

Adapting the Every Mind Matters lessons

The Every Mind Matters lessons have been designed to be clear and accessible for all students, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). These additional tips may be useful to consider when delivering the lessons to students with SEND.



Top tips for delivering the lessons to students with SEND

- **Print off key slides** from the lesson PowerPoint so students can have the content in front of them while they learn.
 - **Promote active learning** by asking learners to underline or highlight key words and research any unfamiliar vocabulary or concepts.
 - **Organise students into mixed ability groupings** when delivering Every Mind Matters lessons — many of the activities in the lessons involve paired or group work.
 - **Model answers** and check regularly for understanding.
 - **Encourage oral presentations** as an alternative to some written work.
 - **Promote a growth mindset** with students and praise effort and process rather than results.
 - **Provide students with clear choices and options**, for example 'Do you want to do X or Y first?', 'This activity or that one?'
 - **Connect to what students already know** — build on their prior knowledge, make lessons purposeful and where possible, relate them to students' interests and real-life experiences.
 - **Create opportunities for class participation**, for example use strategies such as paired talk, followed by students sharing their partner's idea which allows more reluctant contributor's voices and ideas to be heard.
 - **Keep spoken language clear and unambiguous** — avoid irony, sarcasm, rhetorical questions, idioms and figurative language. If learners are confused, explain again.
 - **Keep the environment as quiet and distraction free** as possible as sensory input can affect information processing. If possible and helpful for students, provide access to a breakout space or quiet room.
- Note that these tips provide initial ideas for adapting the content rather than a comprehensive response to all students' needs.*