

ADHD Educational Interventions and Strategies





Impulsivity



- Provide a STRUCTURED environment and DEPENDABLE routine.
- Keep the classroom rules CLEAR and CONSISE for all, with clear consequences for breaking rules. Give IMMEDIATE consequences for SPECIFIC behaviours.
- Give CLEAR ADVANCED warning of changes and use VISUAL cues to indicate an imminent change e.g. a sand timer, and make it clear what is going to happen next.
- Remind the pupil (and yourself) about good points, when they're having a bad day. ٠
- Do NOT punish a child for things beyond his/her control.
- Ensure the behavioural expectations are REASONABLE and RELIABLE.
- When displaying inappropriate behaviour, try to praise a person nearby who *is* behaving appropriately or use a positive intervention referring the pupil back to the rules or a picture.
- Ensure all adults are CONSISTENT in the approaches taken.
- Develop your skills in Behaviour Modification, Token Reward Systems and Positive Reinforcement.
- Stay CALM. If you begin to demonstrate anger, the child or young person is likely to mirror this.
- Ignore minor inappropriate behaviour and give more attention to POSITIVE ٠ behaviour. Give frequent reminders of appropriate behaviour.
- Increase immediate rewards and rich feedback for specific positive behaviours. ٠
- Find opportunities to CELEBRATE success. Put work on display/send home.
- PRAISE for partial success. Reward for self-improvement, not just perfection.
- Teach verbal mediation skills to reduce impulsive behaviour by modelling. Practice a structured routine of Stop/Listen, Look/Think, Answer/Do.
- Say what pupils SHOULD be doing, not what they should not be.
- Be positive. Attending to negative behaviours will reinforce them. Use distraction.



Hyperactivity

(Excessive Motor Activity)

- Ensure that pupils are being given enough opportunity to get rid of some of their energy
- Make sure that you do not move too quickly from very 'busy' activities ٠ to calmer activities and provide pupils with plenty of warning.
- Talk in a calm and quiet voice when trying to calm pupils down.
- Allow opportunities to MOVE around the room.
- Give active roles e.g. write keywords or ideas on board, hand out books
 - Develop a good UNDERSTANDING of the situations that can be frustrating for the child/young person and take steps to prevent these occurring.
 - Avoid repetitive tasks. Whilst the general routine should be SIMPLE and broadly predictable, the content should be as VARIED and STIMULATING as possible.
 - Provide short breaks between activities.
 - Use SENSORY strategies e.g. a wobble cushion, firm pressure or lifting/dragging activities.



- Stimulation should be kept at a low level, e.g. playing with 1 friend ٠ at a time and 1 game at a time.
- Remind pupil to check their work if performance is rushed.
- When possible, try and teach through the sense of "touch." Most pupils with ADHD require "hands-on" activities and body movement.
- Set up activities that involve playing in pairs.
 - Give pupils something to hold.
- Try to be fidget friendly.















Inattention

Provide directions ONE step at a time and ask pupils • to say back what they think you said.



- Allow pupils to go at their own pace. If rushed it may . cause confusion or upset.
- Be PATIENT- you may have to repeat yourself multiple times
- Set up SPECIFIED time periods for activities and snack times.
- Use GESTURE and VISUAL information to support the behaviours that you want especially when working with young children.
- Show the child/young person a finished product so that they know what ٠ they are aiming for.
- Provide an alternative environment with fewer distractions for tests. .
- Preferred activity rewards are more effective than concrete rewards. .
- Cue pupils' attention before giving them a direction using their name and/or a non-verbal signal and make/wait for eye contact.
- Provide frequent, immediate and consistent FEEDBACK on behaviour and redirection back to task.
- Give ONE task at a time and break longer tasks into . smaller and more manageable parts.
- Ask the child to REITERATE what they have to do. ٠
- Seat pupil near a good role model, away from any distracting ٠ stimuli and somewhere where the teacher/TA can check whether the pupil is attending or not.
- Allow pupil to use a voice recorder or alternative recording ٠ strategies.



Children may need visual reminders of routines and sequences. Demonstrate the ORDER of the day using pictures, symbols or photographs.



- Talk to the child/young person while are playing/doing an activity and describe what they are doing. This can support the development of 'SELF-TALK' and an understanding of order and sequencing.
- Show a finished product so pupils know what they are aiming for.
- Don't force a child/young person into something that they don't want to do but plan an acceptable alternative CHOICE.
- Avoid saying, "I already told you that." Tell pupils again in different words. ٠ Give a signal or draw a symbol.
- Ensure all adults are CONSISTENT in the approaches taken.
- Assist the pupil in setting SHORT-TERM goals in each lesson (e.g. use of a Job Card)
- Let the pupil share recently learned concepts with a peer.
- Use Large type and provide only one or two activities per page leave some space.
- Display lesson activities on the board and discuss.
- Consider short learning breaks.
- Get to know your pupil use their interests to your advantage.
- Behavioural target focus on a desirable outcome. •
- SHORTEN assignments For example, if the pupil can demonstrate skill mastery in 10 questions, don't require completion of 20!



