

Understanding the needs of our students



| Observed behaviour | Assumed Meaning (how we might interpret the behaviour) | Possibly underlying cause/need (needs might include: safety, calm, connection/engaging) |
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| Eg refuses to make eye contact when spoken to, despite being asked several times to look at the teacher | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Defiance▪ Wants to assert dominance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Physiological response to feelings of unsafety – their body won't allow them to make eye contact (NEED – safety)▪ Student has withdrawn and cannot hear/process instructions (NEED – connection/engaging) |
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