Inclusive Education

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA

Support participation and build confidence

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Helpful classroom strategies years 1–8' from the Guide: Low vision and learning

Includes:

Give instructions in close proximity

Create a secure environment

Support environmental preferences

Teach touch typing

Useful resources

Give instructions in close proximity

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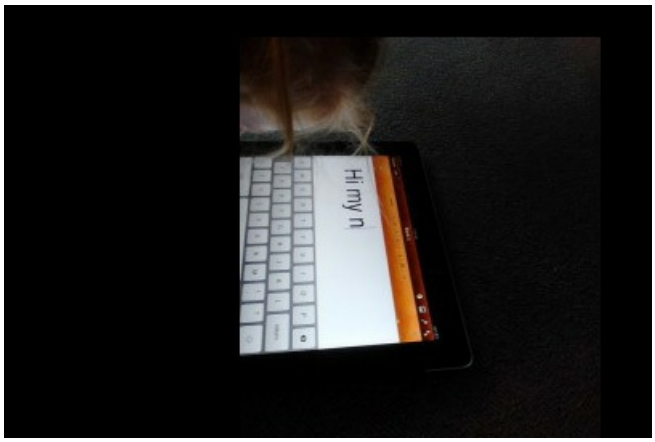
Communication can be more effective up close. It can help reduce distractions and support attention.

Create a secure environment

- ✔ Use the student's name when addressing them.
- ✔ Create clear, planned pathways for moving around the classroom. Minimise random obstacles.
- ✔ Familiarise the student with a new classroom layout BEFORE making changes.
- ✔ Encourage all students to position themselves in optimum environments to support their engagement and attention.
- ✔ Discuss with the student the best places for them to sit to access information at a distance.
- ✔ Make learning support tools – text-to-speech, graphic organisers, planning tools and so on – available for all students.
- ✔ Create a culture where students support each other.

Support environmental preferences



Source:
BLENNZ Learning Library
http://blennzonlinelearninglibrary.edublogs.org/2012/05/10/molly-aged-7-uses-the-ipad-app-story-kit-to-compose-and-share-her-own-stories/

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Teach touch typing

Source:
BLENNZ Learning Library
http://blennzonlinelearninglibrary.edublogs.org/2012/05/10/transferring-touch-typing-skills-to-the-classroom-%E2%80%93-a-step-towards-the-confident-use-of-technology-for-independent-access-to-literacy-activities/

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Useful resources

Self advocacy traffic light system in a primary classroom

A blog post on how the traffic light system can be used to help students self-assess their learning at their own pace. A colour-coded system would greatly assist low vision learners and their teachers with ongoing formative feedback.

Publisher: The English Classroom

Visit website

Dance mat typing

A BBC typing programme, in the form of a game, that has been used to effectively support students with low vision.

Publisher: BBC

Visit website

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