

Optimise the physical environment

Suggestions to support communication through classroom organisation.

- ✓ Offer the student a place near the front of the room with good visual access to the teacher, and at the side where they can see the majority of students' faces.
- ✓ During group activities, encourage the student to watch the faces of the other students when they speak and sit in a semi-circle.
- ✓ Sit students away from air conditioners, open doors or windows or other high-noise areas.
- ✓ Provide a seat where the student is facing away from a light source. It is difficult to speech read or see other visual cues when looking into the light.
- ✓ Invite the student to video those giving class presentations, so they can zoom in to the speaker's face.
- ✓ Use a sound field system.
- ✓ Lip reading requires intense concentration and can be tiring. Organise your classroom programme to provide relief from this intensity.

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