

Will my student be positioned properly in consideration of light sources?	
Should light bulbs in the classroom be changed?	
Is there adequate space for storage & use of low vision devices and optical aids?	
Is there access to electrical outlets, if necessary?	
Have I labeled equipment, activity areas, and other materials adequately?	
Will other students be able to move around this student's area easily and safely?	
Conclusions	

Teaching the Student with a Visual Impairment



A Primer for the Classroom Teacher

Materials Tote

Classroom Considerations: Planning for Safety and Independence

Reference Chapters 2 and 7



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Teaching the Student with a Visual Impairment
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Classroom Considerations: Planning for Safety and Independence

This checklist is designed to help you prepare for the entrance of a student with low vision into your classroom. It may also be helpful when you make significant changes in the room arrangement. These are basic considerations to aid you in preparing the physical environment. Initial preparatory arrangements will increase the comfort level of your student, contribute to greater independence, reduce risk of safety problems, and assure parents and others that you are sensitive to special needs.

The checklist poses questions for you to consider. Your own creativity and insight will suggest answers. Simulating your student's eye condition may help increase your awareness. Discussions with your student will also provide valuable feedback.

Teacher: _____ Date: _____

CONSIDERATIONS	COMMENTS
Is my classroom easy to find & identify?	
Is the room arrangement permanent or is it likely to change? Teacher's Desk Student Seating Area Equipment Storage Areas Location of Reference Materials Activity Centers Other	
Are student seats assigned? Is the seat for my student with low vision easy to identify?	

Is the student seating arrangement permanent or is it likely to change during the year?	
Is the seat stationary or movable?	
Will my student be able to see adequately from the (assigned) seat? Consider what needs to be seen: lecture area, chalkboard, projection screen, etc. Consider best student position: front, near middle, far left, far right, etc.	
Are routes & paths easy to negotiate & free of obstacles? Door to desk & other main areas Desk to main areas Desk to teacher's desk	
Will my student be able to leave the room independently for fire drills and in emergency situations?	
Will my student be able to find restrooms independently?	