

FACT SHEET

Inclusive Education

A frequently recommended educational practice is that students with disabilities, including severe disabilities, should receive education in general education classes with their nondisabled peers. The purpose of this fact sheet is to explain what inclusion is and is not and to delineate the benefits of inclusion.

What Is Inclusion?

1. Chronologically age-appropriate general education settings.
2. **ALL** students having the option to participate in school and after-school activities.
3. Opportunities to interact and develop friendships.
4. Students attending neighborhood schools.
5. Collaboration.
6. Related services: Transdisciplinary teaming.
7. Viewing special education as a service, not as a place.
8. Planning for transitions.

What Inclusion is NOT:

1. Dumping students without supports and services needed.
2. Doing away with special education services.
3. Ignoring each student's unique needs.
4. Sacrificing the education of general education students.
5. All the students having to learn the same thing, at the same time, in the same way.

Benefits of Inclusion: Students With Disabilities:

1. Peer role models.
2. Decreased rates of inappropriate behavior.
3. Increased proportion of IEP objectives achieved.
4. Enhanced skill acquisition and generalization.
5. Increased inclusion in future environments.
6. Increased opportunities for interaction.
7. Increased social initiations.
8. Friendships.
9. Improved appearance.

Benefits of Inclusion: Students Without Disabilities

1. Increased understanding and acceptance of diversity.
2. Increased appreciation and acceptance of individual differences.
3. Meaningful friendships.
4. Respect for all people.
5. Preparing for a future inclusive society.
6. Opportunities to master activities by practicing and teaching others.

**The Project for New
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Who Are Deafblind**



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Fact sheets from the Project for NM Children & Youth Who Are Deafblind are to be used by both families and professionals serving individuals with dual sensory impairments. The information applies to students 0 – 21 years of age. The purpose of the fact sheet is to give general information on a specific topic. More specific information for an individual student can be provided through individualized technical assistance. The fact sheet is a starting point for further information. Information for this Fact Sheet kindly supplied by California Deaf-Blind Services and the Nevada Dual Sensory Impairment Project.