Access in a Virtual Environment: Proactive Planning to Support Effective Communication for Learners Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

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Supporting Resources

Communication Planning Guide for Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

The Communication Planning Guide for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing is intended to help teams facilitate meaningful discussion and planning as they embark on the decision making process to develop an individualized communication plan for students.

Accessible PPE and Auditory/Visual Access

Face masks impact speech sounds when people are talking. Researchers from Grainger College of Engineering at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign measured high frequency sound transmission of 14 masks and shared their results in this document.

Visual Access PPE Examples

There are several options for visual access face masks. These are two examples:

Clear Mask

Self-Made Mask

National Deaf Center - COVID 19 Information

A hub of customized resources compiled in response to the COVID-10 pandemic including tips and events for deaf youth and the educators, disability services professionals, VR counselors, parents and others who support them.

The Outreach Center for Deafness and Blindness at OCALI

The Outreach Center increases access, communication, and equity for learners who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, or visually impaired. We do this by connecting resources and providing training for professionals and fostering relationships to equip communities to support families and learners where they are, with what they need, when they need it to learn, grow, and live their best lives. Visit our site for additional resources.

Sample Tool That Can be Used by Students to Assess Virtual Access:

The *Communication Access in Virtual Education* (CAVE) Checklist from *Supporting Success for Children with Hearing Loss* is intended to be completed by students age 9 and above who are deaf or hard of hearing to identify possible communication access issues that may occur during virtual education situations.

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