MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA

Use recommended approaches to support social interaction

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Key areas to support' from the Guide: Speech, language & communication

Includes:

Utilise role play across the curriculum

Ideas to support social skills

Use social stories to support social skills

Create an inclusive culture

Useful resources

Utilise role play across the curriculum

Source:
Kathy Cassidy
https://flic.kr/p/mQQPjv

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Ideas to support social skills

Integrate social skills into teaching and learning.

- Create an environment where students can see one another clearly, identify social cues, and learn and practise turn-taking.
- Explain that words, tone, and body language convey messages.
- Teach students to recognise and interpret non-verbal language and the social rules of different settings. Have them observe and identify examples of staying on topic, moving off topic, and keeping a conversation going.
- Set up exercises such as peer mediation to give students a framework for sorting out disagreements.

Use social stories to support social skills

Carol Gray, provides information for teachers who want to increase social understanding and effectiveness.

Video hosted on Youtube http://youtu.be/vjlIYYbVIrI

Closed Captions

Source:
LaurelFalvo (USA)
http://youtu.be/vjlIYYbVIrI

Create an inclusive culture

Support participation by ensuring practical supports and actions are built into the culture of the classroom.

- ✔ Partner your students with speech, language and communication needs with other students for group activities. Aides or teachers can help, but shouldn't act as partners.
- ✔ Provide opportunities for students to identify their strengths.
- ✔ Encourage students to feel less stressed in social situations by using warmth, patience and good humour when you talk with them.
- ✔ Encourage students to share their interests. For example, create a class bulletin board featuring school-based and out-of-school interests.
- ✔ Provide a range of ways for students to express what they know. For example, some students who find it hard to get their ideas across in words may prefer to use digital tools or visual aids to communicate their understanding.

Useful resources

Social story creator & library

Publisher: TouchAutism

Visit website

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