

# 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

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Low vision and learning](#)

Strategy: [Helpful classroom strategies years 1-8](#)

Suggestion: [Support participation and build confidence](#)

Date

06 July 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/low-vision-and-learning/support-participation-and-build-confidence-2](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/low-vision-and-learning/support-participation-and-build-confidence-2)

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## Give instructions in close proximity



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

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## 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.

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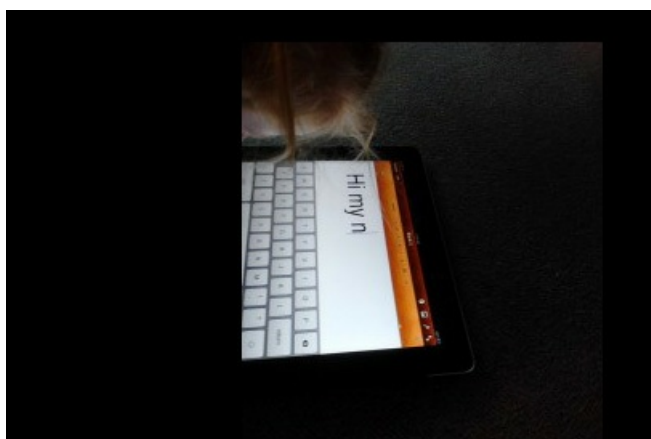
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## Support environmental preferences



**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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