



Inclusion bases in schools

June 2026

On 25 June, the Department for Education published [new guidance for schools and local authorities](#) in England to help them set up and deliver [inclusion bases](#) - provisions within mainstream settings for children and young people with additional needs.

The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) welcomes the guidance which will provide more clarity to schools and families about how inclusion bases should operate. The guidance sets out six key principles of effective practice, starting with the principle that children and young people who access inclusion bases should be active members of the mainstream school community.

The RCSLT was part of the Advisory Group coordinated by the [Council for Disabled Children](#) to help shape the guidance. In this capacity, we highlighted the need for health professionals, providers, and commissioners to be involved in planning bases and provision from an early stage. We are pleased to see this reflected in the final guidance.