

ABOUT INCLUSION IN THE SPANISH EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

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The Spanish Educational System has traditionally been very inclusive compared to other European educational systems. It tends to favour mixed-ability groups but also to try and help students with different needs individually.

There are very few specific schools that have only special needs students. The usual thing is for students with learning difficulties to belong to an ordinary group and to go to specialized teachers who help them with their difficulties at certain hours. Mainly, they share most of their school day with the other students.

With talented students, we do the same. They are part of an ordinary group except for certain hours a week, when they have higher-level sessions in Spanish, English and Maths.

We are aware that not everyone has the same abilities or the same interests. Therefore, with students that get stuck and have important difficulties to get their Secondary Education Certificate, we have a simplified syllabus with which we make sure that they are ready to deal with ordinary life situations when they come of age.

For students with physical problems (blind or hard of hearing) we have specialist teachers. For students who come from abroad and don't speak Spanish, we give them extra Spanish lessons, so that they can integrate quickly.

In our school, we take special care of students who come for the first time. We are very interested in their quick adaptation. With the new younger students, we do welcoming activities in which older students are involved, so that the "little ones " will feel protected from the start.

We care about many other aspects of a student's development as a person. And we do care about conflict resolution. There is a group of teachers who are specially sensitive in this aspect and work to make sure that there is no violence or bullying, and that there is a peaceful learning atmosphere.