

Equalities Tutor Time: Visual Impairment

Produced at Fullbrook School


With extra resources from:

Coavision.org

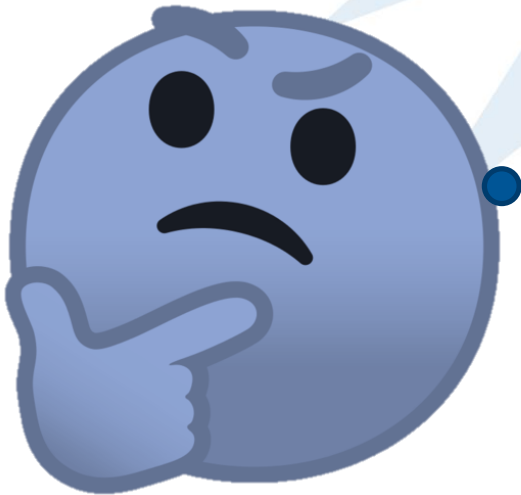
Lucy Edwards

BBC Three

Big think



What do you need your
senses to do? Think big
and small!





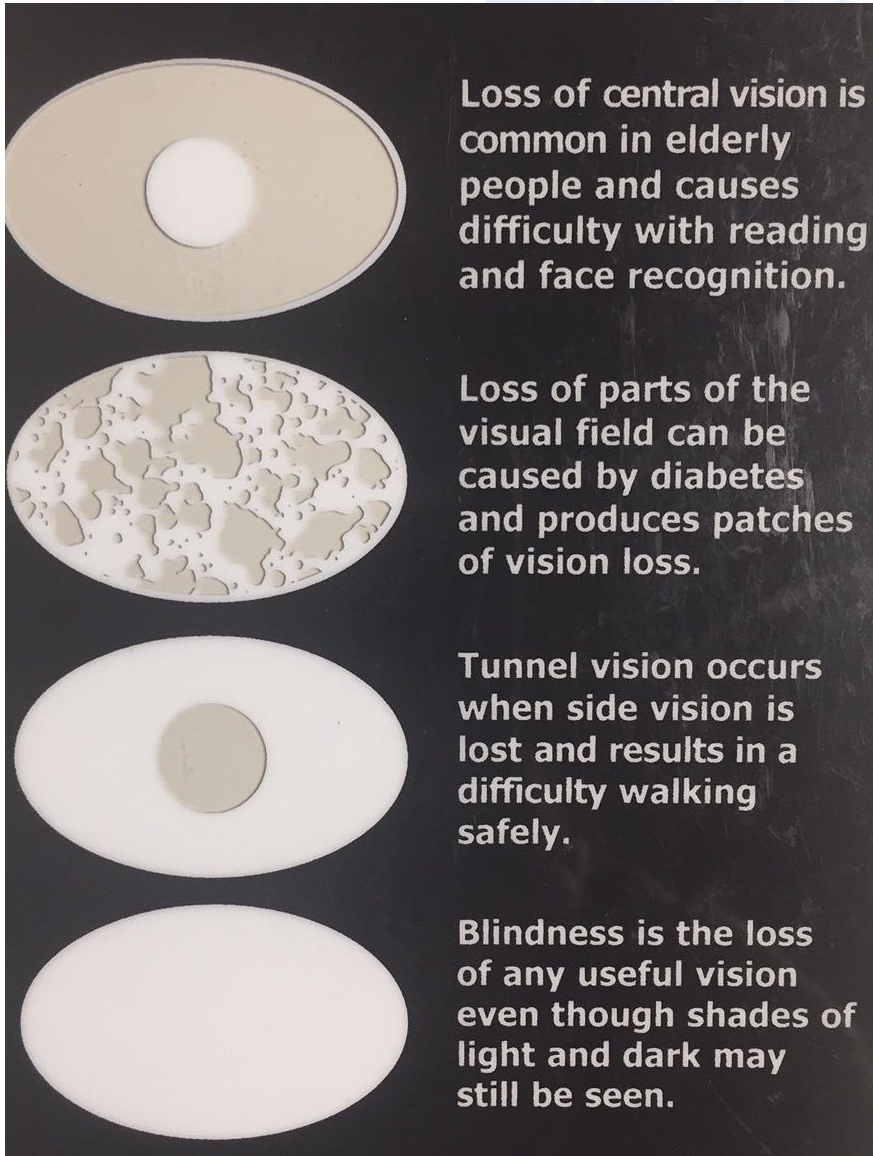
This cycle we are looking at expanding our understanding of sensory disabilities. So what are they?

- Sensory disabilities are disabilities involving your senses (sight, hearing, smell, taste, and touch).
- The most common that we tend to talk about are visual/sight impairment or loss and auditory/hearing impairment or loss.
- Some neurodiversities (less common ways that the brain is wired) such as autism or sensory processing disorders can also affect the way people use their senses.

Visual Impairment and Blindness

- Visual impairment can take many forms!
- If you wear glasses or contacts (more than 60% of folks in the UK do!) this is a sort of visual impairment
- If you are colour blind (affecting 4.5% of people worldwide) this is a sort of visual impairment.
- Being legally blind (13.2% of the UK) or completely blind also counts as a visual impairment. This can take many forms!

Legal blindness is not often 'complete' blindness, it may look like lots of things.



Visual impairment can affect one or both eyes, happen from birth, or develop later in life from an injury or from an illness or condition.

People may use different aids to help them function with their sight impairment.

- **Glasses!** In some cases, tinted glasses to filter out particular light, or reduce light overall when the eye is more sensitive to light than it needs to be.
- Increased font size or visuals, or in some cases using a tactile (sense of touch) alphabet like Braille.
- Using an audio description or narration on PEDS or the tv.
- Using a stick or the help of a guide dog to

Watch this video to find out a little bit more about how life can work when you have a serious visual impairment.

This Blind Woman Answers All The Questions You've Ever Wondered About Being Blind



As you can see, Lucy Edwards lives a normal life with her visual impairment, having learned many strategies to help her!

Her YouTube channel (and Tiktok) has loads more videos covering all sorts, from what school was like with a visual impairment to how she does her makeup)

https://video.xx.fbcdn.net/v/t42.9040-2/10000000_2165697583573840_7502779957485879352_n.mp4?_nc_cat=100&ccb=2&_nc_sid=985c63&efg=eyJybHliOjU2NswicmxhIjozNzI2LCJ2ZW5jb2RlX3RhZyl6InN2ZV9zZCJ9&_nc_ohc=fpoS5kCLiYUAX8rdNs_&rl=565&vabr=314&_nc_ht=video-lga3-1.xx&oh=f0aa1c08699a5b7160d3cc8386e9bd31&oe=5F9F2379

Imagine you are in your favourite lesson at school

What elements of that lesson might be easy with a visual impairment?

Which parts of the lesson might be harder?

How might a teacher support someone with a visual impairment?

How might you be a good classmate to someone with a visual impairment?



Video for KS4 due to – what not to ask people with blindness



<https://youtu.be/ykW4tYbRgo8>

Warning – YouTube version may contain bad language.

What questions do you still have about visual impairments?



Share them with your tutor group – someone around you may already know the answer, or you can always ask your tutor to do some internet research or send an email to Ms Sauer for the answer!