



P R E S S R E L E A S E

You are invited to the launch of 2020 Campaign: The Campaign to close all special schools and colleges in the United Kingdom

You are invited to the launch of the 2020 campaign on 3rd December (International Disabled Peoples' Day), at Room C, 1 Parliament Street, Whitehall at 12.30 pm This is a campaign led by disabled people and their allies to end segregated education by the year 2020.

A recent OFSTED Report into inclusive education demonstrates that there has been **no** overall decrease in the number of pupils attending segregated special schools in the last five years despite government rhetoric about supporting inclusion. Indeed the number of disabled children in independent special schools is at an all time high.

There is a strong and valid Human Right case to end segregated education. There is much evidence to show that inclusive schools that have disabled and non-disabled children do better for all their pupils. Yet a large majority of schools, colleges, etc do not take on their statutory duties and make reasonable adjustments so disabled people can fully take part in education.

The 2020 campaign is based on the experience of disabled adults who went to special education schools and colleges. They experienced abuse, isolation and failure that emotionally scarred thousands for life. End this shameful exclusion that ruins lives.

The 2020 campaign wants to ensure that all local authorities plan and develop the capacity to accommodate all disabled people in all of their schools and that mainstream colleges do likewise.

Sixteen years is long enough to develop expertise and the capacity to include disabled people in education. Come and hear the experiences of special school survivors. Come and hear the basis of our campaign.

For more information about the 2020 campaign contact Richard Rieser on 020 7359 2855 or Micheline Mason on 020 7377 5277

For more information on the campaign www.allfie.org.uk