

Understand emotions and stressors and build confidence

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

from the Guide: Dyslexia and learning

Includes: Recognise student effort

Recognise student strengths

Give students time

Listen and observe

Build a growth mindset

Useful resources

From

Guide: Dyslexia and learning

Strategy: Helpful classroom strategies in years 1-8

Suggestion: Understand emotions and stressors and build confidence

Date

18 September 2025

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/dyslexia-and-learning/understand-emotions-and-stressors-and-build-

confidence

Recognise student effort



Source: Poppytalk

http://www.poppytalk.com

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confidence

Recognise student strengths

Get to know your students' strengths.

Provide regular opportunities for students to demonstrate and utilise their strengths and talents.

A strengths-based approach:

- enables the student to receive positive feedback
- builds their confidence as learners
- allows their peers to see them as successful.

Students feel confident and valued, rather than focusing on the frustration of what is not working well.

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Give students time

Additional time reduces stress and enables the student to be successful.

- ✔ Provide students with extra time to complete tasks.
- ✔ Provide increased processing time, for example, deliberately pause after you ask a question and provide think-time.
- ✓ During tests, provide a short break in the middle, or break the test into two parts to be sat on different days.

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Listen and observe

Loveday Lewthwaite explains the classroom accommodations she has made to support Josh, a Year 7 student with dyslexia. Recognising and utilising his strengths is part of this.



Video hosted on Youtube http://youtu.be/fHys-TFz3s4

No captions or transcript

Source:

NZCER (NZ)

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChMYjSxXeU7gb522kIQpNcg

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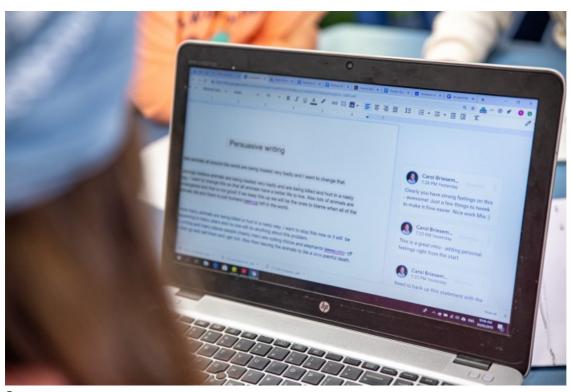
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Build a growth mindset



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

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Useful resources



The dyslexia-stress-anxiety connection

Read time: 10 min

This resource explains stress and anxiety and how they connect with dyslexia. It includes a step-by-step guide for supporting individuals to de-stress.

Publisher: International Dyslexia Association

Visit website



Questionnaire for students

Questions to ask your students to find out how they are feeling and what they need to access the curriculum.

Download PDF (72 KB)



See dyslexia differently

This animation illustrates the challenges children with dyslexia face while also acknowledging their strengths and potential. A companion teacher resource is linked in the video description.

Publisher: The British Dyslexia Association

Visit website

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