Organise a collaborative environment

A suggestion for implementing the strategy ' Facilitate collaborative learning' from the Guide: Positive peer relationships

Includes:

Provide flexible learning spaces

Facilitate a positive environment

Consider classroom layout

Support student preferences

Useful resources

Provide flexible learning spaces

Source:
Tātai Aho Rau Core Education
https://core-ed.org/

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Facilitate a positive environment

Create a warm classroom climate to facilitate positive learning and social behaviours.

- ✔ Set clear boundaries and high standards and expectations.
- ✔ Be fair.
- ✔ Be aware of, acknowledge, and label your own feelings.
- ✔ Acknowledge and affirm students' feelings.
- ✔ Talk through emotional situations.
- ✔ View emotional events as "teachable moments."
- ✔ Avoid punitive tactics, put-downs, sarcasm and criticism – specify the positive alternatives.
- ✔ Be self-accepting, confident, and secure.
- ✔ Remain calm – your emotional state is mirrored by students.
- ✔ Develop student supports.
- ✔ Accept and empathise with students' feelings
- ✔ Listen with interest.

Consider classroom layout

Design your classroom layout to support students with varying learning needs and preferences in their collaboration.

- Choose a flexible layout that adapts to the learner, rather than limiting the learner.
- Offer seating patterns, configurations, and spaces to facilitate social exchanges among students alongside quiet reflection time.
- Provide a variety of technologies to support participation, communication, and collaboration.
- Use visual supports such as timers, visual displays, and graphic organisers to support self management.
- Provide different types of furniture to support students' varying physical needs and preferences (for example, wobbly stools for students who move to concentrate).

Support student preferences

Source:
Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

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Useful resources

Building an inclusive classroom culture

This guide provides New Zealand illustrations of the distinguishing features of classrooms that value diversity and are truly inclusive.

Visit website

EDtalks: Modern learning environment

Videos of interviews and discussions about modern learning environments in New Zealand.

Visit website

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