

# Support planning and thinking skills in secondary

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Helpful classroom strategies years 9-13' from the Guide: [ADHD and learning](#)

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## **Includes:**

- Support time management
- Use multiple approaches to support concentration
- Offer a range of approaches to support planning
- Support thinking in multiple ways
- Useful resources

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From

Guide: [ADHD and learning](#)

Strategy: [Helpful classroom strategies years 9-13](#)

Suggestion: [Support planning and thinking skills in secondary](#)

Date

05 October 2021

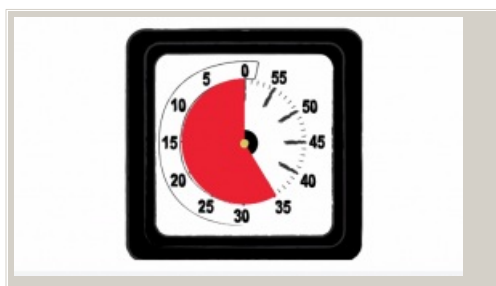
Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/adhd-and-learning/support-planning-and-thinking-skills-in-secondary](http://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/adhd-and-learning/support-planning-and-thinking-skills-in-secondary)

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## Support time management

Visual timers, such as the Time Timer Apps, help students "see" the time they have for a task.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/27596627>

No captions or transcript

Source:

[Time Timer \(US\)](#)

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## Use multiple approaches to support concentration

Provide options to support concentration and short-term memory.

- ✓ Monitor and moderate the classroom for visual and auditory distractions.
- ✓ Encourage students to adapt the environment to meet their needs by, for example, wearing headphones, moving to a quiet environment or taking a walk to support their thinking.
- ✓ Present information in a range of ways over an extended period of time to help students to retain information, build their understanding and stay focused.
- ✓ Discuss with students the effectiveness of the classroom and make modifications and remove barriers where needed.
- ✓ Make effective use of visual prompts and cues to support understanding and navigation in online environments.
- ✓ Make hyperlinks to background knowledge or previous learning to increase connections.
- ✓ Schedule regular short breaks for physical movement.

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## Offer a range of approaches to support planning

Suggestions for supporting students' planning and organising.

- ✓ Use charts, visual calendars, colour-coded schedules, visible timers and cues to increase the predictability of regular activities and transitions.
- ✓ Encourage students to use their mobile devices to schedule alerts and reminders for regular and novel events and task deadlines.
- ✓ Highlight patterns, critical features, big ideas and relationships using visuals, mind maps, 3-D manipulatives, outlines, flow charts and real objects.
- ✓ Model and make available graphic organisers and flow charts to support planning and thinking in all curriculum areas.
- ✓ Break tasks and lengthy assignments into small manageable parts. Schedule workflow using [Trello](#) to organise what needs to be done and when.
- ✓ Provide options so that students can submit work online.

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## Support thinking in multiple ways

- ✓ Highlight patterns, critical features, big ideas, and relationships using visuals, mind maps, 3D manipulatives, outlines, flowcharts, and real objects.
- ✓ Give students multiple opportunities to engage with new ideas and concepts.
- ✓ Provide extra time for students to think and process before needing to respond in a discussion.
- ✓ Use mind maps to brainstorm ideas and make connections.
- ✓ Support group and class discussions with visual annotations to prompt later recall of key ideas.
- ✓ Offer students a variety of graphic organisers and flowcharts to support thinking in all curriculum areas.

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## Useful resources



Graphic organizers

Publisher: For The Teachers

[Visit website](#)



Free graphic  
organizers

Publisher: Education Oasis

[Visit website](#)

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