Adaptations to Students with Exceptionalities

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Over the past few weeks in the class *Adaptations to Students with Exceptionalities* we have been learning about different approaches to use to have effective classroom management. To have effective classroom management as a teacher you need to have a plan to prevent, respond, and intervene with unwanted behaviors.

To prevent unwanted behavior, you have to promote positive behavior which comes through high quality instructions. For me I know that I will have a set list of class rules for each class that I teach with clear consequences if the rules are not followed. For rules to be effective they have to be followed up with constant reminders and following through with consequences when not followed. I also will make sure to do this that I create a positive relationship with each of my students. By doing this it will make them trust me which should then make them listen to me and want to have good behavior. You cannot expect students to listen to you if you do not have a good relationship with them, so this would be my main focus.

To respond to problem behaviors, you have to be constently monitoring your class and engage with your students when they have problem behaviors. To effectively respond to behaviors in my classroom I will provide preventive measures by trying not to let problem behaviors happen by spotting them before they start. When problem behaviors do occur though I will make sure that I respond both fairly and privately so that I keep a good relationship with the student and do not embarrass them. As a teacher you have to expect that problems will occur in your class, but you have to remember that they are just kids, and you have to do your best to support them not matter what.

Finally, then you need to make sure that you intervene when these unwanted behaviors do happen. For me I think I would most likely use independent contingencies in my classroom. This is the thought that when one student doesn’t have good behavior, they are the only ones that are punished and not the whole class. I know that there are some negatives with this, but I don’t think it would be fair for the whole class to get punished due to one student. It is also good to remember that you need to respond to good behaviors in your classroom too. When you respond to good behaviors it promotes those good behaviors and will lead to more of them. I would do this by rewarding the class and students with snacks or giving them a fun lab to do instead of normal class.

Classroom management is different for ever teacher, so there is no right answer. You just need to do what you think is right and even though this might change over the years to remember that you are there to help the students and not punish them.