



Information Sheet: Visual impairment

What is a visual impairment?

'Visual impairment' is a term used to describe a loss of sight that cannot be corrected by glasses or contact lenses.

Support strategies for learners with visual impairments

- Think carefully about your classroom layout and create clear pathways. When you find an arrangement that works, do not change it regularly.
- Make instructions and explanations clear. Try to avoid referring to what things look like (unless this is the objective of the lesson).
- Use the learners name to gain their attention, particularly in noisy environments.
- Allow time to develop concepts through touch and provide as many hands-on learning opportunities as possible.
- Ensure any text is enlarged to a size that the learner can easily read.
- Spend time pre-teaching vocabulary and new concepts with learners.
- Provide a lens to study objects/words more closely.
- Work closely with a professional for the visually impaired and follow any guidelines or recommended resources.

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