

## 10 Most Important Classroom Strategies to Support Inclusion of the Pupil with Visual Impairment

- 1) Ensure that **pupil sits for the best view** of the teacher and the board - usually at the front of the class and central (or sometimes to the side), **not facing the windows, but in good lighting** – encourage pupil to move to an appropriate position to suit each activity.
- 2) **Teacher to write with a dark black (or blue) felt-tip on a clean white surface** – paper is better since whiteboards are shiny and reflect lights – writing in a clear, bold, un-joined print – **where an interactive whiteboard is used, pupil can sit in front of the monitor.**
- 3) **Pupil to be given own copies** of shared lesson texts and worksheets printed **in good contrast, appropriately enlarged print** – simplify the layout so that it is not ‘crowded’ – do not expect pupil to copy from board or poster – give pupil own copy of instructions.
- 4) **Support the wearing of glasses and the use of Low Vision Aids** and make them easily accessible for independence – is there an accessible power socket for electronic magnifiers and laptops?
- 5) Make your **lesson resources, timetables and notices uncluttered and boldly labelled** for independent access.
- 6) Give pupil extra support and enlarged print reading resources and books to **promote the acquisition of basic literacy skills.**
- 7) Allow pupil **extra time** to complete reading and writing tasks and apply for modified exam papers.
- 8) Allow pupil to do some **written work on the computer** and support the learning of keyboard and **touch-typing skills.**
- 9) Include **concrete examples and practical activities** to support the understanding of concepts, particularly for maths and science, as pupil may have missed out on incidental/environmental learning.
- 10) **Encourage good social skills** and build up self-esteem and confidence – it is difficult sometimes to make friends, due to lack of good eye contact or recognition of faces in the playground.