducted seminars, consultations, and professional development programs related to developmental disorders, learning disabilities, ASD, ADHD, and inclusive education.

1998–2001

Instructor in the Special Education Teacher Preparation Program

David Yellin Academic College of Education, Jerusalem, Israel

Selected Publications

Sabbadini, L., Tsafrir, Y., & Iurato, E. (2005). *Protocollo per la valutazione delle abilità prassiche e della coordinazione motoria (APCM)* [*Protocol for the assessment of praxis abilities and motor coordination (APCM)*]. Springer.

Tsafrir, Y., & Bocoş, M. (2023). Group-inclusion for students with special educational needs in mainstream schools. *Educția 21*, (25), 213–222.
<https://doi.org/10.24193/ed21.2023.25.23>

Tsafrir, Y., Bocoş, M. (2026). Impact of a psychomotor, willpower, and emotional development intervention on academic and well-being outcomes among adolescents with special educational needs. *Educția 21*, in press.

Tsafrir, Y. (2016). *From the Bridge: A Collection of Words* (Poetry, Hebrew, Italian).

Tsafrir, Y. (2024). *The War of October Seventh: Words of Pain* (Poetry, Hebrew, English).

Languages

Hebrew: Native speaker

English: Fluent

Italian: Fluent

Arabic: Basic