

Playing Vision Detective!

OR

Questions to ask to develop an understanding of the educational implications of the student's vision impairment

1. What is the name of the student's vision impairment?
2. Which parts of the eye are affected?
3. What is the prognosis for the condition?
 - is the eye condition stable?
 - will the eye condition improve?
 - is the eye condition progressive?
 - are there other medical factors that may affect the student's vision eg. epilepsy, cerebral palsy, brain injury, associated syndromes
4. What is the visual acuity for distance and near points?
5. Does the student have vision in both eyes?
6. What is the student's visual tracking like?
 - do the eyes move smoothly to follow an object?
 - do the eyes move together?
 - how far do the eyes move?
7. Does the student have any field loss?
 - does the student have central vision?
 - does the student have peripheral vision?
 - does the student have a preferred viewing position? ie a head position which allows the eyes to work to maximise the performance of their vision.
8. If there are no visual acuity measurements, do the student's pupils react to light?
9. Does the student's functional vision vary from day to day or at different times of the day?
10. Does the student wear glasses?
 - when should glasses be worn?
 - what is the student's focal length when wearing glasses?
11. Will low vision aids help?
 - when should the student use low vision aids?
12. What is known about the student's colour vision?
13. What lighting conditions would be optimal for visual functioning?

Compiled by Lyn Robinson, Statewide Vision Resource Centre