

Setting up for a student who reads braille

Consumables, Equipment and Technology

Setting up the classroom ready for a new student who reads braille? Here is a list of items that you may need:

Consumables:

- Braille paper for student use, e.g. paper to fit Perkins Braille (292 x 280 mm, 150 GSM)
- Braille paper for braille embosser (Perkins-sized paper or A4; sheets or tractor-feed depending on your embosser)
- Draftsman film (use with Draftsman Drawing Kit)
- Swell paper / ZY Paper for PIAF diagram production
- Wikki stix
- Busy box materials e.g. foam shapes, pom-poms, feathers and other craft materials
- Braille label or dymo tape for dymo braille labeller
- Non-slip mat (available at Bunnings, \$2 shops etc)
- Ring binders for storage of braille paper
- Braille reward stickers

Furniture and storage for student in classroom

- Small trolley with shelves for braille paper, and upright braille folder storage
- Gas lift height adjustable chair
- Tactile marker for spot on mat such as a small textured mat or rubber tactile circle

Preparation room for Education Support Staff (ES) / Learning Support Officer

- Production office with network cable, phone, desk and chair for ES computer, braille embosser, scanner, toner printer for printing onto PIAF paper
- Desk and 2 chairs for student 1:1 sessions
- Tactual materials workstation with puff paint, hot glue gun, PVA, tactual craft items e.g. wool, felt, tactual stickers, braille label, Perkins braille writer, comb binder, stapler, hole punch, Dymo labeller, spur wheel etc
- 3-D printer

Equipment and Technology

For Victorian Department of Education & Training schools, equipment and technology can be made available on loan from the DET Technology Library

- Low tech braille writing device e.g. Perkins braille writer
- Slate/handframe and stylus
- Drawing, graphs and diagrams tool e.g. Draftsman Drawing Kit + biro or wire board + coloured crayons or waxy pencils
- Braille writing technology with refreshable braille e.g. braille note-taker (depends on student readiness)
- Laptop with screen reader e.g. PC + JAWS / NVDA (depends on student readiness)

- Refreshable braille display e.g. Focus 40 / Brailliant / Braille Edge 40 (depends on student readiness)
- iPad with suitable apps (depends on student readiness)
- Bell balls
- Tactile dice
- Tactile ruler and tape measure
- Solid shapes set (check available school resources or educational suppliers)
- Braille playing cards / UNO
- Braille dice
- Spur wheel (available at Spotlight) & rubber/cork mat
- Tactual versions of popular games e.g. snakes and ladders
- Braille alphabet tiles (ChildsPly)
- Braille cell trainer (ChildsPly)
- Braille maths counters and grids (ChildsPly)
- Braille music tiles (ChildsPly)
- Tactual clock
- Talking calculator
- Talking scales
- Liquid level indicator

Suppliers

The materials listed above can be purchased from one or more of the following suppliers:

- **Braille Bookstore** (USA) <http://www.braillebookstore.com/>
- **ChildsPly by Claire** <https://childsply.wixsite.com/catalogue>
- **Quantum RLV** <https://www.quantumrlv.com.au>
- **MaxiAIDS** (USA) <https://www.maxiaids.com/braille-products>
- **Spotlight Stores** <https://www.spotlightstores.com>
- **Vision Australia Shop** <https://shop.visionaustralia.org/>
- **Windmill Educational Toys** <https://www.windmill.net.au/>

Statewide Vision Resource Centre
October 2020