

Ensure materials are flexible and accessible

A suggestion for implementing the strategy

'Design considerations in secondary settings'

from the Guide: [Universal Design for Learning](#)

Includes:

Offer flexible materials

Benefits of digital text

Suggestions for using text-to-speech

Reflection questions

Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Universal Design for Learning](#)

Strategy: [Design considerations in secondary settings](#)

Suggestion: [Ensure materials are flexible and accessible](#)

Date

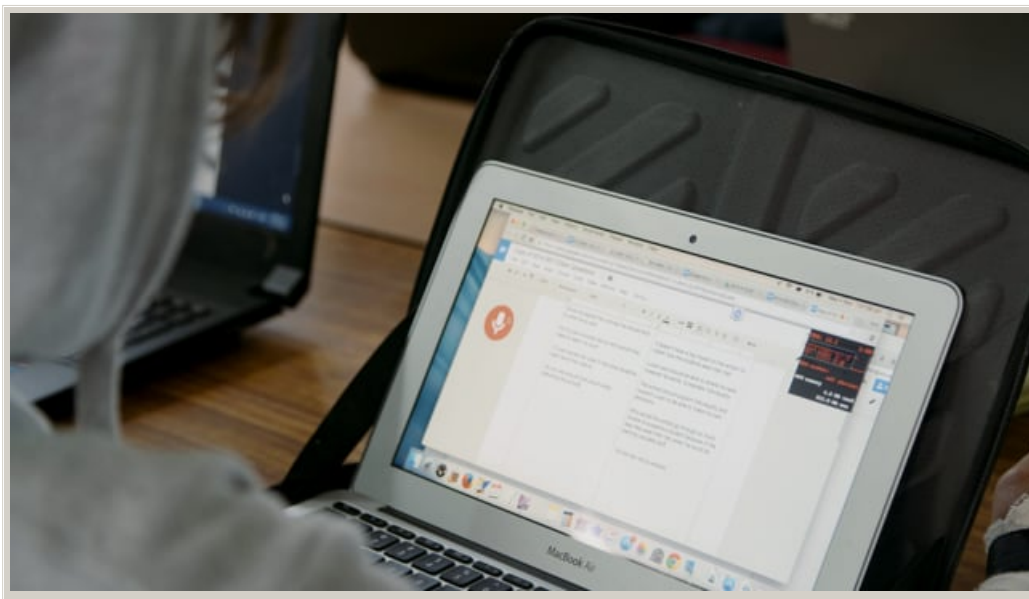
29 August 2025

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/universal-design-for-learning/ensure-materials-are-flexible-and-accessible

Offer flexible materials

Ben Britton describes how digital technologies can be used to build options and supports into the learning environment.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/160672115>

Closed Captions

Source:

[Enabling eLearning Ministry of Education \(NZ\)](#)

<http://elearning.tki.org.nz/>

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Universal Design for Learning](#)

Strategy: [Design considerations in secondary settings](#)

Suggestion: [Ensure materials are flexible and accessible](#)

Date

29 August 2025

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/universal-design-for-learning/ensure-materials-are-flexible-and-accessible

Benefits of digital text

Digital text is valuable because it can be:

- ✓ adjusted so that the style, size, and colour of fonts are the best fit for the student
- ✓ converted to speech using text-to-speech tools
- ✓ hyperlinked to definitions and background information
- ✓ illustrated with moving images and images from own context
- ✓ highlighted, annotated, and underlined to guide the reader's attention
- ✓ easily linked to and from other online environments and documents
- ✓ accessed and collaboratively edited 24/7.

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Universal Design for Learning](#)

Strategy: [Design considerations in secondary settings](#)

Suggestion: [Ensure materials are flexible and accessible](#)

Date

29 August 2025

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/universal-design-for-learning/ensure-materials-are-flexible-and-accessible

Suggestions for using text-to-speech

Encourage the use of text-to-speech across the curriculum.

- ✓ Listen and read along with unfamiliar texts to develop reading fluency.
- ✓ Access texts beyond the students' reading level.
- ✓ Listen to audio while doing another activity, such as exercise, travelling, or resting the eyes.
- ✓ When editing writing, select sections of text and listen back for errors and fluency.

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Universal Design for Learning](#)

Strategy: [Design considerations in secondary settings](#)

Suggestion: [Ensure materials are flexible and accessible](#)

Date

29 August 2025

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/universal-design-for-learning/ensure-materials-are-flexible-and-accessible

Reflection questions

Consider the following questions in your own context.

How do I provide varied accessible media to present concepts and content?

In what ways do I invite student feedback on the usefulness and accessibility of materials?

Do I offer graphic organisers, rubrics, checklists, templates with varying amounts of content to help students to organise and document thinking?

Do I prepare materials and media designed with varied levels of challenge and make them available to all students?

Are the materials I offer relevant to students' lives?

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Universal Design for Learning](#)

Strategy: [Design considerations in secondary settings](#)

Suggestion: [Ensure materials are flexible and accessible](#)

Date

29 August 2025

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/universal-design-for-learning/ensure-materials-are-flexible-and-accessible

Useful resources



Readwritethink

This online resource offers a range of graphic organisers and online interactive tools for teachers.

Publisher: International Literacy Association

[Visit website](#)



Multiple means of representation – Professional development resource

An online resource from CAST introducing the UDL principle of Representation.

[Visit website](#)

This information was downloaded/printed from the Ministry of Education's website "Inclusive Education". Except where otherwise noted it is Crown Copyright 2018.

Information on the Inclusive Education website is regularly updated so we recommend you check the website version of this information to ensure it remains current.