

## WHAT WE DO

### PROVIDE INFORMATION

- Through publications, newsletters, and our website
- Present at conferences
- Provide comment to the media on inclusive education

### TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS

- For teachers and educators to improve their knowledge and understanding of the principles and practice of inclusive education
- For parents, whanau and caregivers to know about their child's rights and support to advocate for their child.

### NETWORKING

- We collaborate strongly with groups locally and internationally in order to share information and resources to build inclusive schools and communities.
- We provide support and networking opportunities as well as discussion forums for our members.

### RESEARCH

- We undertake and disseminate research to understand the barriers to learning and participation and shed light on inclusive education practice; how schools and kura can build their knowledge and implement inclusion.

### ADVOCACY

- IEAG is an established voice on matters relating to inclusive education and equality for all. We are members of Education For All, a collaboration of disability organisations that provides a collective voice to the government on education for students with disabilities.
- IEAG is working towards Aotearoa/New Zealand implementing an inclusive education policy. We regularly contribute to government consultations and initiatives.

## HOW CAN IEAG HELP YOU?

- You can be part of the collective voice that makes a difference on inclusive education
- We provide information through publications, newsletters and website
- We deliver presentations at conferences and other events
- We offer workshops on inclusive education
- We provide support networks and discussion forums for those implementing inclusion

### HOW CAN YOU HELP IEAG?

- Join us and support the rights of all children, young people and adults to an inclusive education
- Consider making a personal or corporate donation to support IEAG's work towards a socially just and inclusive Aotearoa/ New Zealand

## CONTACT US

For information on how to join IEAG or make a donation go to:

[www.ieag.org.nz](http://www.ieag.org.nz)

[inclusive.education.nz@gmail.com](mailto:inclusive.education.nz@gmail.com)

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IEAG is a registered charity (CC38831) and Incorporated Society (2137812) with IRD donee status.

**ieag**  
**Inclusive**  
**Education Action Group**  
**Creating Inclusive Schools & Communities**



## WHO ARE WE?

The Inclusive Education Action Group (IEAG) advocates for change in the education system. We promote knowledge, attitudes, policies and practices that facilitate inclusive education so all children, young people and adults, including those with disabilities, have equal opportunities to learn, belong, and flourish in their local, regular, educational setting.

Membership of IEAG is open to anyone who believes in inclusive education and supports the right of all children, young people and adults to participate fully at their local school, kura or other educational setting.

### *Education Act 1989, s8*

*People who have special educational needs (whether because of disability or otherwise) have the same rights to enrol and receive education in state schools as people who do not.*



## OUR BELIEFS

- All children, young people and adults have the right to learn together, to develop relationships, skills and knowledge for everyday life. Inclusion is a process of removing barriers to participation and learning for all.
- No disabled person should be denied the right to participate fully in education with others of their age. The role of education is to support people to be and become participating citizens in a civil democratic society.



UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:  
*"States Parties recognize the right of persons with disabilities to education ... [and] shall ensure an inclusive education system at all levels"*

## WHAT WE STAND FOR

Inclusive education is based on the principle that all people are equal and should be respected and valued, in accordance with basic human rights. Access to education is a human right.

- Inclusive education involves supporting all people to participate in the cultures, curricula and communities of their local educational setting. Barriers to learning and participation for everyone, irrespective of their ethnicity, culture, disability, sexuality, gender or any other factor, are actively reduced.
- Inclusive education involves more than simply placing students with disabilities into regular schools and classrooms. It is also more than the current system of special education.
- To achieve inclusive education the education system must undergo a radical change so that it has the resources, understandings, values and commitment to teach all students well in non-discriminatory settings. Inclusive education cannot occur alongside special education. It must replace the present dual system of "regular" and "special education. The needs of all children will be met in inclusive environments."
- Inclusive education works. Research and practice in Aotearoa/New Zealand and internationally shows that students who experience an inclusive education are well educated and are well prepared to participate and contribute as members of their communities and society.

"Special education" refers to particular ways of thinking about disabled students and to educational structures that separate and differentiate them from their peer group. "Special education" refers to separate locations such as special schools, units and classes, and to the belief systems and structures in any school or kura that identify students as "special" and separate.

