

How do we know if someone is achieving their best in their learning?

Often, when we talk about achievements in learning, we talk about what level people are at and what marks they get in their exams. This can be unfair to people who learn in different ways and doesn't recognise all of the different ways people can achieve things at school.

Measuring achievement differently can mean that pupils are better supported and mean that their learning is more creative. But if teachers are told they have to do things differently and record more information about all their pupils, they can feel like they just have more work to do. It is important to be clear when changes are to make things better for them and their pupils.



Recommendation: Measuring success

- There should be a plan agreed to make sure that children and young people with additional support needs get all of support they need to get the most out of their learning. This should be just as important as everyone else's learning.
- This plan should be one that people are excited about because it will help to make things better, rather than a plan that people follow because they have to but don't want to. How well people are sticking to the plan will be recorded to make sure things are getting better but it's not a competition.
- Not everyone's success can be measured in exam results but that doesn't mean they are a failure. There are reports that can help professionals to think about different learning targets for pupils.
- How we know the plan is working should include all different kinds of success. Children and young people with additional support needs and their families should get to say what they think success looks like for them now and in the future.
- How much Pupil Support Assistants help children and young people to learn and achieve should also be part of the plan.
- We should look at how all different kinds of success can be included in how we measure success for all pupils, not just pupils with additional support needs. At the moment, success for learning in Scotland focuses on levels and exam results.

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Recommendation: Education Scotland

- ★ Education Scotland is part of the Scottish Government and works to make schools and education better in Scotland.
- ★ Education Scotland should use what Angela has found and make sure that how they inspect schools matches up.
- ★ Education Scotland should use what Angela has found out to help improve things in schools across Scotland.

This summary was written by members of staff at Children in Scotland and commented on by members of the Children in Scotland children and young people's advisory group, Changing our World. It is based on the Executive Summary of the **Additional Support for Learning Review**. Changes have been made to the words used and the layout of information. No changes were made to the topics included.



