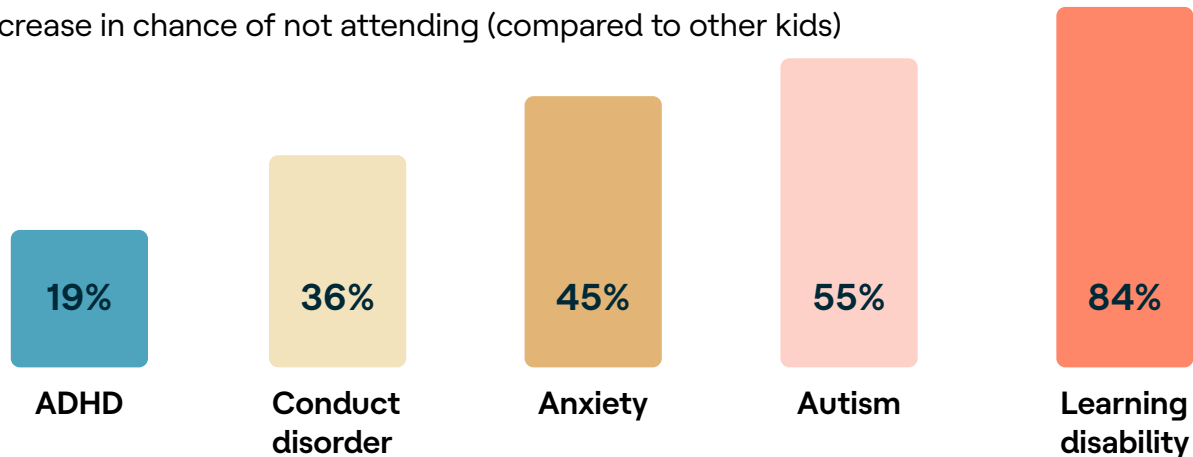


Inclusion fact sheet for faith leaders

All major religions value the inclusion of people with disabilities. In practice, though, many kids are excluded. Learn why this may happen and get ideas on how to include all kids in your faith.

Fact: Kids who struggle with behavior and social skills are less likely to attend religious services than other kids.*

% increase in chance of not attending (compared to other kids)



* Whitehead, A. L. Religion and Disability. 2018.

Fact: Families of kids with disabilities often feel excluded from places of worship.**



56% of families kept their child from religious activities due to lack of support.



46% of families have never been asked by a faith leader about how to include their child.



1 in 3 families have changed places of worship because they felt their child was excluded.

How faith leaders can support inclusion of all kids

- Look for people in your faith community who aren't being included.
- ▲ Remind your community of your faith's teachings on the value of each child.
- Consult with an expert on disability inclusion from your faith.
- Model kindness and understanding when kids struggle with social rules.
- Allow kids to take breaks and move around during religious services.

** Ault, M. J. Congregational Participation and Supports for Children and Adults With Disabilities. 2013.