Role of Teacher in Inclusive Education

Dr. Amitkumar S. Gagare
Azad College of Education, Satara

Abstracts

Inclusive Education provides the safe path to the disabled students for learning. Inclusive Education is the need of the time. In the county like India where population explosion occurred, inclusive education is very necessary. In India the children’s with physically, mentally, economically and socially challenged are big in numbers. Without these we cannot see the dream of Superpower. Millions of children are out of the schools. To motivate them for learning and educating is a big challenge before us. Hence we have to strengthen the Teacher Education System. We have to train and teach our Teachers for the coming challenges regarding the Inclusive Education. Inclusive education happens when children with and without disabilities participate and learn together in the same classes. Research shows that when a child with disabilities attends classes alongside peers who do not have disabilities, good things happen. Inclusion is about providing the help children need to learn and participate in meaningful ways. Sometimes, help from friends or teachers works best. Other times, specially designed materials or technology can help. The key is to give only as much help as needed. So regarding this actually what type of help these students want? How we can help them? What is the role teacher in Inclusive Education? All is discussed in concern conceptual research article.

Key Words – Inclusive Education, Teacher Education, Teacher – Students.

Introduction

“Education means to develop skills regarding the Head, Hand and Heart” – Mahatma Gandhi

According to Gandhiji each child has a right of education. To develop the skills is the main aim of education. We can minimize the inequality, poverty only through the skill based education system. Hence we have adapt the education system such as where we can teach and train all types physically, mentally, economically and socially challenged students.

“Teachers are Social Engineers” – Dr. S. Radhakrushnan.

Inclusive Education not only for the Physically and mentally challenged students. But also the students with economic, social, family problems. Only the teacher has the ability the understand the problems of students. Teacher can identify the students with these problems. Also he can provide the proper solution. If the teacher is well trained, and skill based he can provide the better solutions.

What is Inclusive Education?

Inclusive education is based on the simple idea that every child and family is valued equally and deserves the same opportunities and experiences. Inclusive education is about children with disabilities – whether the disability is mild or severe, hidden or noticeable – participating in everyday activities, just like they would if their disability were not present. It’s about building friendships, membership and having opportunities just like everyone else. Inclusive education is a child’s right. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act clearly states that all children with disabilities should
be educated with non-disabled children their own age and have access to the general education curriculum.

**Benefits of Inclusive Education**

All parents want their children to be accepted by their peers, have friends and lead “regular” lives. Inclusive settings can make this vision a reality for many children with disabilities.

- **Children develop a positive understanding of themselves and others**
  When children attend classes that reflect the similarities and differences of people in the real world, they learn to appreciate diversity. Respect and understanding grow when children of differing abilities and cultures play and learn together.

- **Friendships develop**
  Schools are important places for children to develop friendships and learn social skills. Children with and without disabilities learn with and from each other in inclusive classes.

- **Children learn important academic skills**
  In inclusive classrooms, children with and without disabilities are expected to learn to read, write and do math. With higher expectations and good instruction children with disabilities learn academic skills.

- **All children learn by being together**
  Because the philosophy of inclusive education is aimed at helping all children learn, everyone in the class benefits. Children learn at their own pace and style within a nurturing learning environment.

**Role of Teachers, Parents and Schools in Inclusive Education**

1. **Encourage students to participate in activities where she can meet children her same age with different abilities.**
   When looking for activities, consider your child’s interests. The local school, library, and recreation or community centers are good places to check out. You also may want to consider national organizations that encourage diversity, such as 4-H Clubs or Girl Scouts of America.

2. **Search the Internet for activities or organizations that students may want to join.**
   Two community Web sites with numerous resources are The Family Village and Kids Together: Information for Children and Adults with Disabilities.

3. **Help students develop friendships with classmates or other neighborhood children.**
   Set up opportunities for your child to be with children he likes or children who show an interest in him. Teach your child how to make and keep friends. For other recommendations, visit the article Let’s Play Together: development of friendships between children with and without disabilities.

4. **Share your goals and expectations for students.**
   Before you meet with the school and decide upon your child’s Individualized Education Plan (IEP), meet with his teachers, therapists and others to discuss your goals, expectations, and future placement preferences for him.

5. **Know the rights you and students have to an inclusive education.**
   For more information on your rights, visit the article Family Rights: The Educational Rights of Children with Disabilities.

6. **Acquire the skills**
   In class sometimes the students with disability may come. To teach partially blind students, physically challenged students teachers should be well trained, hence role of teacher in such cases is to acquire the necessary skills.
7. Identify the Students.
   To identify the students with disability is very important. Teachers has the ability and observation to identity such students.

What schools can do to promote successful inclusive education:
1. Consider inclusive education first.
   Special education services can be provided in many different settings. Schools are required to consider the general education class before considering any other setting for your child to receive special education services.
2. Support each child’s learning.
   Teachers support learning in inclusive classrooms in three ways. First, they teach so that students with differing abilities and learning styles can understand and participate. Second, they modify assignments when they are too difficult. Third, they model respect and encourage friendships.

What families can do when they meet resistance in accessing inclusive education for their children:
1. Get and share information
   Some schools do not support a family’s desire for inclusion, because they are used to providing special education services to students in separate classes. Or they may not understand how to make inclusion work for all children. Visit general education classes and separate classes for students with disabilities. Carefully explain to your child’s teachers, principal or IEP team why you believe inclusive education would be best for your child. Share information with your child’s school about the benefits of inclusive education.
2. Enlist the help of others
   Sometimes it is helpful to bring in an expert or advocate. This person will make sure that your preferences about your child’s placement are heard. This person can also help explain the benefits of inclusive education and how to make it happen in your child’s school. You may find someone to help by contacting advocacy organizations, special education parent groups in your child’s school, and local colleges with teacher training programs.
3. Become your child’s advocate
   It takes time and energy to make inclusion happen in a school that is resistant to change. Stay focused on what you believe is best for your child. Listen carefully to the arguments against your child’s inclusion in a general education class and use what you learn to advocate for change. For example, if you are told that your child is not ready for the general education class, ask what supports could be provided to help make her successful in the class.

Conclusion
To identify the students with disability, to provide counseling to students and parents, to take the help of peer group and society is the key of success in Inclusive Education.

References
2. Dr. Bhygyashri Bhichkule, A. Golhar : Sarvasamveshk Shikshan
3. Dr. Shilaja Bhangale : Inclusive Education