

Cyflwynwyd yr ymateb hwn i'r [Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg](#) ar gyfer yr ymchwiliad: [A oes gan blant a phobl ifanc anabl fynediad cyfartal at addysg a gofal plant?](#)

This response was submitted to the [Children, Young People and Education Committee](#) for the inquiry: [Do disabled children and young people have equal access to education and childcare?](#)

AEC 28

Ymateb gan: Unigolyn

Response from: Individual

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It's the school holidays and therefore unfortunately I didn't have the time to devote to this that I would have liked.

However here are some hastily written examples that I would like to be considers. I am more than happy to provide additional information if required.

"...are consulted or informed of the choices in education or childcare available to them"

It was recommended by professional that our daughter move from mainstream to a specialist provision. The 'panel' would recommend the specialist provision and we could not visit any specialist provision until the panel has made it's recommendation, and then will could only visit the recommendation facility, no others. At the point where we rejected the recommended facility, we would then await the result of the rejection before we could visit any further provisions. Those attending mainstream can visit a number of schools as they wish; they are not restricted access. Parents of those children can visit schools, draw comparisions between schools, make assessments on which ones best suit their childs needs and ulitimately use these visits to inform their choices. Parents of disabled children have this choice removed. They are only allowed to visit facilities the panel has recommended. Parents of disabled children do not have parity.

" barriers for schools and childcare providers offering accessible provision"

Many disabled children, including my own, cannot access breakfast club facilities – because they require support and this support is not available. The same applies to after school clubs. Therefore, in the same school the options available for disabled and non-disabled children will be vastly different.

Childcare – the Council’s holiday childcare/activity offerings are only available to a small cohort of disabled children. Sports camps available in Caerphilly County Borough Council targeted as disabled children, have a minimum entry criteria (being able to feed and toilet themselves) that not all disabled childcare can meet.

In Caerphilly, Trinity Fields offers holiday sessions but these are only available to children who attend Trinity or one of their satellite SRBs. Therefore an autistic child attending one SRB could have access, and a child with similar needs attending another SRB could not.

“...children and young people have been excluded from aspects of education or childcare due to their disability”

Whilst our daughter was at mainstream, due to resource issues in one term we were asked to keep my daughter home from school on regular occasions. This was because the school couldn’t find a consistent and able enough contract 1:1 to support, they would not use existing teaching assistants in the class to provide 1:1 support. They chose to ask us to keep our daughter home, rather than use an available teaching assistant to provide 1:1 cover – this happened at [REDACTED] Primary school. We were often asked to take her ourselves to and from school trip locations and asked to provide a level of support that a parent of a non-disabled child would not have been asked to provide.