

Purpose:

Preparing for Adulthood Community Inclusion empowers individuals with disabilities to lead fulfilling, independent lives by promoting social integration, fostering independence, developing life skills, enhancing quality of life, preparing for employment, and building support networks within their communities.

Students are taught the following key steps that can help to prepare for Community Inclusion:

- Promote Social Integration
- Foster Independence
- Develop Life Skills
- Enhance Quality of Life
- Prepare for Employment
- Build Support Networks

Assessment:

In an educational setting, preparation for adulthood community inclusion can be assessed through various methods.

This involves gathering information from multiple sources, using a variety of assessment methods, and collaborating with the individual, their family, and other professionals to support their successful participation in community life.

Transition Planning plays a crucial role in preparing for community inclusion. This process involves collaboration between educators, students, families, and community agencies to identify goals, assess strengths and needs, and develop individualized plans for post-secondary education. Assessment in this context involves monitoring progress towards transition goals, evaluating the effectiveness of support services, and adjusting plans as needed to ensure successful outcomes.

Cross curriculum:

Mathematics: Using real-life scenarios related to budgeting, time management, and spatial reasoning in community contexts can reinforce math skills.

English: Reading literature or writing essays about diverse communities and individuals with disabilities can promote empathy and awareness.

Science: Exploring accessibility, environmental issues, and health-related topics relevant to community inclusion can enhance scientific understanding.

PSHE: Learning about inclusive practices, disability awareness, and healthy living in community settings can promote well-being for all individuals.

Ethics & Philosophy: Studying local communities, cultural diversity, and civic responsibility can foster understanding and appreciation for community inclusion.

Key Stage or stage breakdown:

Key Stage 1: (Ages 5-7)

Explore the concept of community through topics such as family, school, neighbourhoods, and local environments. Foster a sense of belonging and responsibility by involving students in classroom and school-based initiatives, such as classroom jobs, buddy systems, and community service projects. Introduce basic concepts related to diversity, inclusion, and disability awareness through age-appropriate stories, discussions, and activities. Encourage students to identify and discuss their own interests, strengths, and contributions to the community.

Key Stage 2: (Ages 7-11)

Expand students' understanding of community to include broader social, cultural, and global contexts. Engage students in inquiry-based learning experiences that explore community issues, challenges, and solutions. Promote active citizenship by involving students in projects that address real-world problems and promote social justice, equity, and sustainability. Provide opportunities for peer mentoring, leadership development, and collaborative problem-solving to promote inclusivity and empower students to make positive contributions to their communities.

Key Stage 3 (Ages 11-14):

Deepen students' understanding of community inclusion through interdisciplinary learning experiences that integrate subjects such as Ethics & Philosophy, English, and PSHE. Explore topics such as human rights, diversity, and social justice through critical inquiry, debate, and reflection. Encourage students to take on leadership roles in school-based clubs, committees, and initiatives focused on promoting diversity, inclusion, and community engagement. Foster critical thinking and empathy by examining historical and contemporary examples of activism, advocacy, and social change.

Key Stage 4/5 (Ages 14-18):

Provide opportunities for career exploration, work experience, and community-based learning placements that promote independence, self-advocacy, and employability skills. Offer specialized courses or vocational programs focused on community inclusion, disability studies, social work, or related fields to prepare students for careers in helping professions. Support students in developing personalized transition plans that address their individual needs, goals, and aspirations for post-school life. Encourage students to participate in civic engagement activities, volunteering, and community service projects to develop a sense of civic responsibility and social consciousness.