



Down Syndrome
Australia

How teachers and educators can lead the change towards inclusive education

This resource has been developed to provide advice to passionate teachers and educators on ways they can progress inclusive education in their school setting.

Starting the conversation about inclusive education within a school can be generated from many different levels within the school community. It may be driven by the leadership team or in other situations, through passionate educators or families. There are a number of ways to raise the profile and importance of inclusive education for students with Down syndrome and this action sheet highlights some of the ways this can happen. The Down Syndrome Information Sheet on Inclusive Education can be a useful resource to provide to people interested in inclusive education.



What will your next step be?

- Research professional development opportunities to learn more about inclusive education**

BY: [Joining the School Inclusion Network for Educators](#)

- Start the conversation about inclusive education with the school leadership team**

BY: Use the Down Syndrome Australia Inclusive Education powerpoint during this discussion.

- Talk to the parent community about inclusive education and the benefits for students with and without disabilities**

BY: Talking with parents at a parent committee meeting or arranging a session where parents are invited to watch the Down Syndrome Inclusive Education video and animation.

- Make connections with other schools that are doing inclusion well**

BY: Talk to your state based Down syndrome association about schools that are leading the way with inclusion and make contact with these schools.

- ☑ Discuss what inclusive education is at staff meetings with the whole school team

BY: Showing i.e. Down Syndrome Inclusive Education video at a staff meeting

- ☑ Identify an inclusive education champion from your area

BY: Contacting your state Down syndrome association regarding services and information that they offer. Your Down syndrome association can let you know what has been achieved in the past with other families and may be able to help you find a mentor with Down syndrome to assist.

For more information and links to the research, please visit:

Down syndrome association contact details

There is a Down syndrome association in each state and territory. You can contact these associations for support and advice. We are here to help you. Our associations are made up of a wide range of parents, professionals and people with Down syndrome who work or volunteer with us. Please visit our website at www.downsyndrome.org.au or call 1300 881 935 to be automatically connected to your closest association.

Other helpful links:

All Means All - www.allmeansall.org.au

Family Advocacy - www.family-advocacy.com

Maryland coalition for Inclusive Education - www.mcie.org

Swift Education Centre - www.swiftschools.org

Inclusion International - www.inclusion-international.org

Children with Disability Australia - www.cyda.org.au

Australian Research Centre for Children and Youth - www.aracy.org.au

Human Rights Commission - www.humanrights.gov.au



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