

What is involved?

The programme takes place over the school year starting in September 2007 with an initial two-day residential training session followed by 5 single day sessions as outlined below (all take place on Fridays).

Date	Venue	Times
September 7th & 8th	Best Western Park Hotel, Camelon Road, Falkirk, FK1 5RY	10am-4pm 7pm-9pm 9am-3pm
November 9th	Auchterderran Education Centre, Woodend Road, Cardenden, Fife, KY5 ONE	10am-4pm
January 25th	Aucherderran- as above	10am-4pm
March 7th	Aucherderran- as above	10am-4pm
May 16th	Aucherderran- as above	10am-4pm
June 20th	Aucherderran- as above	10am-4pm

Between training sessions participants are encouraged to put their learning into practice, and to share what they have been doing with the rest of the group. This can be done in a variety of ways including keeping a reflective diary, powerpoint presentations, oral presentations, displays of work, posters etc.

The course is **free** to parents of children with additional support needs, and their travel and childcare costs are covered.

Who should apply?

Parents- who want to learn about the benefits of inclusive education and about recent developments & changes to the law and educational policies that affect their child; and about how best to support their child and their school.

Teachers- who in addition to the above, need good, workable practical strategies to help support children with additional needs in their schools.

Other professionals- from health, social services and the voluntary sector, who support children and families and who need to work well in partnership with parents and school staff.

We are looking for people who want to make a difference to children's lives and who will be able to go on to apply what they learn on this course in their own schools and communities.

What do previous course participants say?

"I have found this course very inspiring and it has led to changes in my practice. I have been able to take stock of where we're at in my school and look at the effects of increased inclusion a year on. I feel the ILN course has empowered me with the right tools for the job".

(a teacher)

"I think more about the assumptions I make in the ways and situations where I interact with parents i.e. Are home visits necessarily best? Is the parent a full partner?"

(a health professional)

"I have changed beyond recognition, I looked back over my notes and am amazed at what I have learned and how my attitudes have changed. Proof of this was my husband being astounded at how I presented myself at a recent school meeting".

(a parent)

"I have become more aware of the feelings of parents when they come into school for meetings and interviews, and have consequently tried to ensure that they feel welcomed".

(a teacher)

How to apply

If you would like further information please contact Course Co-ordinator, Dorothy McDonald on 01700 505145 or email dorothy.mcdonald.t21@btinternet.com

East of Scotland Inclusive Learning Network

The Inclusive Learning Network is a one year training and networking programme looking at additional support for learning, inclusive education and partnership working. It is aimed at parents, teachers, health professionals, social workers and others who support children and young people with additional needs.

The programme is co-ordinated by Equity in Education, a Scotland-wide not-for-profit voluntary organisation, and is run in partnership with Dundee City, Falkirk, Fife, Scottish Borders and West Lothian Councils.

More than simply a training course, the Inclusive Learning Network encourages and promotes mutual understanding and co-operation between parents and professionals. The six training sessions are designed to be interactive, participative, stimulating and enjoyable. Sessions include talks and presentations from a variety of speakers and guests from Scotland and abroad as well as group activities and discussions in which participants are encouraged to share their experiences and ideas.

What are the aims of the programme?

That participants will gain:

- a clear understanding of the values and principles of inclusive education.
- a clear understanding of the principles of partnership working between families and professionals, and strategies to put these into practice.
- an insight into current educational legislation, policy and practices relating to children with additional support needs.
- practical strategies to support children and young people effectively in mainstream schools and society.
- the skills needed to develop and disseminate good practice.