What we stand for

Equality and respect
We believe that everyone is of equal value, earned by virtue of being human. Family and ethnic background, gender identity or perceived ability have no part in determining personal worth.

We encourage schools and other settings to challenge any form of prejudice or discrimination, including institutional discrimination, and to ensure that everyone feels welcome, visible and respected.

One school for all
We recognize the uncompromised right of every child to a good education in their local community, as enshrined in national and international legislation. We understand a call for separate special schools to be a remnant of a previous era, when disabled people were excluded from mainstream society. We can see no moral justification for separating disabled young people from their peers.

We encourage schools and other settings to raise awareness about the social model of disability and to consider how teaching and learning can be reorganised, so that schools can respond to the full diversity of learners.

Best outcomes for all
We aspire to an inclusive society where minority groups are no longer marginalised or excluded. We understand that inclusive education is an important step towards an inclusive society.

We encourage schools and other settings to help young people establish inclusive values, healthy lifestyles and relationships, as well as help them achieve academically.

Valuing diversity
We believe that diversity is part of what makes the world beautiful; it should be celebrated and utilized as a rich learning resource. People from a range of social, cultural and ethnic backgrounds, who may be heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender and may or may not have a range of physical, sensory or mental impairments, all contribute to the richness of everyone’s life.

We encourage schools and other settings to celebrate diversity and to resist and reduce any pressures to marginalise, discriminate or exclude.

Who we are

The Centre for Studies on Inclusive Education was set up in 1982 and is a registered charity and company supporting inclusive education as a human right of every child. Our work is overseen by a Council of Trustees. CSIE is being sustained by small grants and donations, as well as additional income from sale of publications and services. The Centre’s work is driven by a commitment to overcoming barriers to learning and participation for all children and young people.

What we do

Resources
We produce and distribute a wide range of resources for a diverse audience. From detailed practical guides that support the development of inclusive education, to posters and information leaflets which we make available free of charge, our resources are popular with parents, professionals and students. Some of our materials have been translated and are in use in other countries. The Index for Inclusion has been translated into 39 languages and the third edition remains very popular in this country and abroad.

Talks and training
CSIE staff and associate trainers are knowledgeable, experienced and flexible. We regularly present at conferences and other events, offer courses for parents or professionals and contribute to students’ learning. We deliver talks and training in this country and abroad on a range of issues relevant to inclusive education, for example fulfilling statutory equality duties and making the most of the Index for inclusion: developing learning and participation in schools. Feedback tends to be extremely positive, for example “All excellent - thought provoking, clear presentation, useful materials.”

Consultancy
We work with education officers at all levels, to assist in strategic overviews of provision and support the development of inclusive education for all children and young people. Our consultancy work has ranged from engaging with particular local authorities in this country, to advising government officials in European countries and beyond.

Research
We undertake and disseminate research which informs the understanding of barriers to learning and participation and sheds light on existing inclusive practice. We have established a publication series through which we regularly report on trends in school placements of children and young people identified as having special educational needs, in local authorities across England.

Lobbying and campaigning
We have established a strong voice on matters relevant to inclusive education and equality for all and often join this with the voice of others; for example we are members of the ROCK coalition, campaigning for the incorporation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child into UK law. We regularly respond to government consultations and contribute to national and international inquiries. We also have an international presence, for example CSIE staff contributed to the writing of Article 24 (Education) of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Networking
We are a member of a number of umbrella organisations concerned with children’s rights (for example the Children’s Rights Alliance for England and the National Children’s Bureau). We also facilitate information exchange by maintaining a comprehensive website with regular news updates, as well as through our facebook and twitter pages.

For more information see www.csie.org.uk
Why is CSIE’s work needed?

UK law and national policies declare a commitment to equality for all. Many schools and other educational settings, no matter how knowledgeable, experienced or committed their staff may be, still operate in ways that leave children, young people or adults feeling marginalised or excluded. CSIE strives to achieve equality for all and provides information and resources to bridge the gap between national policies and current practice.

Our work can serve to make the good practice already available more widely known. It can also help practitioners become aware of any assumptions or inconsistencies, challenge these, and develop educational provision which enables everyone to achieve and to feel valued and respected.

How CSIE can help you

• provide a range of resources
• deliver presentations at conferences or other events
• offer training, including in-house training for schools or local authorities
• support strategic reviews of inclusive provision locally and nationally.

How you can help CSIE

• send us your feedback (email and postal address below). Hearing about the impact of our work is extremely helpful to us.
• consider making a personal or corporate donation to support CSIE.