LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

SHARING GOOD PRACTICE: LEARNING & TEACHING CLPL

November 2022

WHAT IS THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT?

Learning and teaching is a social interaction between pupils and teachers. Its success depends on the collective understanding of, and respect for, each other's roles, responsibilities and contributions. Positive pupil/teacher relationships, developed through directional verbal and non-verbal communications and adherence to clear boundaries, are key to establishing and maintaining a nurturing, productive and successful learning environment.

Debunking Misconceptions

Depending on relationships, the environment for learning, and the specifics of the course, some tactics may be more effective for some students than others. It is impossible to implement a "one size fits all" strategy for designing a productive learning environment.

Tried Strategies

As a group we looked at different ideas and methods for establishing and maintaining a positive, calm and effective learning environment. These are included in the following table which categorises the management of the learning environment into three areas. The allocation suggests, but is not limited to, when they may be used to best effect.

Classroom entry	Development of Learning	Intervention
Assertive address	Radar	Resist reacting
Strong start	Non-verbal gestures	Silent stare
Full attention	Use names	Strategic positioning
Bounce back	Ask a question	Private conversation
	Authentic praise	

"Classrooms are social environments. How they feel to be in, and what is achieved while in them, depends on human interactions. – B. Robertson

Areas of Strength in the School

M. Wright - PE

G. Roberts – PE

K. MacLennan - HE

C. Long – Social Subjects

Trusted Techniques for Learning Environment

Assertive Address
Radar
Strong Start
Full Attention
Resist Reacting
Non-verbal Gestures
Use Names
Ask a Question
Silent Stare
Strategic Positioning
Private Conversation
Bounce Back
Authentic Praise

Suggested Reading

The following articles and publications provide details on how to put into practice the "learning environment" tactics that have been mentioned in this issue, as well as additional useful strategies, in the classroom:

The Teaching Delusion 3 - Bruce Robertson – p. **179**

The Teaching Delusion 2 – Bruce Robertson – *The Motivational Messages and Praise Delusion* – p. 85

The Teaching Delusion 2 – Bruce Robertson – *The Behaviour Delusion* – p.167

Running the Room – Tom Bennett

What Does This Look Like in the Classroom? – Carl Hendrick & Robin Macpherson – *Chapter 2: Behaviour*

Teach to the Top – Megan Mansworth – *Chapter 8: Giving students the confidence to reach for the top*

Ensuring a settled and focused class, Dr Bill Rogers, YouTube: Dr Bill Rogers - Ensuring a settled and focused class - YouTube

Tactical Ignoring, Dr Bill Rogers, YouTube: Dr Bill Rogers - Tactical ignoring: Addressing the issue - YouTube

Students who just say 'no', Dr Bill Rogers, YouTube: Dr Bill Rogers - Students who just say "NO" - YouTube

The 100 Percent Rule, Doug Lemov, YouTube: Teach Like A Champion 100 Percent Rule - YouTube

*All books are available in the staff professional reading library. Blogs and publications can be found by clicking here