Greater Manchester Ordinarily Available Inclusive Provision (OAIP)

An introduction and update for education leaders

What is GM OAIP (Ordinarily Available Inclusive Provision?

GM OAIP sets out the inclusive support and reasonable adjustments that mainstream schools and settings across Greater Manchester should ordinarily provide. It gives families and education providers clear, consistent expectations for meeting a wide range of needs—with or without a diagnosis or identified SEND.

It is grounded in high-quality teaching, inclusive environments, partnership with families and appropriate adjustments. Expectations cover inclusion, assessment, teaching and learning, communication, resources, staff development and transitions.

Two Sections

Section 1
What all settings should provide: inclusive, high-quality teaching and adaptations that meet diverse needs and benefit every learner.

Section 2
Support beyond OAIP
If needs remain unmet or progress is limited, the SENCO and other professionals guide staff on additional support.

What do the nine sections cover?

1) Partnerships

Work with parents, carers, learners and professionals to agree support.

2) Ethos & culture

Inclusive values, clear systems and shared leadership embed SEND support.

3) Physical & sensory environment

Adapt spaces and routines to meet sensory, communication and access needs.

4) Assessment

Review progress regularly and use reasonable adjustments to inform next steps.

5) Curriculum, teaching & learning

Deliver an ambitious curriculum through high-quality, adapted teaching.

6) Communication

Use accessible language, visuals and technology so every learner can participate.

7) Resources

Allocate people, time and materials appropriately, adapting where needed.

8) Staff & training

Provide ongoing development to build staff confidence and capability.

9) Transitions & transfers

Plan early, share information and support successful moves between settings.

Co-Production

It has been co-produced on a GM level with:

- Schools and settings,
- parents and carers,
- children and young people,
- local authority professionals,
- GMCA,
- health professionals
- other specialists

Will it look the same in every area and will every school use it in the same way?

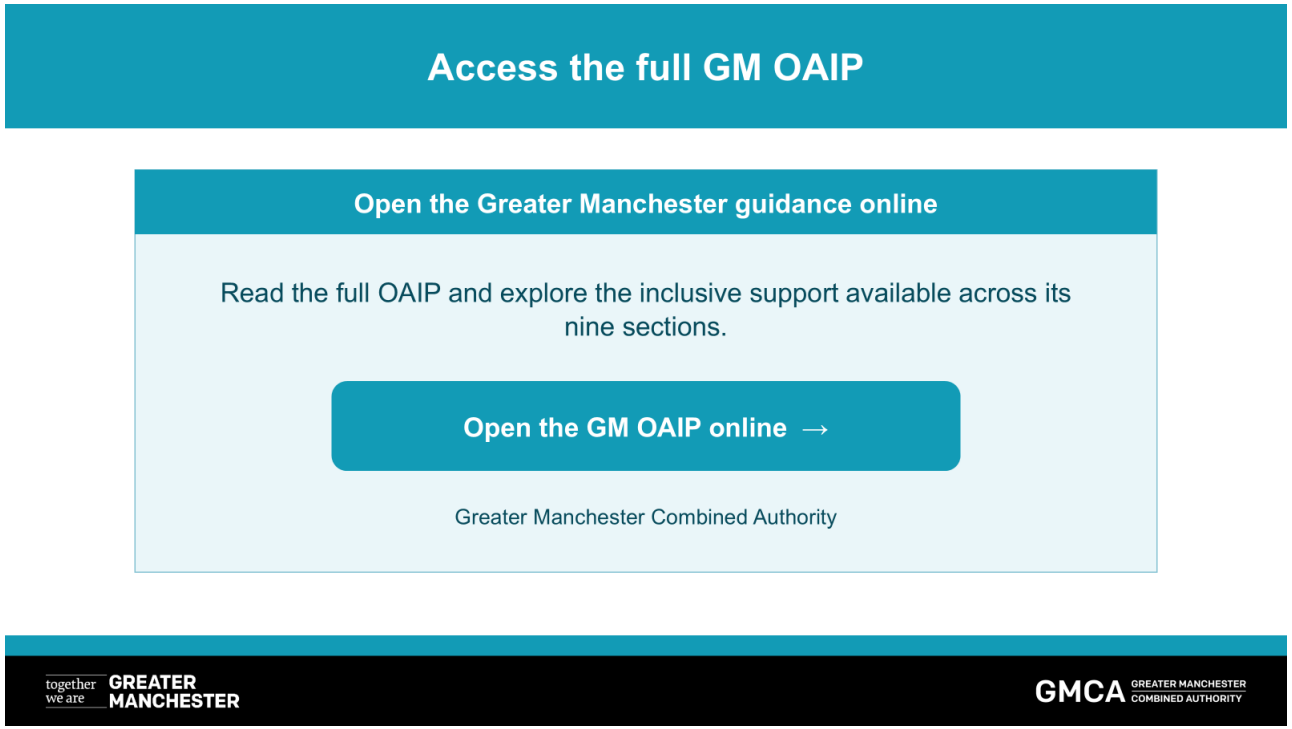
The GM OAIP provides a shared Greater Manchester framework and set of expectations, but each local authority may present, brand or supplement the document in a way that reflects local systems, pathways and support services. The core principles and expectations remain consistent, but families may notice differences in terminology, layout, examples or local guidance.

Schools are encouraged to use the GM OAIP to help develop their own inclusive practice and Inclusion Strategy, but this will look different in each setting. Schools will have different strengths, priorities, pupil populations and identified barriers to learning. As a result, the specific actions, strategies and priorities included within a school's Inclusion Strategy may vary. However, all schools should be working towards the same underlying aim of ensuring that all children and young people can access high-quality, inclusive education and participate fully in school life.

Other Support

Using the GM OAIP guidance to support development of an Inclusion Strategy will help as a practical companion guide for schools connecting the Greater Manchester OAIP to the national Inclusion Strategy template and the Seven Principles of Inclusion.

Purpose
This guidance helps schools use the GM OAIP as a practical framework when completing the national Inclusion Strategy template. It supports schools to identify barriers to learning and participation, select relevant OAIP expectations and strategies, align activity to the Seven Principles of Inclusion, define intended outcomes and review impact over time.

The National Inclusion Standards (when released) will also be aligned in this way so that education settings are confident that by adopting the GM OAIP (or locally branded version aligning to the GM version) will ensure they are also aligned to the new reform expectations.

Access the full GM OAIP