

Support students' processing and organisational skills

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Helpful classroom strategies years 9-13' from the Guide: [Deaf and hard of hearing](#)

Includes:

- Environments to support thinking
- Supporting organisation with visuals
- Prevent fatigue
- Offer visual timers
- Ideas to support processing
- Useful resources

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From

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

Strategy: [Helpful classroom strategies years 9-13](#)

Suggestion: [Support students' processing and organisational skills](#)

Date

04 June 2026

Link

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Environments to support thinking



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

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Provide students with a range of flexible spaces to support thinking. Offer both quiet and collaborative spaces.

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Supporting organisation with visuals

Suggestions for supporting students’ autonomy and independence.

- ✓ 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 planning in all curriculum areas.

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Prevent fatigue



Source:

Stacey Rozells

[https://unsplash.com/photos/pV_ixbLn4QU?](https://unsplash.com/photos/pV_ixbLn4QU?utm_source=unsplash&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=creditCopyText)

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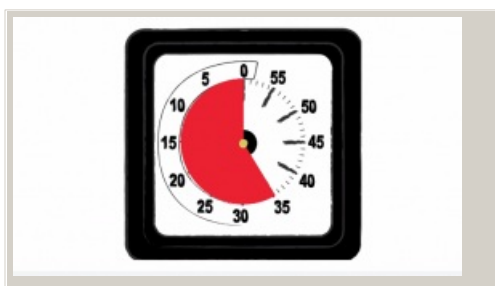
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Offer visual timers

Visual timers, can help students "see" the time they have for a task.

This can reduce stress and increase motivation.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/27596627>

No captions or transcript

Source:

[Time Timer \(US\)](#)

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Ideas to support processing

Provide options to support thinking and processing.

- ✓ Pace content delivery. Give students time to process and integrate information from multiple sources – displays, interpreters, written instructions, the teacher.
- ✓ Give students multiple opportunities to engage with new ideas in a range of contexts.
- ✓ Highlight patterns, critical features, big ideas and relationships using visuals, mindmaps, 3D manipulatives, outlines, flowcharts and real objects.
- ✓ Provide extra time for students to think and process before needing to respond in a discussion.
- ✓ Support group and class discussions with visual annotations to prompt later recall of key ideas.
- ✓ Offer students a variety of graphic organisers and flowcharts to support thinking in all curriculum areas.

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Useful resources



Mindomo

Mindomo is a versatile free collaborative mind mapping, concept mapping and outlining tool for processing and organising information.

Publisher: Mindomo

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