

# Support students' processing and organisational skills

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Helpful classroom strategies years 1-8' from

the Guide: Deaf and hard of hearing

**Includes:** Support organisational skills

Prevent fatigue

Support thinking and pattern recognition

Support independence with visuals

Useful resources

From

Guide: Deaf or hard of hearing students and learning Strategy: Helpful classroom strategies years 1–8

Suggestion: Support students' processing and organisational skills

Date

01 September 2025

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/deaf-or-hard-of-hearing-students-and-learning/support-students-processing-and-organisational-skills-2

### Support organisational skills

Suggestions for supporting students' organisational and processing skills.

- ✓ Label key areas of the classroom and resources with visual and text labels.
- ✓ Use charts, visual calendars, colour-coded schedules, visible timers and visual cues to increase the predictability of regular activities, transitions between environments and activities, and changes in discussion topics.
- ✓ Make graphic organisers and flowcharts available to support breaking tasks into chunks, and thinking and planning in all curriculum areas.
- → 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 in a range of contexts.
- Pace content delivery. Give students time to process and integrate information from multiple sources – displays, interpreters, written instructions, the teacher.

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## **Prevent fatigue**



Source:
Ministry of Education

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#### Support thinking and pattern recognition

Use tools and approaches to help learners to recognise patterns, critical features, big ideas and relationships.

- ✓ Use visuals graphics, photos, cartoons, pictures to support text and talk when explaining anything.
- ✓ Offer 3D virtual and physical models and real objects to help ākonga identify critical features.
- ✓ Use mind maps, flowcharts, and outlines to help learners unpack big ideas and relationships.
- ✓ Give ākonga multiple opportunities to engage with new ideas and concepts.
- ✔ Provide extra time for ākonga to think and process before they need to respond in a discussion.
- ✓ Use mindmaps to brainstorm ideas.
- ✓ Support group and class discussions with visual annotations to prompt later recall of key ideas.
- ✓ Make thinking tools and approaches available across all curriculum areas.

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# Support independence with visuals



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

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#### **Useful resources**



Time Timer (visual timer for visual people!)

For many students being able to see a visual representation of time passing can really support their time management. This video explains how time timer works.

Publisher: Time Timer

Visit website

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