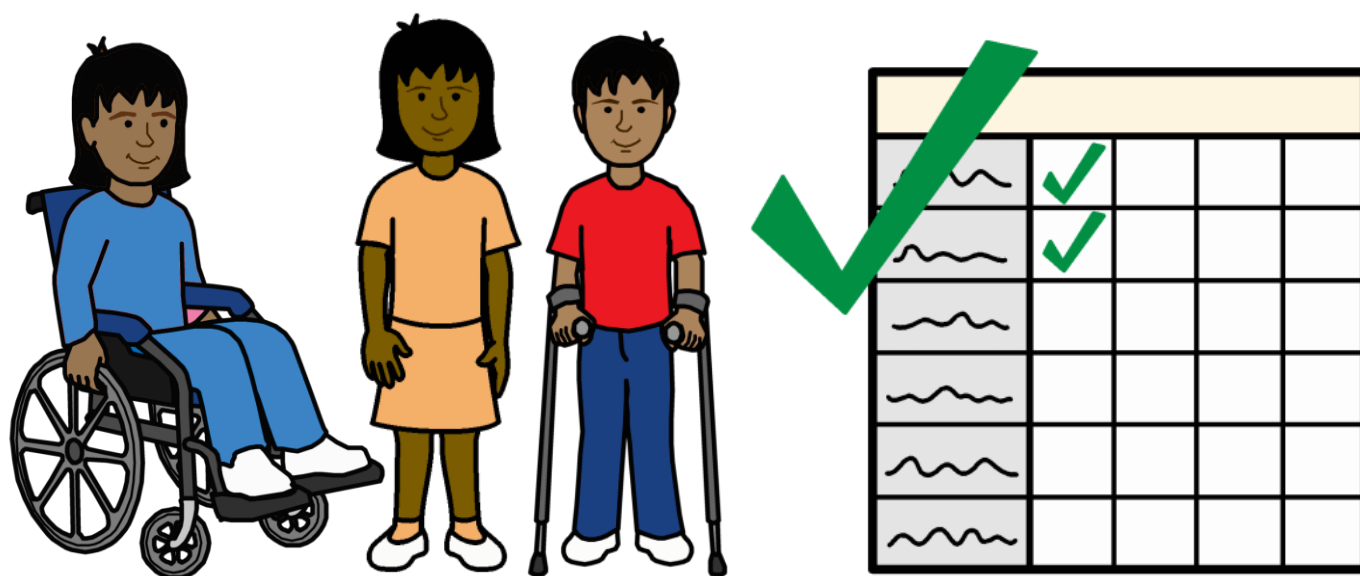




Easy to read

# Children and young people with disabilities and Covid-19

## What should be happening

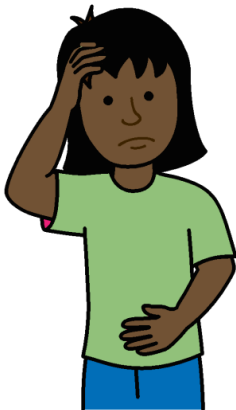


**COVID-19 Children and Young People with Disabilities Global Statement and Recommendations**

# About this document

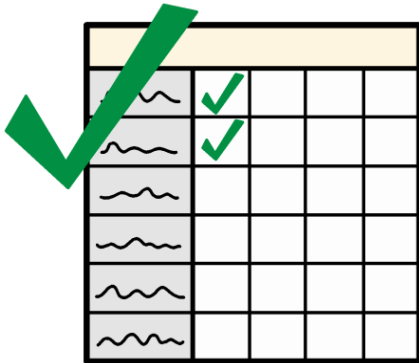


We are called **Include Me TOO**.  
And the **Commonwealth Children and Youth Disability Network**.



This document is about children and young people with disabilities and Covid-19.

Covid-19 is a new illness. Many people in the world are getting it.



Young people with disabilities around the world helped us write a list.

The list is about things that matter to them during COVID-19.

The list starts on the next page.



The list is important because many children and young people with disabilities are treated unfairly.

We do not want this to be worse with Covid-19.

# What needs to happen during Covid-19

## 1. Making sure children and young people with disabilities can still learn and do well



Many children and young people have to learn at home during Covid-19.



Children and young people with disabilities should not be left out of this.

It should be safe and easy for them to learn at home.



They should have support and things they need to learn at home.

Like computers, books and equipment they can use.

And lessons they can understand.



All children and young people with disabilities should be able to learn in a way that is right for them.

This could be on the internet, radio or another way.



Teachers and parents should have the right support for this.

They should have the right equipment, information and skills.

## **2. Making sure everyone gets the support they need**



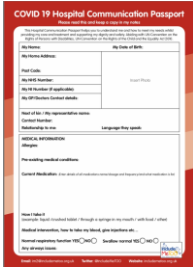
Children and young people with disabilities should get good health care if they get Covid-19.

They should not get worse health care because they have a disability.



There should be a document to show doctors and nurses what children and young people with disabilities need.

For example, how they like to get support and information.



The document is called a  
Hospital Communication Passport.



Children and young people with disabilities and their families should still get the right support during Covid-19.

This means support with everything they might need like:



- Medicine and health care
- Mental health support to help them feel OK
- Things to help them have their say and understand information
- Wheelchairs and other things they need to move around and keep safe





- Support to live at home and do the things they need
- Things to help them and people who support them keep safe from Covid-19 at home.  
Like face masks and gloves



- Transport, buildings and services that are easy to use
- Money



Children and young people with disabilities should have healthy food and things to help keep them clean.

### **3. Making sure information is easy to understand**



Children and young people with disabilities and their families should get information about:

- The support they can get during Covid-19.

For example, support with health, education and work

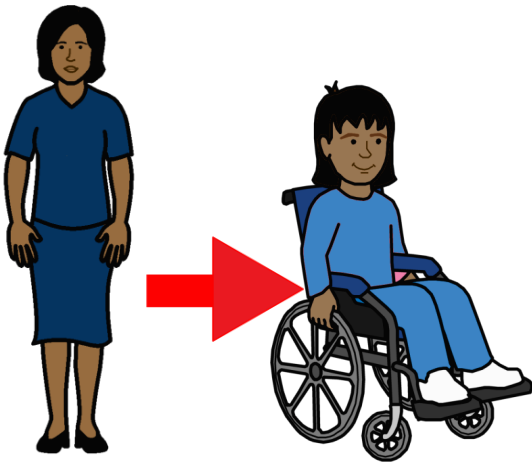
- How to keep safe



The information should be easy for them to understand.

For example, they might need information in sign language, pictures or braille.

#### **4. Keeping safe and well during Covid-19**



Children and young people with disabilities should not be too close to other people if possible.

This is to stop Covid-19 passing from one person to another.



But some children and young people with disabilities need to be close to people to get support.



They should get support to keep their hands and body clean.

## **5. Making sure children and young people with disabilities are listened to and can take part**



Children and young people with disabilities and their families should help make plans about Covid-19.

What they say is important.

People should listen to them and help them have a say.

## **6. Young women and girls with disabilities**



Violence can happen more to young women and girls with disabilities.



Young women and girls with disabilities should get good support if someone is violent to them or hurting them in other ways

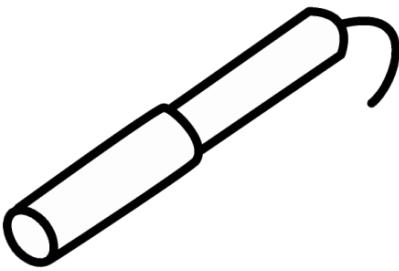
The support should be easy to get.





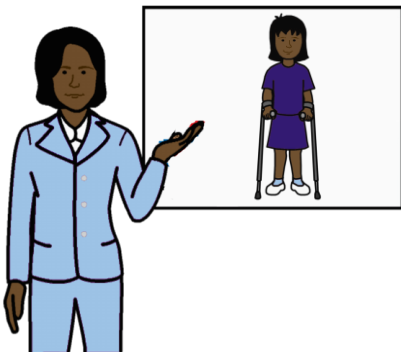
Many young women and girls with disabilities are stopped from going to school.

They must get support to get a good education and learn in the best way for them.



Young women and girls with disabilities should get what they need to do with periods, sex and relationships.

This is to help them be clean and safe.

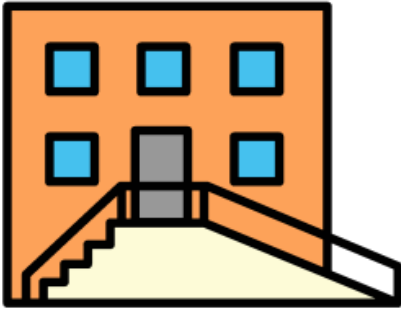


Families should get training about how to keep young women and girls with disabilities safe.



## **7. Keeping children and young people with disabilities safe from harm**

Work to keep children and young people with disabilities safe must carry on during Covid-19.



Some children and young people with disabilities live in hospitals, schools and homes for people with disabilities.

They should be safe and treated fairly there. No one should hurt them.



Children and young people with disabilities should stay with their families like they did before Covid-19.



They should not be moved far away if their parents get ill with Covid-19.

They should stay with someone else in the family or in their local area if possible.

## **8. Making sure young people with disabilities can still work**



Young people with disabilities should get the right support to work at home and keep their jobs during Covid-19.

For example, they might need special computers.

Or different equipment or working hours.



Young people with disabilities should still get paid if they cannot work because of Covid-19.

## **9. Changing wrong ideas about children and young people with disabilities**



Children and young people with disabilities are important like everyone else.



People should know more about them and their rights.

This will help change wrong ideas about children and young people with disabilities.

## **10. Supporting young people with disabilities to live how they want**



Young people with disabilities must still get support to:

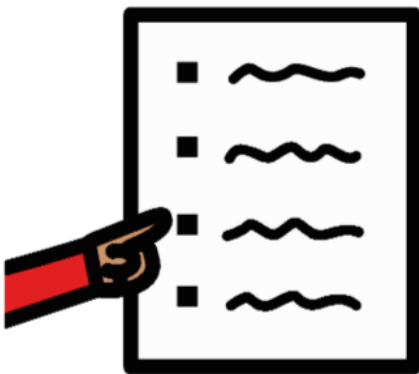
- Live how they want
- Make their own choices
- Learn new things

They should get the support and equipment they need for this.



## 11. Making good laws and rules

Laws and rules about Covid-19 should work well for children and young people with disabilities.



Children and young people with disabilities should still get all their rights.

Rights are things that everyone has. Like the right to be safe.



Countries should follow laws in the world about these rights.

Children, young people and their families should help decide about their rights and have their say.

## 12. Good information

There should be good information to show:



- What is happening to children and young people with disabilities during Covid-19

This includes young women and girls with disabilities

- What children and young people with disabilities need



This will help people make plans about Covid-19 that work well for children and young people with disabilities.

# How to find out more



You can get in touch with us:

## By phone:

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or +44 1902 399 888



## By email:

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**Twitter:** @IncludeMeTOO



In this document we say  
children and young people  
with disabilities instead of  
disabled children and young people.

This is because people around  
the world use these words more.

This document was made with help  
from the Commonwealth Secretariat