



## Why is how people talk about additional support for learning important?

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Additional support for learning isn't given as much attention as it needs by people making decisions about education across Scotland.

Sometimes, because schools or councils don't have enough time or money, people get stuck in arguments about what they should be doing and what they can afford to do. This is no good for children that need support.

Sometimes, because there isn't enough time or money, the focus is only on pupils with certain types of additional support needs. But we know that there are lots of different reasons pupils need additional support, and no one should be missed out.

Children, young people and their families shouldn't have to fight or compete to get the support they need to learn.

Sometimes children who are quiet and don't get upset or angry when they don't get the support they need to learn get missed.

People shouldn't judge children, young people or their families if they need additional support to learn but we know this happens sometimes.

Education in Scotland should be able to support **all children and all their support needs**.

Scroll down or turn over for recommendations.





## Recommendation: Vision Statement

- ☆ Children and young people with additional support needs should be involved in deciding what they think success looks like for their education. This will be called the Vision Statement. This should happen by the end of 2020.
- ☆ As well as the Vision Statement, there should be a plan to share positive messages with the public about additional support for learning. If more people know about it and are talking about it, it will help to make sure children and young people get the support they need.
- ☆ We should celebrate all kinds of success and achievements in learning publicly, not just exam results.
- ☆ The way we talk about children and young people with additional support needs and the support they get should change. People should not be defined by their condition or the things they can't do.

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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.