

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is inclusion?

Students learn and use their learning, differently. Being different is both a fact and a goal for most of us. The goal of education is that all students benefit by becoming important and contributing members of their communities. Inclusion is an effort to make sure students with disabilities go to school along with their friends and neighbors while also receiving the instructional support that they need to succeed and to achieve to high standards. In inclusive education, students with disabilities receive their in-school services in the general education classrooms alongside their peers and within their neighborhood schools.

2. What is a teacher's role in an inclusive classroom?

Teachers are charged with the challenging task of assuring that each and every child feels welcomed and achieves to his/her highest potential. In order for teachers to meet this challenge, it is necessary to create a classroom that values all students for who they are, rather than for what they are able to do or not to do. Through the provision of instructional accommodations and/or modifications, teachers assure that students with disabilities are able to access the curriculum and instruction. A teacher that holds high expectations for ALL learners and is committed towards continual growth and improvement is a teacher who understands the role of an inclusive educator.

3. Is there training for teachers regarding inclusive practices?

Professional development opportunities are offered throughout the year for general and exceptional education teachers. Check out the following websites and look for the professional development calendar:

*www.floridainclusionnetwork.com
<http://portal.dadeschools.net/Teachers/index.htm>*

4. Is there support for teachers who want to learn more about inclusion?

There is an Inclusion Support Specialist (ISS) that supports each of the six region centers. The role of the ISS is to provide region and school site assistance and support.

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5. Where can I find out more information about inclusive practices?

There are videos available through Teacher's Choice (ask your media specialist)

#81024	Highlights of Inclusion	6 minutes
#81023	Developing Responsible Inclusive Practices	25 minutes

Check out <http://inclusion.dadeschools.net> for the latest news on inclusive practices and for topics regarding inclusive education.