

Cross Party Group on Learning Disability



**Notes from the meeting on Wednesday
4th March 2026.**



The meeting was online on Zoom.

About this document



This is an Easy Read version. The words and their meaning are easy to read and understand.



Words in **bold blue writing** may be hard to understand. They have been explained in a box below the word. You can see what all the words in blue mean on **page 15**.



People who came to the meeting:

- **Sioned Williams MS** – Member of the Senedd, Chair
- **Sam Williams** – Learning Disability Wales, co-Secretary
- **Adele Rose-Morgan** – Parent
- **Andrew Jenkins** - Senedd
- **Annette Nichols** – Company
- **Beth Rees** – Learning Disability Wales
- **Christina Welsh** – Natspec
- **Clare Lucignoli** – Parent carer
- **Davina Carey-Evans** – Family Fund Trust
- **Gerraint Jones-Griffiths** – Learning Disability Wales
- **Gillian Eastwood** – Cartrefi Nsi Ltd
- **Gwen Anslow** – All Wales Forum of Parents and Carers
- **Humie Webbe** – Sole trader
- **Jac Hughes** – Roaring Mon
- **James Dash** – Pembrokeshire People First
- **Jenny Mushiringani Monjero** – Llais
- **Julian Hallett** – Down Syndrome Association

- **Kelly Stuart** – All Wales People First
- **Lucy Hinksman** – Pembrokeshire People First
- **Marg McNiel** – See Around Britain
- **Megan Lewis** – Scouts Cymru
- **Ritchie Wood** – Principality Care Ltd
- **Sarah Washbrook** – Parent
- **Simon Morris** – Rubicon Dance
- **Sion Jones** – Mencap Cymru
- **Victoria Waller** – Gig Buddies Cymru
- **Wayne Crocker** – Mencap Cymru

People who said they could not come to the meeting:



- **Sarah Pickard** – Mencap Cymru, Co-Secretary
- **Mark Isherwood** – Member of the Senedd

1. Welcome and introductions



Sioned Williams is a Member of the Senedd and **Chair** of the Cross Party Group.

The **Chair** of the group is the person in charge of the meetings.



- Sioned welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Annual General Meeting



Sioned started the Annual General Meeting. But said there would not be any voting for a Chair or co-Secretaries this time.



This is because it is the final cross-party group before the Senedd election on 7 May.



Sioned thanked the group for its support. She thanked Sam and Sara for their work. She thinks the group should continue after the elections in May.

3. Annual report



Co-secretary Sam Williams will write an annual report. It will show the work and actions of the group.



Wayne asked how we can learn what worked well in the group. Members could share ideas. Sam will include this in the annual report summary.

4. Presentation about inclusive education – parent Adele Rose-Morgan



Adele talked about her son Rhys. She says society, education and medical staff focused on what he could not do. Not on what he could. She felt he was not seen.



In education he was separated from other children. He was moved from school to school. Adele lost confidence in the system.



Adele learned more about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. She learned about rights and inclusive education. She saw he was being let down.



Inclusive education is when children with additional needs are taught with all the other children. Not separated.



Adele fought for her son's rights to be included in education. But she was viewed as difficult. She was told Rhys would not do his GCSE's. But he did and much more.



Adele said inclusion means feeling like you belong and taking part. Not being kept apart.

5. Presentation - A family's story by parent Sarah Washbrook



Sarah talked about her son Ivor. He has a rare condition called Angelman's Syndrome.



Ivor goes to a **mainstream school**. This means he is not separated from the other children. It is difficult but he loves being around people.



A **mainstream school** is a regular school where most children go and learn together. This is different to a special school which is just for children with additional needs.



Sarah did not want to keep Ivor apart from the other children.



They were supported by the school and local council.



Ivor now has 1-to-1 support in his class. He loves his mainstream class. He follows what the rest of the class does. But with a few changes.



Sarah gave a talk to the children at the school. She talked about ways people communicate when they do not talk. And she talked about some of the other medical terms used.



She said some things could be done better. There needs to be more support outside school. And more support for staff and carers.

6. Questions



Sioned thanked Adele and Sarah for their talks. She asked if the group had questions.



Marg McNeil asked if they would like to be involved in videos about accessible transport. They would both like to learn more.



Davina Carey-Evans thanked them for sharing and speaking up. She asked if Sarah would be able to give a talk to parents. Sarah said she would look into this.



Jac Hughes asked what more staff could do to stop bullying in schools. Jac said staff did not do enough to stop it happening to him. Sarah said teachers need to check on things. And talk more with children and families.



Victoria Waller talked about her experience of school. She felt there was no support for being bullied. More needs to be done to improve things.



Wayne said school buildings should be used to bring families of disabled children together.



Gerraint Jones-Griffiths asked about changes schools could make. Adele said if they were inclusive from the start this would not be needed.



Sioned said she will talk to ministers about waiting lists and the need for more support.



Sioned will talk to Sam about the use of schools for clubs and the community.

7. Any other business



Sam thanked Sioned for all her work as Chair of the group.

Hard words

Chair

The Chair of the group is the person in charge of the meetings.

Mainstream school

A mainstream school is a regular school where most children go and learn together. This is different to a special school which is just for children with additional needs.