



INCLUSIVE CLASSROOMS PRACTICES

Prof. Prachi Tambe

H.G.M Azam College of Education Camp Pune.



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Introduction:

Inclusive in education is an approach to educate students with special educational needs. Under the inclusion model, students with special needs spend most or all of their time with non-disabled students. Implementation of these practices varies.

- **Common Practices In Classrooms**

Students in an inclusive classroom are generally placed with their chronological age-mates, regardless of whether the students are working above or below the typical academic level . To encourage a sense of belonging, emphasis is placed on the value of friendship. Teachers often nurture a relationship between a student with special needs and a same-age student without a special educational need. Another common practice is the assignment of a buddy to accompany a student with special needs at all times (for example on the playground, on the bus , in the library). This is used to show students that a diverse group of people make up a community, that no one type of student is better than another, and to remove any barriers to a friendship that may occur if a student is viewed as "helpless." Such practices reduce the chance for elitism among students in later grades and encourage cooperation among groups.

- **Inclusive Model**

In an inclusive model, class teachers are the primary provider of instruction for students with disabilities. As a result, they must develop strategies to facilitate the successful inclusion of this group of students . Two methods are generally used to facilitate successful inclusion: facilitating the acceptance of the students with disabilities and providing services to support their academic success. Student with disabilities who are included in general education classrooms are not always automatically accepted by their nondisabled peers. Teacher can use instructional strategies.

- Response to intervention
- Cooperative learning
- Peer support
- Self-determination strategies

Classroom teachers possibly play the most important role in the success of inclusion they must be able to perform many different functions, including:

- 1) Acting as a team member on assessment and IEP committees
- 2) Advocating for children with disabilities when they are in general education classroom and in special programs
- 3) Counseling and interacting with parents of students with disabilities
- 4) Individualizing instruction for students with disabilities
- 5) Understanding and abiding by due – process procedures required by federal and state regulations
- 6) Being innovative in providing equal educational opportunities for all students, including those with disabilities.

Inclusive Classroom Practices: Teachers Role

- Speak only positively about all children in the classroom and to other staff – present the positive aspects of each student
- Take clues from the child, think in terms of strengths and progress rather than deficits
- Give students a sense of control over their own learning
- Cue students who do not respond well to change in advance of daily program/subject transitions
- If the teacher sets the tone for acceptance, students will follow.
- Involved students in supporting each other
- Don't carry problems over from day to day
- Don't blame the student for a lack of proper resources
- Express student's positive accomplishments to parents
- Make an effort to listen understand the knowledge of parents
- Collaborate with other teachers involved with the same students

Conclusion:

Inclusion can be organized in several ways and on different levels, but essentially, it is the team of teachers who has to deal with an increasing diversity of student needs within their school and classes, and has to adapt or prepare Inclusive Education curriculum in such a way that the needs of all students are contented. The current context in which teachers are working is one of rapid change. All areas of education have changed during the past decades, with major changes to the role of teachers, together with the introduction of new approaches to the curriculum and assessment. It is clear that teachers are crucial in building more inclusive schools.