

Tourette Syndrome

Tips for Teachers

1. Short, simple and clear instructions.
2. Time. Be patient and give the child time to focus and produce.
3. Movement is key to these children's learning. Don't insist on sitting at a table with a pen for the whole task. Make it as interactive as possible.
4. Breaks need to be frequent.
5. Understand that Short bursts of work may be the key to success.
6. Handwriting is not a sign of intelligence. If it's not a handwriting or spelling assessment then scribe for the child to let their creativity flow.
7. Provide an area for time out where child can feel comfortable to go if things get too much.
8. Allow tics and don't tell off. And don't expect the child to be able to concentrate on what you are saying whilst they are ticing.
9. Never punish a TS child for not completing work and never make them stay behind to finish work especially not to let them miss their play!
10. Support child in explaining tics to peers so they fully understand that they too are 'normal' children.