

**Benefits of Inclusive Education**

**The benefits of inclusive education are numerous for both students with and without disabilities.**

**Benefits of Inclusion for Students with Disabilities**

1. Friendships
2. Increased social initiations, relationships and networks
3. Peer role models for academic, social and behavior skills
4. Increased achievement of  IEP goals
5. Greater access to general curriculum
6. Enhanced skill acquisition and generalization
7. Increased inclusion in future environments
8. Greater opportunities for interactions
9. Higher expectations
10. Increased school staff collaboration
11. Increased parent participation
12. Families are more integrated into community

**Benefits of Inclusion for Students without Disabilities**

1. Meaningful friendships
2. Increased appreciation and acceptance of individual differences
3. Increased understanding and acceptance of diversity
4. Respect for all people
5. Prepares all students for adult life in an inclusive society
6. Opportunities to master activities by practicing and teaching others
7. Greater academic outcomes
8. All students needs are better met, greater resources for everyone

There is not any research that shows any negative effects from inclusion done appropriately with the necessary supports and services for students to actively participate and achieve IEP goals.

How do you think inclusion has helped you personally? How do you think inclusion has helped the student you work with? How well do you think our school includes students with disabilities? Are the students without disabilities accepting of their peers with disabilities? Are they willing to help include them in the school community? Are the students without disabilities at our school willing to accommodate their peers with disabilities? Do you have any other thoughts, comments, questions, or concerns?

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