

**“I Would Like to Go to School”**

# **Education for Children with Disabilities in Lebanon**



## Who we are

HUMAN  
RIGHTS  
WATCH

We are called Human Rights Watch.



We work to make sure everyone in the world is treated fairly and gets their rights.

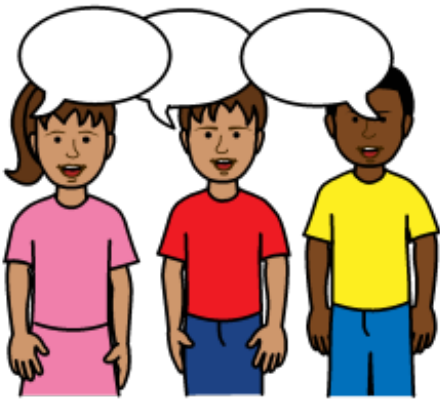
## What is this report about?



This report is about education for children with disabilities in a country called Lebanon.

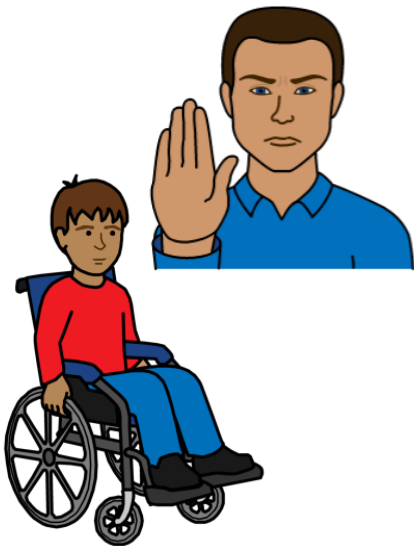


Many schools in Lebanon turn away children with disabilities. This is wrong.



In 2017 we spoke to children with disabilities, their families and other people to find out what was happening.

## What problems do children with disabilities in Lebanon face?



All children in Lebanon have a right to go to school.

But school staff can choose who comes to their school.

They often say no to children with disabilities.



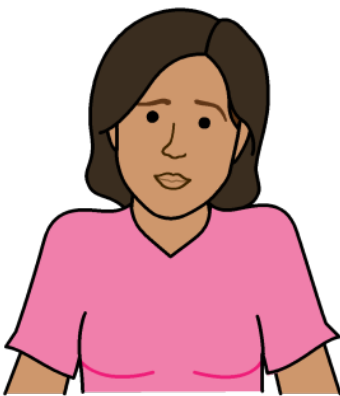
### No support for children with disabilities at school

Many children with disabilities do not get the right support at school to learn and do well.



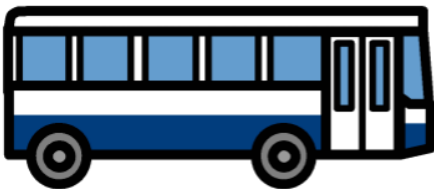
## **School buildings**

Many school buildings are hard for some children with disabilities to enter and move around in.



## **No training for teachers and school staff**

Many teachers do not have the right training to support children with disabilities.



## **Schools that are far away**

Many children with disabilities have to travel a long way to go to school or get the support they need.



Many children with disabilities have to stay away from home and their families to get education or support.

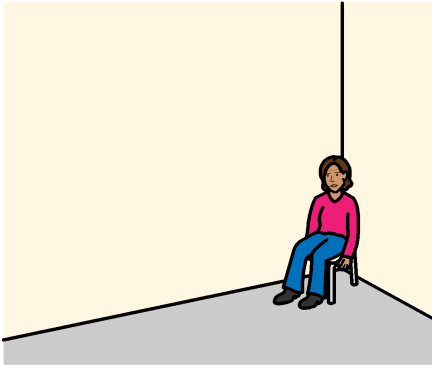
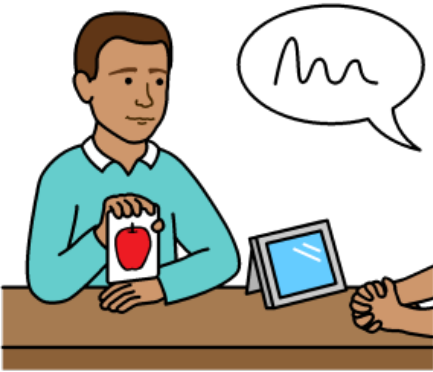
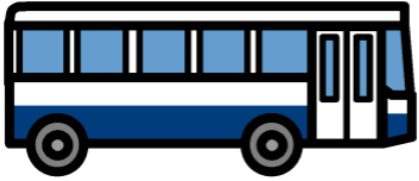


## Extra costs

Many families have to pay the school extra money if their child has a disability.

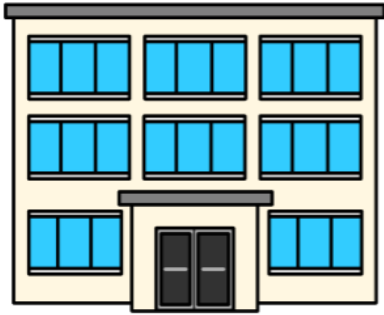
For example, families may have to pay for:

- transport to school
- support for their child at school.  
For example, someone to help their child communicate



Many children with disabilities stay at home because their families cannot pay this money.

## Other places for children with disabilities



There are other places that children with disabilities go to.

They are for children with disabilities who are not allowed to go to school.



But most of these places are not good enough.

They do not give children a good education.



Some children with disabilities sleep at these places.

In some places adults and children sleep in the same rooms.

This may be unsafe.

## What the government in Lebanon is doing



The law in Lebanon says that all children should be able to go to school.

This means children with disabilities too.

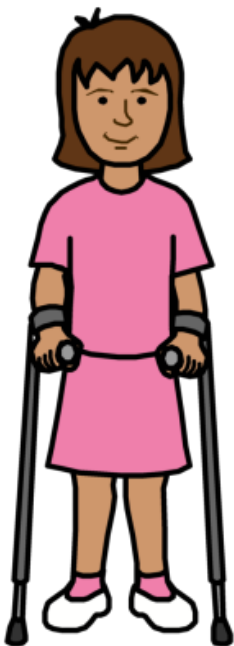


Schools should not say no to children because they have a disability.

The government and other groups are working to help more children with disabilities go to school.

For example, work is being done to:

- make schools easier for children with disabilities who cannot walk
- make lessons easier for children who find it hard to see



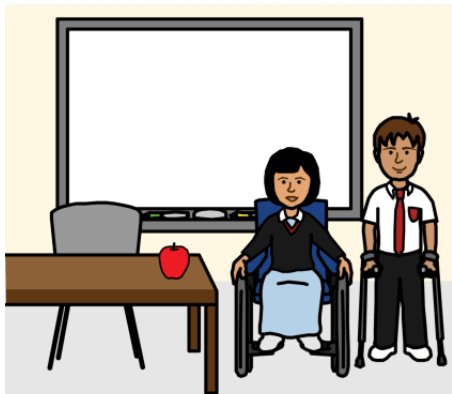
But much more needs to be done.

# What we think should happen next



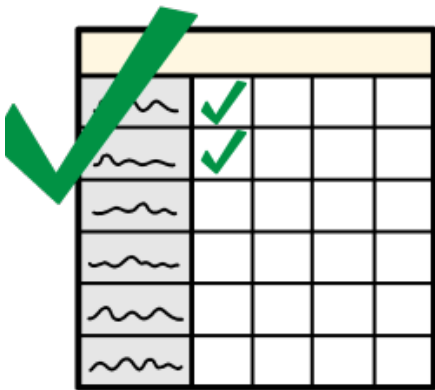
Children with disabilities should get the same good education as other children.

They should learn in the same classrooms as children without disabilities.



They should get support to learn and do well if they need it.

This is called **inclusive education**.



Lebanon should work to make this kind of education happen.



Here are the main things we want the government in Lebanon to do:



1. Make new laws, plans, and rules about inclusive education.

This is to make sure that all children can get a good education and learn together.

This includes children with disabilities who need a lot of support.



2. Make sure children with disabilities can go to school near where they live.

They should not have to go far away from their families to get an education.

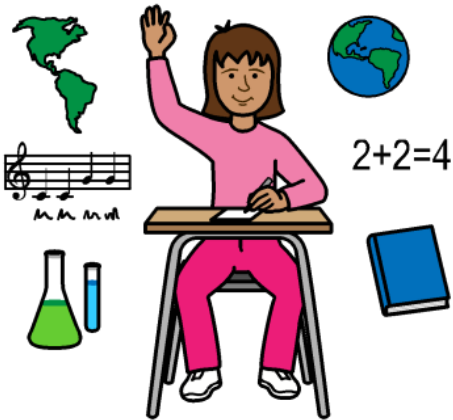


3. Make sure children with disabilities get the support they need to learn and do well.



For example, a child with disabilities may need:

- a plan about the support they need at school
- information in sign language, Braille, simple words, or something else



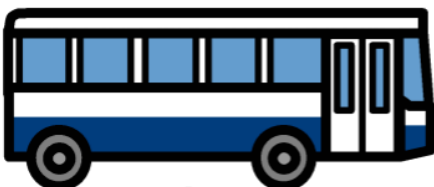
- someone to help them in class
- support to do exams

4. Make sure children with disabilities and their families get the right support near where they live.

For example, this could be:



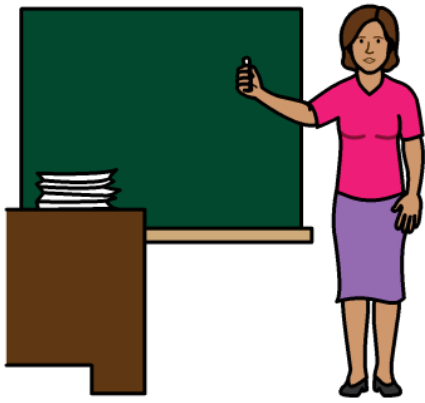
- equipment to help children with disabilities move around



- transport that is cheap and easy to use



- good healthcare



5. Make sure teachers and school staff get the right training and support now and in the future.

For example, they should get training about:

- how to teach all children with disabilities in the same classrooms as other children.

This may mean changing the way they teach lessons



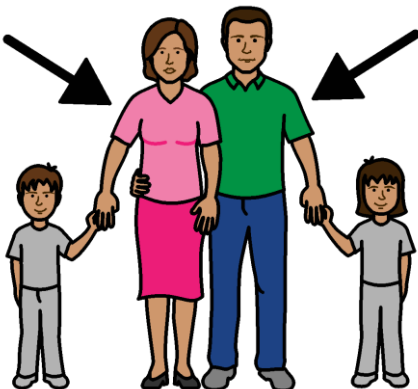
- how to communicate with children with disabilities



- how to stop children with disabilities being hurt or bullied



6. Give parents of children with disabilities the right training and support.





7. Make sure children with disabilities get support to learn and do well when they are very young.



8. Check schools to make sure they give all children a good education.



9. Make sure children with disabilities and their families have a say in decisions about education and services.



10. Get better information about people with disabilities and what they need.



11. Tell people with disabilities and their families what support they can get in their local areas.

12. Tell lots of people about the rights of people with disabilities.



13. Make it easy for people with disabilities to complain if they do not get their rights.



14. Make sure there is enough money to make all the changes.



Other organizations in the world should help Lebanon with this work.