

Supporting the inclusion of children and young people with visual impairment

Top access tips:

Pictures/Illustrations/Photographs

Pictures

1. Size of graphic

- ◆ Present clear, well contrasting, simple large graphics
- ◆ Remove detail and visual clutter from graphic
- ◆ Add black outlines to shapes and main key features
- ◆ Remove complex colouring
- ◆ Use colours which provide good contrast

2. Captions

- ◆ Present captions on images in a consistent way throughout the document so that the child knows where to find them
- ◆ Avoid overlaying text on a picture
- ◆ Present text at child's preferred print, typeface (font) and typestyle (bold, plain format)

Illustrations

- ◆ Present as line drawings, with thick black outlines
- ◆ Unnecessary clutter removed
- ◆ Small detail made larger
- ◆ Remove complex colouring
- ◆ Use colours which provide good contrast

Photographs

- ◆ Only use if simple and not too detailed
- ◆ Make sure the important part of the image is displayed clearly
- ◆ Add black outlines to key features
- ◆ Contrast of the photograph needs to be sharp and clear
- ◆ Provide written description of photograph to support understanding of key features

Advice Point

At Primary/Secondary level, consider the additional value the picture/photograph/image adds

Adapting pictures is time consuming and often used only briefly

Equally, accessing graphical information can further add to the child's visual fatigue

General rule: Only adapt if the graphic adds or explains something over and above that which is contained in the text