

Longford County Childcare Committee



A GUIDE TO PROMOTING INCLUSION IN SUMMER CAMP



Background

County Childcare Committees were established in 2001 to promote the development of childcare services in Ireland.

Longford County Childcare Committee supports the UN Convention on the rights of the child and the right to education for all children and the new Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) which will Supporting Access to the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Programme for Children with a Disability.

Inclusion as a value supports the rights to all children, regardless of their diverse abilities, to enable the child to participate actively in natural settings within their communities.

Longford County Childcare Committee will:

- Continue to promote Inclusion and Integration of all children abilities and disabilities
- Help childcare providers to adapt activities to suit the needs of the child/children attending their summer camp
- Offer support to childcare providers and their staff
- Promote and develop play opportunities for all children including children with additional needs.

Access and Inclusion Model

The development of the new Access and Inclusion Model is a cross-Government initiative, led by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and involving the Department of Health, the Department of Education and Skills and others. The Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Dr. Katherine Zappone, T.D., introduced the model on the 15th June 2016 to allow parents and service providers to plan ahead for enrolments in September 2016 and thereafter.



ACCESS &
INCLUSION MODEL

WHY INCLUSION?

Children with Additional Needs benefit from social and developmental experiences with their developing peers.

Families are enabled to access services with their communities, offering both adults and children opportunities to develop valuable friendships and support networks.

In inclusive settings all children have the opportunity to experience diversity and empathy as well as learning new ways to communicate and interact with others.

What is Inclusive Provision?

No Child is excluded on the basis of level or type of impairment. Adapting your environment, practice and routine to include all children.

Inclusion

Supports the rights of all children, regardless of their abilities to take part in natural settings within their communities.



Games to promote Inclusion and Integration for all children

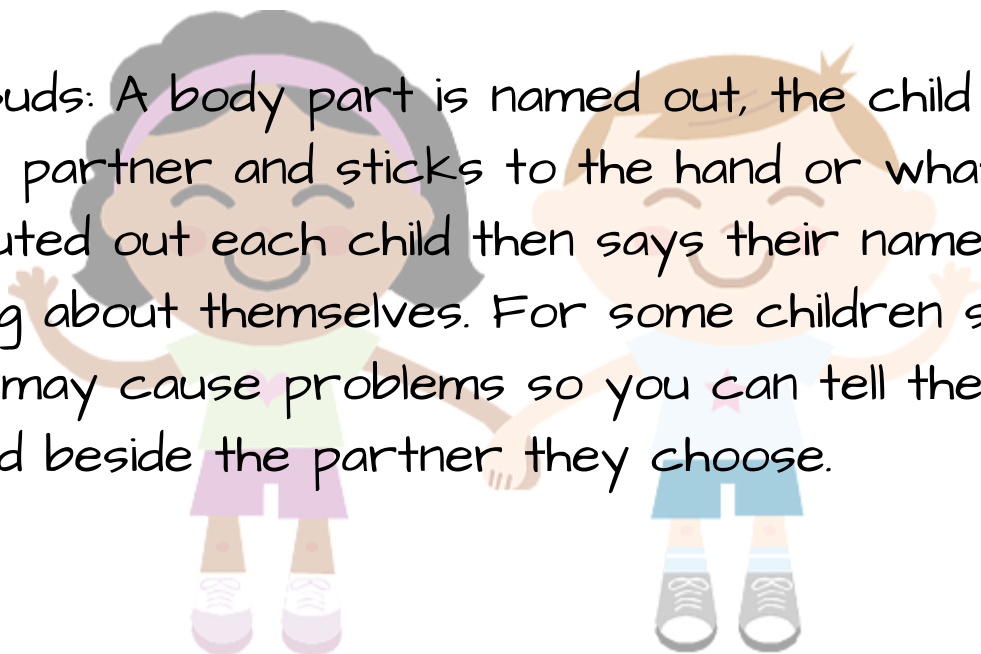
Icebreaker Games

Circle Time: using puppets, so this way the puppets start the game and children feel more relaxed when they don't have to go first.

Grandma's footsteps: on the same lines as what time is it Mr. Wolf

Trains: pick a train captain to lead the train or the leader can be the captain. You have to say your name and do an action/sound of your favourite animal. Then proceed around the room collecting children welcoming them on board once they have said their name and done their actions. As always if a child doesn't want to do this you still welcome him/her on to the train and introduce the child.

Sticky Buds: A body part is named out, the child then goes to find a partner and sticks to the hand or whatever part was shouted out each child then says their name and something about themselves. For some children such close contact may cause problems so you can tell the child they can stand beside the partner they choose.



Group Activities

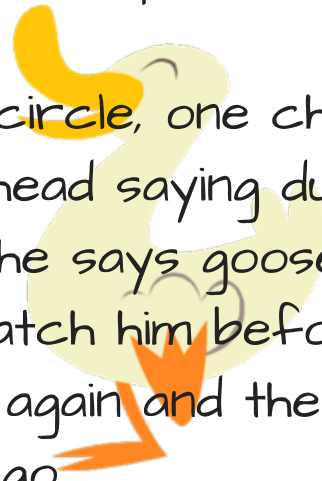
Parachute activities: Parachute games are so enticing to all children disabled or non disabled. These games enhance group

cooperation, sensory stimulation and are just plain fun. The parachute can be fastened to the child if the child cannot grasp it independently.



Relay races: Make these fun for all children. You can use mats, sacks that the child can sit into and be pulled along, children that use a wheel chair can take part in as well!!

Duck Duck Goose: Children sit in a circle, one child is nominated to tap each child on the head saying duck duck etc. when he taps the child on the head he says goose, then the child that's tagged has to try and catch him before he gets back into his place so that he is on again and the game carry's on till everybody has had a go.



Tag: An oldie but a goodie, freezing and unfreezing allow non easily tagged children to get multiple chances at escaping the tagger. Can be played indoors or outdoors.

Drop the hankerchief: Same method as duck duck goose but leaving out the tapping and using a hankerchief instead. The hankerchief is dropped slowly and softly which keeps the game more inviting to less able children to join in.

Ball activities

Ball bins: you can make a bin with mats as a borders lined with a parachute, a plastic wadding pool or a clean sand box can be used for starters.

Foam balls, sponges, old tennis balls if plastic balls are too expensive to buy.

Big Ball: Children gather in a circle, they can sit or stand you can use a beach ball, therapy ball whatever is available to you and your group. Roll it around to each child in the group making sure that each child gets a turn. You can start off at a slow pace and work your way to a faster pace adding in actions as the game gets going.

Soccer throw in: This can be played in a hall or outdoors so that children that use a wheelchair can participate in the game. You as the leader has the responsibility to make sure the child has a physical role in the game and that he is just not the fetcher or the goal keeper. This game can also be incorporated into basketball.

Music & Dance

Have children act out themes and emotions as they listen to songs. Give physical assistance to the children that may need it. Children with hearing impairments can often pick up a beat and can hear some of the lower tones and more of the vibrating tones.

Dancing is a highly versatile activity. You as the leader can bring different types of dance such as line, rap dance, dance from the 60's and 70's. All children can take part.

Blowing Games

Racing: Have races with ping pong balls and straws using a water tray to see who can get their ball to the top of the tray the quickest.

Bubbles: Blowing bubbles is always great fun.

Other Games

Don't forget all the other activities that you do in your camp such as:

Role Play

Drama

Music and Movement

Sack races

Arts and crafts

Sensory Play

Outings with parental consent

Sports

Free play



Consultation

Always consult with children about games and they themselves will give good ideas. It is very important to consult with the children in your facility or camp so that you know if there's any changes that you can make to your daily schedule to enhance your facility/camp for future.



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