

# Support participation and build confidence

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Helpful classroom strategies years 1-8' from the Guide: [Deaf and hard of hearing](#)

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- Includes:**
- Ideas to build confidence
  - Select flexible learning materials
  - Give timely feedback
  - Reduce noise levels
  - Host inclusive Zoom sessions
  - Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Deaf or hard of hearing students and learning](#)

Strategy: [Helpful classroom strategies years 1-8](#)

Suggestion: [Support participation and build confidence](#)

Date

04 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/deaf-or-hard-of-hearing-students-and-learning/support-participation-and-build-confidence-2](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/deaf-or-hard-of-hearing-students-and-learning/support-participation-and-build-confidence-2)

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## Ideas to build confidence

Discuss with students what will support their participation and motivation.

Build these suggestions into your teaching practice.

- ✓ Consider the use of New Zealand Sign Language in class.
- ✓ Ask your student what helps them to learn (for example, text-to-speech or quiet spaces) and build their suggestions into your planning.
- ✓ Use your knowledge of the student's interests, strengths and culture to create opportunities for them to take the lead.
- ✓ Identify classroom situations (for example, verbal instructions given from a distance) that may exclude some students. Provide alternatives.
- ✓ Recognise avoidance strategies and provide support and encouragement.
- ✓ Give ongoing prompts and positive feedback, and provide strategies that help students when they get stuck.
- ✓ Create a class culture where students support each other.

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## Select flexible learning materials

NZSL, New Zealand sign language, Ready to Read



Source:

[Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga](#)

<https://apps.apple.com/nz/developer/ministry-of-education-new-zealand/id507340102>

[View full image \(500 KB\)](#)

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## Give timely feedback



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

[View full image \(657 KB\)](#)

Increase opportunities for one-to-one and small group interactions to support personalised conversations about learning.

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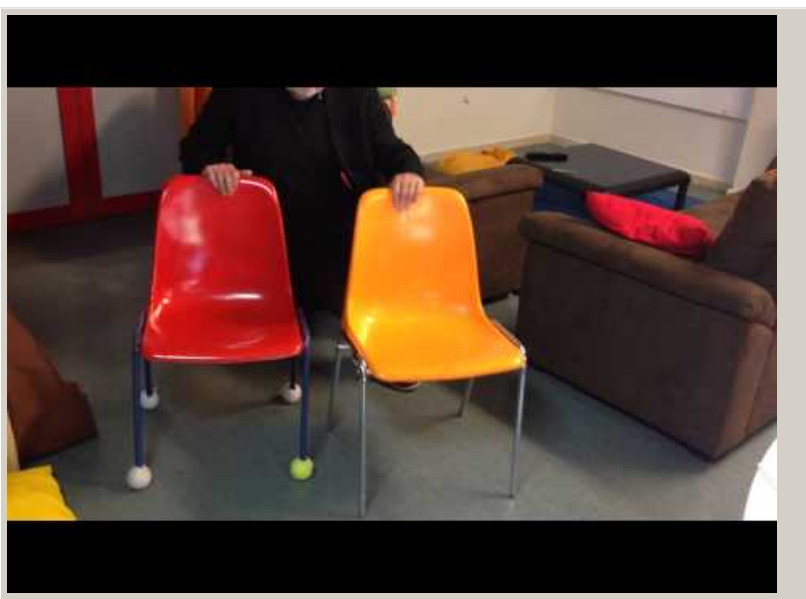
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## Reduce noise levels

Minimise unnecessary noise which affects students' ability to hear.



Video hosted on Youtube <http://youtu.be/yfe7VLF7bo4>

No captions or transcript

**Source:**

[Stephen Heppell \(UK\)](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC45nYxn7cW3aEtZua-XDHoQ>

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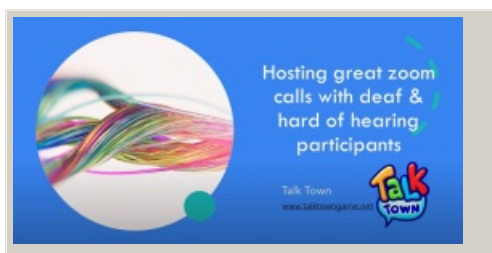
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## Host inclusive Zoom sessions

This video covers some easy, effective tips to help make Zoom meetings or lessons more accessible. These tips are beneficial for all learners.



Video hosted on Youtube [http://youtu.be/Ku\\_ju2WwPoc](http://youtu.be/Ku_ju2WwPoc)

Closed Captions

Source:

[Talk Town \(NZ\)](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn8NqYwdcgXBEKJ5xsIwrGg>

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## Useful resources



### Ruaumoko: The rumbling voice

An interactive digital book telling the story of Rūaumoko, the god of earthquakes and volcanoes. This narration is supported by text and audio in Te Reo Māori and English. The digital book is available from iTunes (apple) and Google Play (android).

[Visit website](#)

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