

14th NOVEMBER – 20th DECEMBER IS DISABILITY HISTORY MONTH!

Disabilities can affect us physically, mentally, and in the way we learn and communicate.

Having a disability does not mean we're 'less than' or that we're 'suffering'. But life can be more challenging at times – so it helps if we feel included and understood.

Watch videos with your child to increase understanding and empathy, and to normalise disabilities.

Click the pictures to hear the experiences of children, TV presenters, and TikTok creators whose disabilities include Down's Syndrome, blindness, cerebral palsy, and dyslexia.



Advocating for a child with disabilities...

Know your child's rights: familiarise yourself with the school's Special Educational Needs (SEN) Information Report and disability policies, as well as Government guidance [HERE](#).

Schools have a duty to make 'reasonable adjustments' to ensure students with disabilities are not discriminated against. These can include providing extra support such as specialist teachers or equipment. Share your child's strengths and support needs with your school so they make the right adjustment.

If your child's support needs go beyond what a school can typically deliver you can apply for an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) via your Local Authority. It is a legally binding document outlining the child's special educational needs and the specific provision the school will deliver to meet each of the needs.

Build relationships with teachers and/or the special educational needs coordinator (SENCo) and request regular check-ins to resolve any issues swiftly.

Involve your child in decision-making to build their self-advocacy skills and confidence.



Useful Links

- [Help if you have a disabled child: Overview - GOV.UK](#)
- [MENCAP learning disability charity](#)
- [SCOPE disability charity](#)
- Council SEND Local Offers:
 - [Hammersmith & Fulham](#)
 - [Ealing](#)
 - [Hounslow](#)
 - [Kensington & Chelsea](#)