

# Conversation Starters

Building a culture of inclusion and celebrating diversity in a school requires proactive work. To create this culture, students, parents, and educators must realize that inclusion benefits all students. Having conversations with students, parents and educators about these benefits and the importance of inclusion will help foster inclusion in schools. Below you will find some questions that can help start some meaningful conversations about inclusion and inclusive education practices.

## Parent to Child:

- » What do you enjoy about school? What is a stretch for you when learning?
- » What makes you excited? Tell me about activities that make you proud.
- » What helps you be successful?
- » What are some things that could help you be more successful?
- » What has worked in the past? What has not?

## Parent to Teacher:

- » How can I help you support my child?
- » What are my child's strengths? What do you notice is stretching my child?
- » What could I do at home to support my child's learning?
- » Here are some of my goals for my child for this year. How can we work together to support my child to achieve these goals?
- » Here are some things that my child is interested in/ what my child would like to learn about this year.

## Teacher to Student:

- » How do you like to learn?
- » What are your interests?
- » What are your favourite types of learning activities? (i.e., hands-on, group projects, etc.)
- » In the last few years, what school projects or activities were you proud of? This year?
- » What are some of the things that we can do in the classroom to support your learning? (i.e., more time, a quiet space, preferential seating, etc.)
- » What are your goals for this year? What do you want to improve in?
- » What is your favorite subject and why?
- » What is your most challenging subject and why?

## Teacher to Parent:

- » What can you tell me about your child? What is important that I know about your child?
- » What is your child like at home?
- » What are your goals for your child this year?
- » What are strategies that have worked in the past for your child's learning? What did not work? What about this year?
- » What is the best approach to take when offering your child support in class/small groups/individually?
- » Who are your child's trusted adults in the school? Peers?
- » What are the physical/emotional signs when your child becomes stressed? What approaches have you found to be most effective when approaching him/her?