

Minimise barriers to expression

Suggestions for minimising barriers and optimising supports for student expression.

- ✓ Where possible, set goals that enable students to demonstrate their understanding through multiple pathways.
- ✓ Offer students a range of options for expression: text, images, voice, video, animation or a combination of media.
- ✓ Ensure that the “means” of showing understanding is not itself a barrier to success.
- ✓ If the “means” are a barrier for some students, use supports such as text-to-speech.
- ✓ Build supports (text to speech, online highlighters) into each learning activity at the outset and encourage students to select what they need.
- ✓ Encourage students to select work environments that best suit their needs and the task (for example, wearing noise-cancelling headphones, listening to music, working in a quiet corner, working with a buddy, in a tuakana-teina partnership or in a collaborative group).

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