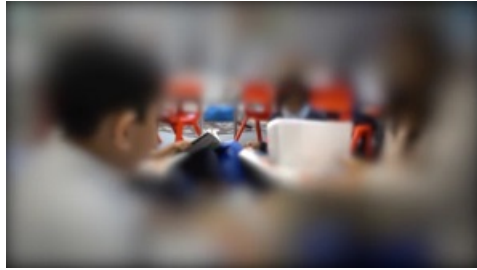


Module 3: Video 1 Transcript, Multisensory Learning

Common and Unusual Visual Impairments



Some learners with special educational needs and disabilities will have a visual impairment.

When we are working with more complex needs, it's often difficult to ascertain the exact nature of the visual loss.

However, with most learners who are visually impaired, it is rare that they will be totally blind.

Most have what we call 'residual vision'; however, this can take many forms.

A learner may see better through the center of their vision, as in the case of closed angle glaucoma. So, things in the distance will be much clearer than things close-up.

Some may see better through their peripheral vision. This means that things will be best viewed from the side, which is not the most natural thing for teacher to do.

Knowing what the visual impairment is, is important. However, knowing the implications of the visual impairment is much more important.

Knowing this information may help you seat a learner in a more appropriate place, for example, a space that is well lit, or a space that avoids the glare of the sun.

It may prompt you to use darker surfaces for working, so creating colour contrast to enable a learner to see more easily.