Offer a range of supports

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Using low-technology options' from the Guide: Technology tools for learning

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Includes:

Environmental considerations

Offer useful supports

Light and sound

Give support with visuals

Offer a range of tools

Utilise learner profiles

Environmental considerations

Making small changes to the learning environment is another way to increase learner participation and access.

In your design, consider:

- where learners are positioned in relation to the teacher, the whiteboard, or classroom screens
- the height of tables or desks
- access to flexible learning spaces, for example, quiet areas, groups tables, and independent work areas
- work spaces that are quiet and have low stimulus
- clear labels for areas and equipment
- the visibility and accessibility of key information, for example, timetables and resource links
- the ease of access to key equipment and resources, for example, height-appropriate storage shelves, uncluttered pathways, and access to power points.

Offer useful supports

Try small, inexpensive equipment.

Always consider the needs and sensitivities of your learners before introducing any supports.

Offer supports to everyone, such as:

- fidget tools for concentration
- reading rulers to highlight single lines of text
- sticky notes or removable Post-it flags to mark important words or sections of text
- calculators
- magnifiers
- slope boards
- coloured pencils and felt-tipped pens
- pencil grips to support fine motor control
- headphones
- earmuffs to reduce noise
- timers
- inflatable seat cushions.

Light and sound

Check to see if adjusting the lighting or room acoustics helps.

- ✔ Minimise shadows and glare on whiteboards and screens.
- ✔ Increase contrast (it is best to present materials on backgrounds that make objects stand out).
- ✔ Use black or blue whiteboard pens to maintain high contrast.
- ✔ Minimise background noise (such as the noise of computers, heating and ventilation systems, fish tanks, and other learners).
- ✔ Minimise background noise outside the classroom (such as traffic noise, playground noise, noise from other classrooms, and rain).

Inclusive Education
From
Guide: Technology tools for learning

Strategy: Using low-technology options

Suggestion: Offer a range of supports

Date
02 May 2024
Link
inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/technology-tools-for-learning/offer-a-range-of-supports

Give support with visuals

Source:
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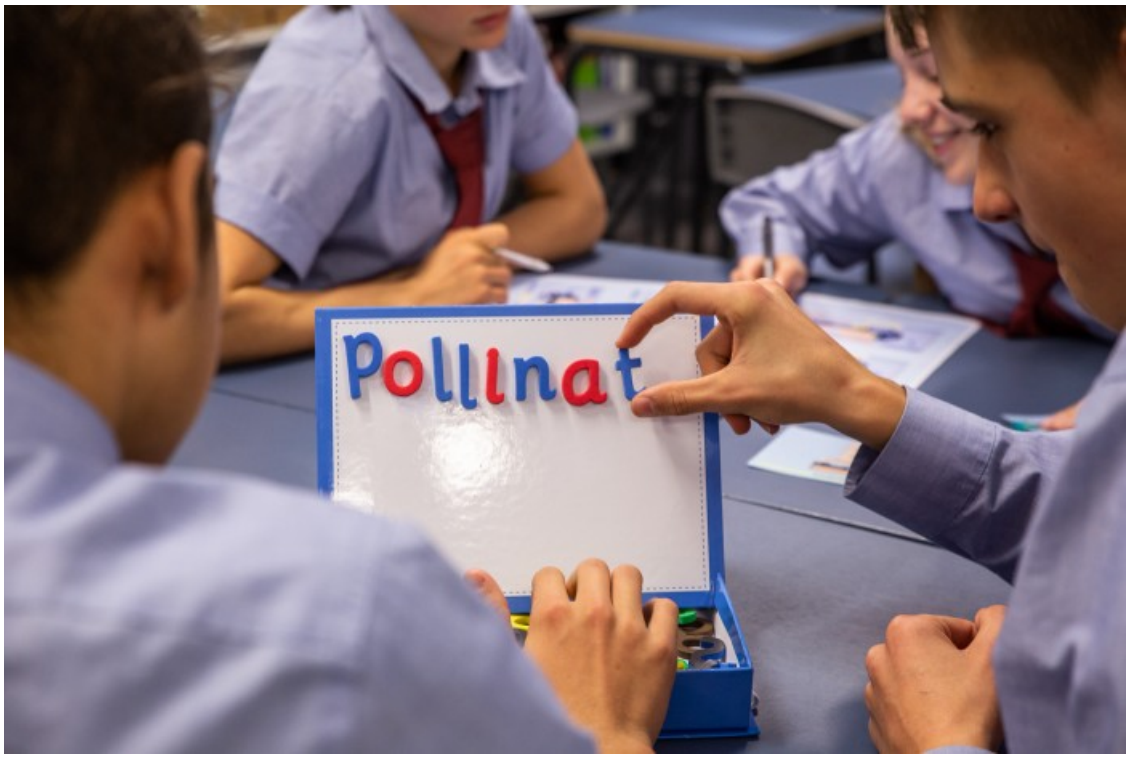
Offer a range of tools



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Utilise learner profiles

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