A PROACTIVE APPROACH IN PUPILS’ DISCIPLINE

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Being a role model for the young minds and pure hearts comes with the teaching profession. A gentle reminder for educators to “practice what we preach” when it comes in setting up the rules and regulations for your class. You must lead the way and show pupils how to uphold them properly and consistently. Once you enforce a rule, you have to stick with it and exempt no one. Pupils will expect a warning, a second warning, and then a consequence.

However, in order to achieve a harmony within the classroom, it is important that not solely the teachers will decide but also pupils should be part of the process.

Laid down rules together with the pupils. Have the class laid down their own rules at the beginning of the school year. There is a power in deciding together which rules you and your pupils need to follow through. It gives them a sense of ownership and broader understanding of the rules they will have, but as a facilitator, you need to make sure that each rule is clear to every pupil. You have to give numerous examples of what that looks like to be and what it does not look like to be.

Know your pupils. To nurture the best on both teachers and pupils, you must get to know each other, the better you understand your pupils’ physical, mental, emotional and social state, the stronger the relationship that you can build.

Share classroom expectations. Discussing to the pupils your classroom expectations and vice-versa will help to better assess what skills and support pupils need to live up to your expectations. On the other hand, this will serve as a lightning torch to guide pupils’ behavior and attitude into a positive one. They will know their limitations as well as their actions that need to be avoided.
Address misbehavior promptly. When misbehavior occurs, be sure to act with it promptly to be able not to create a “mountain out of a hole”.

Employ proactive approach in discipline. Redirect pupils’ behavior to get back on track using positive language and reminder. A one-on-one chat in which you listen actively can help you better understand a pupil who is struggling with behavior. Active listening helps pupil to reflect to their actions, thus encouraging them to be more introspective and open to solve the problem that existed. This will also send a message to the pupils that you care and that you value them and are interested in their well-being.

Acknowledge pupils’ effort. Noticing that a pupil is trying to follow classroom rules, no matter how small or big improvement is it deserves to be recognize for them to be encourage to strive harder.

The goal of these disciplinary interventions is to teach positive discipline while maintaining good relationships with pupils. Consequently, your work will have positive effects in strengthening pupils’ social and emotional growth, thereby creating a more productive classroom climate.

References:

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