

# THE INCLUSION CHARTER

## Inclusion is a right

All children have the right to be included in every aspect of society. Disabled children should not have to ask or fight to be included in the things that other children do. Inclusion is a right in UK law (the Disability Discrimination Acts) and international law (UN Conventions on the Rights of the Child and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities).

## Inclusion is about all of life

*“We want to be part of society”*

Inclusion is a process of change where all children are valued in every aspect of their life and in the life of their community.

## Inclusion means no-one is left out

Inclusion means all children, whatever their impairment, wherever they live and however they communicate.

## Inclusion starts early

From the very earliest age, disabled children should have the right to play and learn with other children, enjoying all the aspects of life and friendships that other children do.

## Inclusion means everyone is heard

*“We want to be respected”*

All children have a right to communicate. Some express their views without using speech and services must respond.

## Inclusion is everyone's responsibility

*“We want to go where other children go”*

Disabled children are not just the responsibility of specialist disability services. All services need to ensure that disabled children can take part in everything they do.

## Inclusion is built in

Everyone who works with children must have training in disability equality to equip them with the skills to ensure disabled children are able to participate.

## Inclusion benefits everyone

Inclusion benefits all children and young people, as well as adults. It promotes citizenship and helps create a society that celebrates difference and is at ease with itself.

## Inclusion works

All over the country, right now, there are thousands of examples where inclusion is working. Disabled children can and should be included in every area of life.

