Strategies for Learning and Teaching

• Students with psychotic disorders often experience difficulty making friends and maintaining friendships and benefit from social skills training and peer-mentoring systems.
• Students may need to be explicitly taught problem-solving skills as they try to cope with the school day.
• Problems with attention and impulsiveness can cause disruptions in classroom routines.
• Homework may take an excessive amount of time and may never get completed.
• Some students with psychotic disorders often appear not to be listening when spoken to, have difficulty organising things, are easily distracted and tend to fidget.
• If a student suffers from an acute episode of psychosis, support and safety are the two primary considerations and backup procedures will need to be in place to remove the student to safety.
• Attendance may be an issue as behaviour and moods may be erratic and unpredictable.
• Frequent communication with the student’s parents/carers is desirable to ensure a consistent approach is taken to supporting the student.

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