

A Political Message from a Student with Special Needs

NOTHING ABOUT US,
WITHOUT US!

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A Little Bit About Me...

- Cerebral Palsy- Spastic Diplegia
- Mainstream Education
- Journalist/Activist
- Honours Degree, Applied Psychology UCC
- Masters in Journalism NUI Galway



What Education Means to me....

- My greatest weapon...
- Equality, independence, opportunity
- Overcoming barriers
- Prospects for future

- I want to be the very best I can be!!

It is not always easy...

- Need for support
- Need for understanding
- I NEED YOU TO HEAR MY VOICE
- All I want is a level playing field

Inclusion and Individuation

- Each case is different
- Good systems make inclusion possible
- Direct Access Route to Education (DARE)
- Important not to be too extreme

Expert by Experience

- I do not have all the answers
- Things are improving
- Talk to people, continue consultation process at all levels
- Things change... Nothing is static

Individuals Make the Difference

This means YOU!

To finish....

“Dream without limit,
Plan without fear,
Before you expect it,
The future is here
Reach for the Sky,
Aim at the Sun,
An achiever will finish
A job once begun.....”

Anon