

# COMMUNICATING WITH DEMENTIA CLIENTS



New Zealand  
Tertiary College



MAKE SURE YOU  
HAVE YOUR CLIENT'S  
ATTENTION BEFORE  
YOU START SPEAKING  
TO THEM

SPEAK CLEARLY,  
CALMLY AND USE  
SIMPLE WORDS

COMMENT  
MORE, AND  
QUESTION LESS

USE VISUAL AIDS  
SUCH AS PHOTOS,  
OBJECTS AND MAPS

GIVE THEM TIME  
TO COMPREHEND WHAT  
HAS BEEN SAID

USE GESTURE TO  
REINFORCE YOUR WORDS

BE AT THE SAME LEVEL  
SO YOU'RE NOT LOOKING  
DOWN AT THEM

MINIMISE DISTRACTIONS LIKE TV,  
RADIO OR OTHER PEOPLE TALKING

