WELCOME TO SCHOOL CASE

The Welcome to School Case is developed specifically for children to experience firsthand what it is like to go to school with a disability. After a trial run and feedback from the field, the language and design of the case were adapted to ensure it could be used in a playful way. With a set of fun tasks, children can investigate how welcoming their school is to children with disabilities by reviewing physical, education, and social obstacles. For instance, how do you get to school if you can't walk? Or how can you follow lessons or play with other children if you can't hear or see anything? It's all about answering and reflecting upon: how welcome are children to school?

Although guidelines on how to complete the tasks and how to film these are provided within the case itself, you are free to innovate and make it your own. While the subject is serious, the message is positive so make sure you have fun with it!

HOW YOU CAN USE THE WELCOME TO SCHOOL CASE

I. Project or Strengthening Process

The school case can be used as a learning or training tool in schools. Those that are not yet, or only somewhat, inclusive can use this to identify which areas are still lacking and can therefore be improved. In addition, it encourages reflection from various stakeholders involved in the completion of the tasks (e.g. children, parents, teachers and other school staff) on possible improvements.

II. Lobby and Advocacy

The school case is good for awareness raising, as well as reflecting upon and gathering ‘evidence’ on aspects of a school at are not (yet) inclusive. Aggregated data of multiple schools can also be used for lobby and advocacy by (S)POs on higher governmental levels. While the case’s primary goal is to give voice to children on this important matter, task 10 especially provides an opportunity to involve not only children, but also school staff, decision-makers, the press and other important stakeholders to discuss conclusions and recommendations.

III. Communication

The school case also offers possibility to showcase its outputs using film and/or photo material. Handy filming guidelines are provided in the case, to help you produce good quality material. These films and/or photos can be used on a local level (e.g. by schools and (S)POs) but also international to show results on the theme of Inclusive Education.