

How to Cultivate Excellence Through Kindness and Collaboration

Key Points

- Kindness is the cornerstone of a great classroom
- Kindness is often mistaken for weakness because there are four types of classroom environments
 - Low control, low support - Chaotic
 - High control, low support - Punitive
 - Low control, high support - Permissive
 - High control, high support - Restorative
- My mottos are
 - Be curious, not judgmental
 - We lift as we climb
 - Be kind, always
- What are three ideas for mottos in your classroom?
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- Ideas on how to create a positive culture in your program - Music is a Culture, not a Classroom
 - Make the room theirs, not yours
 - Say hello to every student every day by name
 - Create a way for students and faculty to publicly recognize others
 - Create student leadership opportunities that give them real autonomy
 - Reward what you value
 - Create a culture of recognition
 - Send positive notes to students
- In the end, the culture in your classroom is a mirror of your values, actions, and teaching.
- Building Student Relationships
 - Put students first
 - Build trust and respect through genuine interest
 - Foster ownership of learning through student autonomy
- Building relationships with adults
 - Which kind of principal do you have? What are three ideas to connect with that person?
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- Name the adult that brings you the most frustration. How can you connect with that person?
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Acts of Kindness

Send a positive note home
Forgive a colleague for a past wrong
Send your principal a gift and say thanks
Tell a student that you're proud of them
Connect a student with a scholarship for lessons
Help a student with their music
Listen
Provide pencils for students
Forgive a student for being tardy
Forgive a colleague for leaving the room a mess
Be clear about expectations to parents, students, and your colleagues
Be curious
Spend time with your students
Set your students up for success
Give your students a voice
Ask questions
Tell students or adults that you care about them
Play a game with your students
Share a meal with your students
Show and tell people that you love your job
Talk about love and what it means to love another person
Forgive a missing assignment