



What did children and young people with additional support needs tell Angela?

Children and young people told the review that they want to be included in their schools and communities. They feel it is important that adults working in schools are aware of additional support needs and are sensitive to their individual needs. Special thanks to the Inclusion Ambassadors for their help with providing headlines for this section. (To find out more about the Inclusion Ambassadors, visit <https://childreninscotland.org.uk/inclusion-ambassadors/>).

Children and young people told the Angela that these things are important:

- ★ **Good relationships between children and young people and staff are important for learning.**
- ★ **Doing things in different ways to help people learn in their own way is important.** Using technology can be really helpful with this.
- ★ **School needs to be a safe place.** Having calm, quiet or sensory areas in all schools can help people feel safe. Pupils should be able to choose to use these when they want to or need to.
- ★ **All school staff need to have more knowledge and understanding** of additional support needs so they can help everyone.
- ★ **Children and young people with additional support needs don't want adults to assume they can't do things.** Their learning support need should not define them.
- ★ **Children and young people would feel happier at school if other pupils were kind and understanding.**
- ★ **Bullying should be sorted out as quickly as possible.**
- ★ **There shouldn't be big differences in the support pupils get from different staff at school.** Children and young people should get the support they need, when they need it.
- ★ **Communication needs to improve.** Primary and secondary schools need to talk to each other. There also needs to be more communication between schools, and other organisations that provide support to children and young people.
- ★ **Children and young people need to feel involved in sharing their views when decisions are being made.** Children and young people have their own views on what works for them and what kind of support they need.
- ★ **There needs to be enough money for additional support for learning** to make sure everyone gets the support they need, when they need it.



Main recommendation: Children and Young People's Participation

- ☆ Children and young people must be listened to and involved in all decisions about additional support for learning. Listening to and working with children, young people and their families will mean better plans are written and are more likely to make a difference to people's lives.

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.