



Greater Manchester Family Guide to the GM Ordinarily Available Inclusive Provision

What is the GM OAIP (Ordinarily Available Inclusive Provision)

The Greater Manchester Ordinarily Available and Inclusive Provision (GM OAIP) sets out the inclusive support, approaches and reasonable adjustments that should be available for all children and young people in mainstream schools and settings across Greater Manchester. It aims to provide families and education providers with greater clarity, consistency and confidence about the support that should ordinarily be available to meet a wide range of needs, whether or not a child has a diagnosis or identified SEND.

The GM OAIP is based on the principle that most children and young people can have their needs met through high-quality, inclusive teaching, supportive environments, strong partnerships with families and appropriate reasonable adjustments within mainstream settings. It outlines expectations across areas such as partnerships, inclusion, learning environments, assessment, teaching and learning, communication, resources, staff training and transitions.

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.

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.

Access the full GM OAIP

Open the Greater Manchester guidance online

Read the full OAIP and explore the inclusive support available across its nine sections.

Open the GM OAIP online →

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

The GM OAIP (Ordinarily Available Inclusive Provision) defines the inclusive support and reasonable adjustments ordinarily available to every learner in Greater Manchester’s mainstream settings—with or without identified SEND or a diagnosis. It has nine sections.

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