

Top Ten Tips for accessible/SpLD friendly music teaching

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1. Be imaginative and patient. Think outside of the box!
2. **One size doesn't fit all:** everyone is different. **How** do you / does your student learn best? The **student** should choose what works best for him or her. **Don't impose ideas.**
3. **Structure** all activities: chunk information; build it up.
4. Use **multi-sensory** approaches: hear; see; feel; read; write; move around; hands on... Use **colour** (of the student's choice) for highlighting etc.
5. Use **over-learning**/revision/embedding: recap – repeat – give overviews and summaries.
6. **Try** approaches from Kodály, Dalcroze, Suzuki. These aren't always successful, so just give them a go!
7. Remember: dyslexic people can take up to 10 times as long to complete an activity = extra tiredness and perhaps **stress** & poor self-esteem. **Be patient.**
8. Help with **organisation** (in imaginative ways): use mobile phones; post-its; labels; colour-coding; texts...

Use written reminders (using large, sans-serif font, if possible, and not handwritten).
9. Consider whether **visual difficulties** could be a problem. **Refer** to a specialist optometrist if this might be so. This is **not** a feature of dyslexia but may co-occur. Try copying on to tinted paper (in a colour of the student's choice).
10. Create a supportive, nurturing, safe and compassionate environment which allows the student to be their best self.