

KEY TO EFFECTIVE CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

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Abstract

In present days, classroom management has received an increasing amount of attention from education leaders, reformers, and researchers, who have begun to investigate, analyze, and document the effective strategies used by successful teachers. The growing emphasis on classroom management is based on effective classroom management is an absolute must and it impacts teacher's ability to enjoy their job, and create impacts on students' success as learners. If your classroom is out of control, it won't matter how passionate you are about your subject or how much you are truly dedicated to children, learning will be negatively impacted. In addition, there are now more professional-development opportunities related to classroom management being offered to teachers, and there have been discussions about the role of practical teaching techniques in teacher education to understand the students more effectively.

Keywords: Classroom management, Teaching techniques and skills, effective management.

INTRODUCTION

What is Classroom Management?

The term classroom management refers to the procedures, strategies, and instructional techniques teachers use to manage student behaviour and learning activities. Effective classroom management creates an environment that is conducive to teaching, learning and positive attitude.

When you watch a teacher with great classroom management techniques, it can feel like magic. When a student trusts their teacher, they make more of an effort to follow the rules. Generally speaking, effective teachers tend to display strong classroom-management skills, while the hallmark of the inexperienced or less effective teacher is a disorderly classroom filled with students who are not working or paying attention.

COMMON MISTAKES IN A CLASSROOM

In an effort to maintain order in the classroom, sometimes teachers can actually make the problems worse. Therefore, it is important to consider some of the basic mistakes commonly made when implementing classroom behaviour management strategies.

- A common mistake made by teachers is to define the problem behaviour by how it looks without considering its function.
- Teachers need to understand that they need to be able to change the ways they do things from year to year, as the children change.
- Not every approach works for every child.
- Teachers need to learn to be flexible.
- To become increasingly frustrated and negative when an approach is not work.
- The teacher may raise his or her voice or increase adverse consequences in an effort to make the approach work etc.

The above are very few examples which teachers do in their classroom management.

While the specific techniques used to manage classrooms and facilitate learning the following are the representative examples.

1. Demonstrating Behaviour

Make a habit of demonstrating behaviour you want to see, as many studies show that modelling effectively teaches students how to act in different situations. Talking about a test or other relatable topic be sure to:

- Use polite language

- Maintain eye contact
- Keep phones in your pockets
- Let one another speak uninterrupted
- Raise concerns about one another's statements in a respectful manner

2. Build Excitement for Content

As the bell rings and students settle, go through an agenda of the day's highlights. These could include group tasks, creating bits of curiosity. Open with couple attention getting comments and continue until everyone is with you. The goal of this classroom management technique is to immediately gain interest of the students in your agenda and thereby it can draw attention of a student. Remember, don't start teaching until all eyes are on you and everyone is in their seat.

3. Documenting the Rules

Encourage all students to help you build classroom rules, as telling them what they are not allowed to do. Near the start of the year or semester, start a discussion by asking students what they believe should and should not. At what points are phones okay and not okay? What are acceptable noise levels during lessons? This may seem like you may be shocked at the strictness of some proposed rules. Doing this emphasizes the fact that you respect their ideas and intend to adhere to them.

4. Encourage initiative

Promote growth mindset, and inject variety into your lessons, by allowing students to work ahead and deliver short presentations to share take-away points. When they deliver their subsequent presentations you may find that other students want a bit more work as well.

5. Assign open-ended projects

Encourage students to tackle open-ended projects. This may start by giving the class a list of broad project ideas, asking each student to choose one. Be sure to explain them

- Work and learn at their own paces
- Engage actively with appropriate content
- Demonstrate knowledge as effectively as possible

With these benefits, students may actually look forward to taking on new projects.

6. Keep an Eye on Your Students

Class goes so much better when you can see your students.. When teaching, try to be facing students as much as possible. As you work with a student at his or her desk, place yourself so you can see most of the class. As you move around the classroom, don't follow the same pattern. By varying your routine, it becomes harder for students to be disruptive if they don't know where you will be next.

7. Build relationship

This is hands down the most effective classroom management technique. When a student trusts their teacher, they make more of an effort to follow the rules. Each class should feel more like a family. You need know your student names correctly.

8. Celebrate hard work

Show students that you value the work they put into learning. Identify milestones in the work everyone is accomplishing each day. Once a week, choose one particularly hardworking team or student to share their story. Students who know their work will be celebrated instead of just their grades will pay more attention and stay focused.

9. Consider peer teaching

Use peer teaching as a classroom management strategy if you feel your top performers can help engage and educate disruptive and struggling students. Peer teaching activities, such as pairing students together as reading buddies, can be especially beneficial for students who suffer from low confidence and poor interpersonal skills. Providing audio books which can play material relevant to your lessons and allowing students to work in groups while taking notes and completing work, away from quiet zones.

10. Avoid punishing the class

Address isolated behaviour issues instead of punishing an entire class, as the latter can hurt your relationships with students who are on-task. This basic approach will allow you to keep a friendly disposition, while immediately acknowledging poor behaviour.

Conclusion

While a limited or more traditional interpretation of effective classroom management may focus on rules and strategies that teachers may use to make sure students are sitting in their seats, following directions, listening attentively, etc. When teachers make an effort to get to know each student on a more personal basis, they get more out of their teaching experience as well. Each class should feel more like a family.

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