How can we work together to support inclusion of children

Inclusion works best when schools, parent/carers and Local Authority work together to support the child.

Section 19 of the Children and Families Act 2014 makes clear that local authorities, in carrying out their functions under the Act in relation to disabled children and young people and those with special educational needs (SEN), must have regard to:

- the views, wishes and feelings of the child or young person, and the child's parents
- the importance of the child or young person, and the child's parents, participating as fully as possible in decisions, and being provided with the information and support necessary to enable participation in those decisions
- the need to support the child or young person, and the child's parents, in order to facilitate the development of the child or young person and to help them achieve the best possible educational and other outcomes, preparing them effectively for adulthood

The school and the Local Authority work together to support the child. Local Authority services can offer support and advice that the school can then undertake.

Where needed, the school, Local Authority and parent/carer can also work together to support the child through an Education, Health and Care Plan Needs Assessment.

School

The school recognises the vital role a parent/carer plays in being both the expert of and the advocate for the child or young person.

The school listens to the lived experiences of the parent/carer and the CYP.

The school works in partnership with parents/carers to ensure they are supported and involved in discussions and decisions related to their child

Local Authority

Parent/Carer