



LEARN

SUPPORT • ENHANCE • NURTURE • DEVELOP

INCLUSION FORUM CASE STUDY

**Creating Space for Inclusion:
How CIT Academies are Supporting
Learners through Collaborative Forums**

ABOUT THE TRUST

The Community Inclusive Trust (CIT) is an education charity working in partnership with local communities to provide not-for-profit education. Our schools enhance the education provision of the communities they serve and improve the life chances of the pupils who attend CIT schools. This is driven and supported by high quality central services and CIT's in-house specialist SEND training provider, LEARN.

LEARN provides bespoke CPD and school support through a wide range of specialist SEND and mainstream colleagues, some of which is SEND-specific. The overall focus is to ensure that every child receives access to high quality education.

WHAT IS THE INCLUSION FORUM?

The Inclusion Forum is a key initiative within CIT Academies, offering a structured and supportive space for staff working with children to come together and reflect on how best to support learners who may be facing barriers to their academic progress or readiness to learn. These barriers, whether social, emotional, or physical, can significantly affect a child's ability to engage meaningfully in school life.

At the heart of the forum is a solution-focused approach, enabling schools to reflect on their current provision in collaboration with a multidisciplinary panel. This includes an educational psychologist, a LEARN SENCo, a senior leader from one of CIT's specialist settings, and, where appropriate, the CIT Early Years Lead.

Ultimately, the Inclusion Forum is designed to help schools formulate practical, child-centred plans that draw on a range of strategies and approaches - ensuring every learner has the opportunity to achieve their full potential.



HOW IT WORKS?

Meeting once per term online, the forum supports early identification of needs and provides a platform for staff to evaluate the impact of their existing provision. It also helps identify where targeted interventions may be required to better meet the needs of individual learners.

Prior to each meeting, schools complete a referral form, that allows us to determine the panel members, to review the context and prepare tailored advice and guidance.



- **10 schools have taken part so far.**



- **34 children have been supported so far.**

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

- ✓ Clearer identification of unmet needs has led to more pupils being appropriately added to the SEND register and moving from Monitoring to SEN Support, strengthening early intervention and provision mapping.
- ✓ The Inclusion Forum has deepened staff understanding of the underlying causes of behaviour, shifting focus from behaviour presentation to pupil need.
- ✓ Teachers report increased confidence in adapting provision, including reducing cognitive load, using predictable routines, and embedding visual and low-demand communication strategies.
- ✓ These approaches have contributed to calmer classroom environments and improved pupil engagement.
- ✓ Pupils report that lessons feel more accessible, emotional support has improved, and they feel better understood by staff.
- ✓ Structured sensory breaks, refined whole-class teaching approaches, and improved early identification processes are now embedded within mainstream practice.
- ✓ Staff describe the guidance from the Inclusion Forum as clear, accessible, and manageable, supporting sustainable practice change.

Access full evaluation statements here - click on a school logo...



CONTACT



☎ 03300 585 520

✉ enquiries@citacademies.co.uk

🌐 www.citacademies.co.uk



☎ 01400 659 009

✉ enquiries@learnsendhub.co.uk

🌐 www.learnsendhub.co.uk

📍 Warwick House, Long Bennington Business Park, Newark, NG23 5JR.