

Classroom Accommodations for Students with ADHD Guidance for Teachers and Parents

Seating Arrangements:

- Preferential seating in a classroom near the teacher and/or positive role model should be implemented.
- The child should be seated away from distractions such as high traffic areas, windows, doors, heating or air-conditioning unit, friends or talkative students.

Attention Strategies for the Classroom:

- It is important that the child's attention be established before the presentation of a lesson. This can be accomplished by standing near the desk, asking child to participate, or by physical proximity between teacher and child during the most important parts of the discussion.
- Maintain visibility and close proximity with the child so that they may be redirected quickly and frequently when necessary.
- Develop a nonverbal cue to help redirect the child without having to disrupt the lesson or the class.
- Provide the child with frequent breaks and the opportunity to move around the room or to stand at their desk while completing work.

Giving Instructions:

- Eye contact should be established and maintained during the verbal discussion.
- Direction should be kept short and specific, avoid giving multiple directions. Complex directions should be simplified. When necessary, repeat instructions calmly and in a positive manner.
- Teacher should check whether the child understands the instruction, and if not, repeat them.
- Use material in a simplistic format with bullet points.
- Use audiovisual techniques to explain material or directions.

Teaching Strategies:

- Children with ADHD benefit from teaching strategies that incorporate a multisensory approach that includes tactile, auditory and visual modalities.
- Include a variety of activities in each lesson
- Break longer presentations and assignments into shorter and smaller segments.
- Have the child review key points orally.
- Provide extra time to complete assignments.
- Do not grade handwriting if the handwriting is poor or if they have dysgraphia.
- Allow type written or computer printed assignments if the child takes a long time to complete work in a handwritten format.
- Provide supervision and organization for long-term assignments.
- Set short-term goals for completing work.
- Send daily or weekly progress reports home and get parental participation.
- Write key points on the board.
- Allow child to tape record lessons especially for difficult subjects.
- Pair the child with another student that does not have ADHD to check work.
- Provide a peer note taker if they have difficulties in writing.
- Provide peer assistance for organization skill.

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(continued)**

Test Taking Accommodations:

- Allow open book examination when possible.
- Give examination orally.
- Allow the child to have time to complete assignments as well as examinations.
- Read test questions and answer choices if they have difficulty with reading.

Homework Accommodations:

- Provide child with an extra set of books to take home.
- Supervised writing of homework assignment.
- Provide one assignment at a time.
- Assign volunteer homework buddy.
- Check homework daily.
- Provide peer tutoring for children.

Home Assistance:

- Get child's attention before speaking to them.
- Speak face-to-face and get them involved establishing eye contact.
- Break information into shorter chunks and smaller assignments.
- Check the child's understanding by asking them whether they heard or if they understood. If not, repeat the instructions.
- Ask open ended questions to find out how much the child remembers and understands.
- Speak slowly and clearly.
- Give child ample time and opportunities for them to express themselves.
- Encourage teacher or parent to be good listeners, and give the child ample opportunities to express themselves.
- Provide a quiet study area so that there will be fewer distractions.
- Try to eliminate clutter and unnecessary visual or auditory stimulations. Keep TV and music away from study area. Cell phones as well as all other electronic devices should be put away during homework or study time.