

Key concepts

- Education is a universal right
- Children and adults with disabilities are some of the most excluded and marginalised groups within the education sector
- Collaboration between Health and Education sectors helps develop an inclusive education system where the students needs are met
- The community and families have an essential and central role in promoting, sustaining and influencing education provision

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Early Childhood Care and Education

Goal:

All children with disabilities have the **best possible start in life** and are supported throughout their development in inclusive learning environments

Desirable outcomes:



- Physical, social, language and cognitive skills are developed to their maximum potential
- Increased survival and good health

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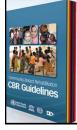
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Early Childhood Care and Education

Suggested activities:

Identify early childhood needs through a **twin track** approach:

 Focus on the system, identify strengths and weaknesses in the family, community, health workers, teachers etc



b) Focus on the child: identify support needs of those excluded or marginalized

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Primary Education

Goal:

A welcoming, **inclusive** primary education system, with local schools at the heart of educational activities, exists within the community.

Desirable outcomes:



- Communities and families are positive, supportive and involved
- Assistive devices are accessible and available
- Quality education is provided and partnerships that promote inclusive education are created.

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Primary Education

Key activities:

- Support and involve families
- Mobilize the community to raise awareness and promote flexible attitudes
- See if existing policies and resources are inclusive
- Make sure the environment is accessible and specialist support is available



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Secondary and Higher Education

Goal:

Students with disabilities have **opportunities** to learn with others and gain **qualifications**, **skills** and experiences, facilitating their **livelihood opportunities empowerment and inclusion**.

Desirable outcomes:



- Increased enrolment, retention and completion rate
- Children with disabilities are encouraged to continue education
- Environment, teaching methods, curricula, assessment and examination are accessible and inclusive.

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Secondary and Higher Education

Key activities:

- Make transitions from primary to secondary and higher easier
- Help create an inclusive learning environment



- Ensure access to information and communication technology is available
- Encourage peer support and positive role models

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Non-formal Education

Goal:

People with disabilities develop knowledge and skills, which help to improve their quality of life

Desirable outcomes:



- People with disabilities are able to participate in nonformal education programmes
- Skills are learned in these settings with contribute to better living conditions
- Social cohesion is strengthened through increased interaction

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Non-formal Education

Key activities:

- · Facilitate links with formal schooling
- Support supplementary or preparatory home-based learning



Ensure curriculum is practical and relevant

CBR personnel and non-formal education facilitators work together

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Lifelong Learning

Goal

Youth and adults with disabilities have access to quality lifelong learning opportunities and to a variety of learning experiences

Desirable outcomes:

- Youth transitioning from schooling have access to vocational and careers guidance and distance learning is available to adults
- Life skills including information on reproductive health and sexuality are accessible
- Professional development and self-directed learning are available

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Lifelong Learning

Key activities:

- Identify opportunities for adult literacy, adult education and continuing education
- Ensure opportunities for learning life and survival skills

Work with educators in the community to promote social inclusion

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Case study

Being a **role model** to students....

The disability support unit at a university in Cape Town, south Africa, is run by a woman with a disability. Because of her impairment she is easily able to understand the barriers students with disabilities encounter and plays an important advocacy role as a positive role model.



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