**Inclusive Education** 



# Refine and support goal setting

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Design considerations in primary settings' from the Guide: Universal Design for Learning

Purposeful goals

#### Includes:

Share goals in multiple ways Support planning and action Check for hidden barriers Reflection questions Useful resources

#### **Purposeful goals**

Students at Halswell School share their experience of goal setting and monitoring their own progress.



Video hosted on Vimeo http://vimeo.com/146593157

**Closed Captions** 

Source: Enabling e-Learning (NZ) http://elearning.tki.org.nz/Teaching/Innovative-learningenvironments/Student-agency-in-an-innovative-learningenvironment

## Share goals in multiple ways



#### Source: Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

View full image (170 KB)

## Support planning and action

Students need consistent, small, and meaningful reminders to help them set goals, organise and make a plan.

Suggestions for supporting goal setting and self monitoring

- Provide models or examples of the process.
- Teach students how to plan.
- Provide guides and checklists for scaffolding goal-setting.
- Post goals, objectives, and schedules in an obvious place.
- Involve students in creating what the outcome might look like.
- Break the process up into small steps with visual, video, and verbal supports.
- Offer problem solving checklists.

Explore more practical suggestions on **Goalbook Toolkit**.

#### **Check for hidden barriers**

Barriers to achivement can be hidden in the way we communicate goals or learning intentions.

#### Example of an assignment:

*Students will be able to write a report about how ways to increase birdlife at school.* 

This is two tasks in one: **write** a report and **demonstrate** understanding about birdlife in the local area.

When setting goals (intentions):

- identify the purpose and make explicit will be assessed
- check for hidden barriers to achievement
- if possible offer students flexible ways to demonstrate understanding
- if a skill such as "write" is included in the goal, ensure supports such as text-to-speech, graphic organisers, word prediction are offered to all students.

### **Reflection questions**

Consider these questions for your own context. How do I present learning goals and objectives in varied and flexible ways to support engagement and understanding?

How do I ensure students understand the purpose AND value of an activity?

How do I make sure students don't confuse the goal with the means of achieving it?

How do I offer varied and flexible pathways to success?

#### **Useful resources**

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Top 10 UDL tips for developing learning goals

A downloadable PDF from CAST with ten tips about learning goals from a UDL perspective

Publisher: CAST

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