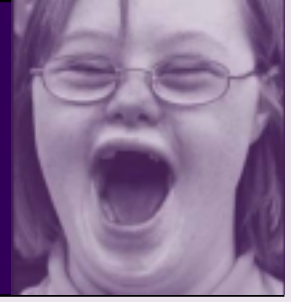


ENABLE Scotland

beliefs and principles



ENABLE Scotland is a national voluntary organisation run by its members who are people with learning disabilities, carers, family members and volunteers.

ENABLE Scotland believes that people with learning disabilities should be valued as full and active members of the community. This means that we believe that people with learning disabilities, like everyone else, have the right:

- to be born
- to live in the community
- to education
- to training.
- to use local services
- to employment
- to a variety of relationships including marriage
- to become parents
- to vote
- to participate as much as possible in decisions about their lives.

ENABLE Scotland supports children, young people and adults with learning disabilities and their families to exercise these rights in two main ways:

- By campaigning, lobbying and fighting for greater equality and better opportunities, providing a national information and advice service, legal and advocacy services.
- By providing innovative, community based services that help them to live, attend school, work and enjoy meaningful participation in their local community.

Every one of ENABLE Scotland's services ensure that every adult, young person or child has opportunities for:

- Personal development** so that their personal growth is recognised, respected and nurtured and they are helped to learn from their life experiences.
- Real integration** so that they can use a full range of community facilities and are not limited to special activities.
- Relationships** so that they can develop genuine relationships and friendships.
- Real choices** so that they can express their individuality and have meaningful control over their lives.
- Participation** so that they can, along with others, influence the nature of services being provided.

The full charitable aims of ENABLE Scotland are:

- To promote the welfare of children, young people and adults with a learning disability including the meeting of their needs and the development of their capabilities.
- To enable and encourage people with a learning disability to participate in decision affecting any areas of their lives.
- To promote mutual help and support amongst people with learning disabilities, their relatives and friends.
- To promote co-operation and understanding between people with learning disabilities and their relatives and those providing services for them.
- To promote and encourage the provision of services and facilities for the benefit of people with a learning disability, their family and carers.
- To encourage research into the causes, treatment and management of learning disabilities.

