

# Provide flexible options to support student interest

A suggestion for implementing the strategy  
'Provide multiple means of Engagement' from  
the Guide: [Universal Design for Learning](#)

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## Includes:

- Overview
- Support choice and autonomy
- Increase relevance and value
- Minimise threats and distractions
- Reflection questions
- Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Universal Design for Learning](#)

Strategy: [Provide multiple means of Engagement](#)

Suggestion: [Provide flexible options to support student interest](#)

Date

30 May 2025

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/universal-design-for-learning/provide-flexible-options-to-support-student-interest](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/universal-design-for-learning/provide-flexible-options-to-support-student-interest)

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## Overview

Explore the 'recruiting interest' guideline.

Recognise which approaches and strategies are already part of your practice.

Take note of anything you hadn't considered before.



Video hosted on Youtube <http://youtu.be/atT5irSdsXo>

Closed Captions

Source:

[UDLA LACOE](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZMomkDLikL-sWPoKTt-otQ>

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## Support choice and autonomy

Students from Rototuna Junior High School describe what it's like to learn in a large, open, flexible environment.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/225066847>

Closed Captions

Source:

Ministry of Education, inclusive education videos (NZ)  
<https://vimeo.com/album/2950799/>

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## Increase relevance and value

Students are more likely to engage when they have the ability to make choices about:

- ✓ tools and resources they might use (digital and non-digital)
- ✓ methods to share their ideas and understanding
- ✓ subject content
- ✓ how they physically and virtually access an environment
- ✓ order of learning tasks
- ✓ when to sit assessments
- ✓ who they might access for help
- ✓ the process to finish or complete a task
- ✓ who they might work and collaborate with.

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## Minimise threats and distractions



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

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## Reflection questions

How can I/we:

Provide options and flexible pathways within tasks or a lesson?

Involve all students in creating choices?

Offer options that align with learning preferences and needs?

Provide classroom activities and materials that students are able to personalise?

Provide culturally relevant classroom activities, materials, and contexts?

Offer multiple strategies to support problem solving?

Introduce ideas and concepts in ways that capture students imagination?

Create a safe and distraction free environment?

Build flexibility into lessons to allow breaks?

Collect ongoing student feedback in different ways to inform the design of lessons, resources, and materials?

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## Useful resources



### Design options for welcoming interests and identities (UDL Guideline)

This UDL guideline invites educators to consider how to create learning environments that affirm the dignity of every learner and support access to learning for all.

This guideline supports the UDL Engagement principle.

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