



20 Classroom Management Strategies and Techniques

1. Model ideal behavior: Demonstrate behavior you want to see by holding mock conversations and interactions with another teacher in front of your students.

2. Let students help establish guidelines: Ask students what they think is and isn't acceptable behavior, encouraging them to suggest rules for the academic year.

3. Document rules: Ensure your guidelines aren't forgotten by writing them down and distributing them as a list for students to keep and reference.

4. Avoid punishing the class: Address isolated behavior issues instead of punishing the entire class, so as to avoid hurting your relationships with on-task students.

5. Encourage initiative: Promote growth mindset by allowing students to work ahead in certain units, delivering brief presentations to reinforce your lesson material.

6. Offer praise: Recognize hard work by openly congratulating students, encouraging ideal behavior and inspiring the class.

7. Use non-verbal communication: Complement words with actions and visual aids to improve content delivery, helping students focus and process lessons.

8. Hold parties: Throw an occasional classroom party to acknowledge students' hard work, motivating them to keep it up.

9. Give tangible rewards: Reward specific students at the end of each lesson, in front of the class, as another motivational and behavior-reinforcement technique.

10. Make positive letters and phone calls: Make positive phone calls and send complimentary letters home, possibly encouraging parents to further involve themselves in their children's learning.



11. Build excitement for content: Start lessons by previewing particularly-exciting parts, hooking student interest from the get-go.

12. Offer different types of free study time: Provide different activities during free study time — such as group note-taking — to help students who can't process content in silence.

13. Write group contracts: Help student group work run smoothly by writing contracts that contain clear guidelines, asking each group member to sign a copy.

14. Assign open-ended projects: Encourage students to tackle open-ended projects to allow them to demonstrate knowledge in ways that suit and appeal to them.

15. Give only two marks for informal assessments: Consider avoiding standard marks on informal and formative assessments, simply stating if a student did or didn't meet expectations. If they didn't, give them a task to improve competency.

16. Use EdTech that adjusts to each student: Give students who struggle to process content opportunities to use adaptive learning technology, such as Prodigy.

17. Interview students: Interview students who aren't academically engaged or displaying prosocial behavior to get insights about how to better manage them.

18. Address bad behavior quickly: Don't hesitate when you must address bad behavior, as acting sooner rather than later will ensure that negative feelings don't fester.

19. Consider peer teaching: Use peer teaching activities — such as paired reading — if you feel your top performers can help engage and educate disruptive and struggling students.

20. Gamify personal learning plans: Motivate students on personal learning plans by gamifying those plans, through tactics such as awarding XP (experience points) throughout a unit to quantify skill mastery.