

Sensory Tools Use in Classroom Guidelines

RATIONALE

Sensory tools are intended to promote regulation, improve focus, and increase participation, therefore enabling students to be available for learning.

WHAT ARE SENSORY TOOLS

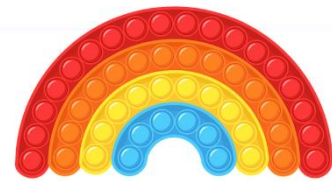
There is a range of sensory tools available to assist students. At Yanchep Rise PS sensory tools are NOT toys. The manipulative or fidget tool is "hand" size. Oral sensory tools include "Chewelry". Some students may also require weighted/pressure tools which may be a small blanket or animal shaped weight.

THE USE OF SENSORY TOOLS IN THE CLASS

Sensory tools are used at school to support student learning and will be at the discretion of the classroom teacher. The classroom teacher will communicate the need/use of sensory supports to all school staff (including specialist teachers and Education Assistants).

Sensory tools:

- are TOOLS not toys.
- used as part of a student documented plan (completed by the teacher or Specialist).
- are provided by the school (only from home through approval).
- have a timed use.
- are no greater than hand sized.
- Are removed if distracting or interfering with learning.
- Are used but our eyes focussed on our teacher.



Fidget tools should not be confused with toys that provide entertainment and take focus away from an important task.

IN CONCLUSION

Sensory tools server a definite purpose. We do not want our students to become overly dependent on these tools but empower them to reduce the need for them. We will make sure that sensory tools remain **tools** for learning and not distractions.