Principles of Inclusion
for Children and Students with Disability in Education and Care

Inclusive education builds the capacity of early childhood centres and schools to educate and support all students and contributes to stronger communities.

All children and students who experience disability have:

- the right to access and participate in education
  An environment that allows access and participation on the same basis as children and students who do not experience disability.

- the ability to learn and the right to exercise their voice, choice and control in managing their own educational experiences
  All children, students and adults have a diverse range of ability. The focus needs to be on the whole person.

- the right to develop to their fullest potential and to be active, valued citizens in the community
  Inclusive education gives everyone the opportunity to thrive.

- the right to an appropriate and adequate allocation of resources to enable their right to access and participate in education
  Resources to create a physical, social, cultural and educational environment that enables access and participation for all.

All children and students who experience disability, AND their parents/carers, teachers and members of the education community have:

- the right to be safe – physically, emotionally, culturally and socially and to be treated respectfully
  A safe environment and respect for the dignity of everyone.

- the responsibility to operate within the legal frameworks provided by the Australian and South Australian governments
  We all need to comply with relevant legislation:
  - Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth)
  - Disability Standards for Education 2005 (Cth)
  - Disability Services Act (SA) 1993
  - Children’s Protection Act 1993 (SA)
  - South Australian Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (EOA)
  - Education Act (SA) 1972
  - Plus relevant education sector policies and guidelines.

Teachers, early childhood education and care centre and school communities and the parents/carers of children and students who experience disability have the responsibility for taking action for inclusive behaviour in their care and education setting.

Inclusive behaviour by the individual encourages inclusive practice by everyone.

Adults and those in authority in education are responsible and accountable for inclusive behaviours – theirs and others.

The full document with suggestions on how inclusion can be achieved and what it looks like in practice plus resources is at https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/department/about-department/maccswd 2017

The Principles have been endorsed by the Department for Education and Child Development, Catholic Education South Australia and the Association of Independent Schools of South Australia. The Principles were developed on behalf of the Minister for Education and Child Development by the Ministerial Advisory Committee: Children and Students with Disability https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/department/about-department/maccswd 2017