Equal opportunities for all pupils: It’s important to find ways to help all our pupils to participate. How does teacher Florence use her pupil’s strengths here to help Mimi participate in the music lesson?

SC.1// CBEC/ CLASSROOM/ MID MORNING

SFX: CLASSROOM AMBIENCE. FLORENCE IS TEACHING MUSIC.

FLORENCE: Now children, from what I have described so far, I want one of you to tell me what you understand by music?

PUPILS: [RAISING THEIR HANDS] Aunty, Aunty

FLORENCE: Mimi, tell us what you understand by music

SFX: MIMI GETS UP AMIDST GIGGLES FROM OTHER CHILDREN.

MIMI: (Stammers) Mu..mu.. sic i..s.

SFX: OTHER CHILDREN LAUGH AT HER. SHE CRIES. FLORENCE IS ANGRY.

FLORENCE: Class will you stop that nonsense all of you!
SFX: BELL RINGS.

FLORENCE Go for your break. Mimi, please come

MUSIC BRIDGE

SC.2/ STAFF CORNER/ EARLY AFTERNOON

SFX: OFFICE AMBIENCE. SOUND OF CHILDREN PLAYING HELD UNDER.

FLORENCE: Mimi, just relax be calm, sit down and tell me what you like in music

MIMI: Aunty, I li..ke singing

FLORENCE: So why did you not say so when I asked you the question?

MIMI: I...was not sure if my answer will correct...and my father always tell me to shut my mouth instead of opening it and saying rubbish.

FLORENCE: Well, Mimi, your father might be right but most times, one learns best when one makes mistakes

MIMI: You mean it’s ok to make mistake?

FLORENCE: Of course Mimi.......Now, since you like singing, I’m going to give you a song to practice. You will sing it when we come back from break ok? You
will do it. Just be confident.

MIMI: Thank you aunty.

MUSIC BRIDGE

SCENE 3  CLASSROOM  AFTERNOON

SFX: CLASSROOM AMBIENCE.

FLORENCE: Now children settle down and keep quiet, Mimi has a song to present to us. Mimi, come forward.

SFX: Mimi STANDS TO PRESENT HER SONG, PUPILS GIGGLE QUEITLY, MOCKINGLY

MIMI: [CLEARS HER THROAT.] My head, my shoulders, my knees my toes...my head, my shoulders, my knees my toes...my head, my shoulders, my knees, my toes, they all belong to me!

SFX: APPLAUSE.

FLORENCE: That was wonderful!

MUSIC BRIDGE

As the teacher, what can you do to encourage all your pupils to contribute to discussions and participate in activities?

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