

## 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](#)

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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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