



## FAILURE TO ASK FOR HELP

What can you do about a student who fails to ask for help with matters he/she does not fully understand in the curriculum or in the classroom in general?

1. For various reasons, the student may not feel comfortable or confident about asking questions in certain classroom settings. Have an individual meeting with the student to discuss the problem. Work together to develop possible solutions.
2. If the student does not feel comfortable asking questions in the classroom setting, have them write the questions on a piece of paper or a 3x5 card. If time permits, meet with the student individually to review the questions, or provide general answers to the class if you think others may have the same questions.
3. Designate other students in the classroom as resource persons, who can meet with the student and offer assistance. The student may be more apt to ask for help from a peer than from the teacher.
4. Consider having the student evaluated by the SENCO Team for a possible learning disability or a health problem.
5. Check to see whether the student exhibits this behaviour elsewhere. If they do not, you may want to focus on the way you relate to this student.
6. If available and practical, utilise the services of a Learning Assistant to assist the child in overcoming his/her reluctance to express him/herself in class.
7. Create a chart listing all students, and give recognition to those who ask questions in class. Emphasize that asking a question indicates intelligence, not stupidity.