



Learning by Leaving Conference 2020 – Table Discussions

Table 6 Access for young people with impairments and chronic health conditions into mixed ability mobility projects

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Outline:

This discussion is based on the experience that young people with impairments and chronic health conditions hesitate to apply for international learning mobilities, or their parents and care persons prevent them from doing so, because their special needs may not be met adequately and detailed risk management plans often do not exist. It is also our experience that youth organizations hesitate to invite young people with impairments and chronic health conditions into their international learning mobilities, especially into mixed ability projects, because they consider their participation to be an extra risk and feel that they are not prepared to meet such risks and deal with them adequately.

Discussion Notes:

- Mobility is a life-changing experience for students with disabilities, as for non-disabled students
- Students with disabilities are underrepresented in mobility; often hesitate to apply or face resistance from parents, care persons, mobility programs due to perceived extra risk
- There is a need to improve risk assessment, management and contingency planning to facilitate the safe and confident inclusion of youth with disabilities, especially in mixed-ability projects
- Also need to communicate above to parents and students
- Testimonials from students with disabilities are helpful
- Lack of database for mobility opportunities specifically for people with disabilities
- Discussion of benefits of mixed ability projects versus disability-specific projects for blind, Deaf, etc. students



Recommendations:

- Improved risk assessment and contingency planning
- facilitate safe participation in mobility for students with mixed abilities
- Access to information: this topic at a shared platform?
- How do we promote mobility? Do we include pictures and stories of varieties of abilities? (Mobility International USA has a good collection of these)
- Encourage our stakeholders to include young people with disabilities in their activities
- Organise information events on opportunities for young people with disabilities and mixed projects - events for young people AND their parents
- we need more information on accessibility by organisations and institutions (universities etc) and more transparency on health insurance and medical supplies and costs of medical issues
- Different forms of mobility (like blended mobility)

Link to the new project:

- <https://www.siho.be/en/new-inclusive-mobility-project>
Link to the Inclusive Mobility Alliance:
<https://mapped.eu/sites/default/files/ima/IMA%20declaration.pdf>

Note:

We, Euroguidance Belgium Flanders, would like to share a tool for inclusion in mobility that we helped disseminating. [Direct link to the tool \(Dutch language only\):](https://www.euroguidance-vlaanderen.be/sites/default/files/atoms/files/BILL%20Abroad_pocketgids%20kansengroepen%20%28najaar%202016%29.pdf)
https://www.euroguidance-vlaanderen.be/sites/default/files/atoms/files/BILL%20Abroad_pocketgids%20kansengroepen%20%28najaar%202016%29.pdf

Links:

<https://www.siho.be/en/new-inclusive-mobility-project>
<https://www.inclusivemobility.eu/>
An interesting weblink: <http://www.edf-feph.org/youth>