

Establish help signals

A help signal system can reduce off task behaviours and frustration at feeling stuck.

A help signal enables a student to give an unobtrusive signal when they need help. Whilst a student waits for assistance they can select either a calming strategy or alternative work.

It is important to develop the system with your students and establish agreed signals, waiting behaviours, and teacher responses.

Possible signal options:

- colour-coded cup
- an agreed object that usually lies on the desk that can be stood up
- green/red sided card
- traffic light slider
- student writes name on “I need assistance” board

This system can also be used to support individual students rather than taking a whole class approach.

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