

What is Inclusion?

Inclusion is seen as a universal human right. The aim of inclusion is to embrace all people no matter the race, gender, disability, or medical condition. **Inclusion is about giving equal access and opportunities and getting rid of discrimination and intolerance by removing barriers.** An example of inclusion is when multiple people are all invited to be part of a group and their perspectives valued and counted.



Creating Inclusive Classrooms!

When students are found to be eligible for special education services, a common concern for families and many of the students is that their child will be placed in a different classroom, apart from other students. Schools that are working to create a more inclusive environment will have students attending as many general education classes as possible with additional supports. This is creating **inclusive classrooms** where general education teachers and special education teachers work together to meet the needs of all students.

Inclusion verses Diversity

It can be easy to confuse Inclusion with Diversity because these two concepts have some overlap but they are not interchangeable. **Diversity is** about creating an environment where different genders, races, nationalities, and sexual orientations and identities are present but only the perspectives of certain groups are valued or carry any authority or influence. This may be diverse, but it is not inclusive. **Inclusion means** that the contributions, presence and perspectives of different groups of people are valued and integrated into an environment.

Class and Club at Brevard High

At Brevard High School, administration and teaching staff are recognizing that Pre-ETS is a program that can help them make their school a more welcoming place for all students. Currently, Pre-ETS is teaching workplace readiness skills to a general education classroom and Pre-ETS has run a job exploration club every week. Everyone participates together. Having two staff to present these lessons allows for students who need additional support to have it in real time in the classroom. This way, students are not singled out by meeting in a separate session or by being pulled separately by a staff member. Pre-ETS then has the opportunity to work with an inclusive classroom of students on job readiness skills, soft skills, and career exploration and so the material presented through Pre-ETS is valuable and useful to all of the students.



Compiled by TVS Pre-ETS

Source: <https://www.greatplacetowork.com/resources/blog/why-is-diversity-inclusion-in-the-workplace-important> and <https://www.unicef.org/education/inclusive-education>