

# Techniques and strategies for Effective Class Management

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## 1. Introduction:

Psychology is a scientific study of the human mind and its functions. In the present 21<sup>st</sup> century this area has gained more momentum. Maybe due to nuclear families and single child parents who are chasing for dual income and are not able to concentrate on their own child. Child Psychology study is becoming a more prominent study in younger ages. There are many factors that contribute to the cognitive development of children, adolescents, and young adults. These factors can be categorized into three main topics: environmental factors and how it changes the neurological system, risks of social behavior due to the different mental states, and hormonal changes adding to psychological imbalance.

Lifestyle, social relationships, bad experiences by a child in family and outside home, family life, and what they take into their mind can have multiple effects on their newly forming mental health patterns. During the Adolescents stage these children have half knowledge minds and need constant approval, love and attention, and a sense of want or belonging to feel needed. In recent research, half of all mental illnesses begin by the age of fourteen, and studies investigate their cognitive, environmental, and genetic factors. It includes behavior problems, social skills, mental and emotional well-being and development. In Youth Psychology, one of the leading studies say child who suffer from depressive disorders tend to be more withdrawn. However, in some rare cases, children who suffer from this kind of mental illness can also be rowdy and hard to manage since they are seeking attention from others and approval from their peers. After seeing these polar opposites in behavior, the sought out question was, 'Why?' Children with depression that are more on the introverted side tend to suffer from more severe cases rather than children who are unruly. The severity does range from child to child and can be taken into account in different ways, which are often shown in behavior amongst these children.

With such type of attitude and behaviour who are easily tackled by parents are sent to schools were teachers need to understand the psychology of each child in a class of 50/60 and see that each child get

attention and his queries are answered and he is getting the necessary attention. So tackling students in schools is not a cake for middle school teachers.

This article tries to convey some suggestion on making a class effective with the latest teaching aids and technology .

Great teachers are nimble, observant, and responsive, always keeping an open mind about how to best engage their students and get them excited about learning—and that means considering trying out different *interactive* teaching styles in the classroom.

## 2. Teaching styles

Interactive teaching styles are designed around a simple principle: without practical application, students often fail to comprehend the depths of the study material. Interactive teaching is also beneficial for you as the teacher in a number of ways

- **Need to understand**

Measurable student accomplishments: Teachers making use of interactive teaching styles are better equipped to assess how well students master a given subject material.

Flexibility in teaching: Applying training methods that involve two-way communications will enable you to make quick adjustments in processes and approaches.

Practice makes perfect: Interactive instruction enhances the learning process.

Student motivation: Two-way teaching dispels student passivity, and when more students are engaged, you'll have much more fun too.

✓ Interactive teaching styles promote an atmosphere of attention and participation.

- Make it interesting.
- Make it exciting.
- Make it fun.
- As you well know, telling is not teaching and listening is not learning.
- Encourage student participation.
- Use questions that stimulate response, discussion, and a hands-on experience.
- Use teaching aids that press for answers, and capture/hold the student's attention.
- Set up a workgroup environment.
- Involve yourself as well as the student.

## 3. Various techniques to handle effective class

### a. Brainstorming — various techniques

Interactive brainstorming is typically performed in group sessions. The process is useful for generating creative thoughts and ideas.

Brainstorming helps students learn to pull together. Types of interactive brainstorming include:

- Structured and unstructured
- Reverse or negative thinking
- Nominal group relationships
- Online interaction such as chat, forums and email
- Team-idea mapping
- Group passing
- Individual brainstorming

**b. Think, pair, and share**

Establish a problem or a question, then pair your students. Give each pair sufficient time to form a conclusion, and permit each participant to define the conclusion in his or her personal voice. You can also request that one student explain a concept while the other student evaluates what is being learned. Apply different variations of the process—your students will be engaged, communicating, and retaining more information before your eyes.

**c. Buzz session**

Participants come together in session groups that focus on a single topic. Within each group, every student contributes thoughts and ideas. Encourage discussion and collaboration among the students within each group; everyone should learn from one another's input and experiences.

**d. Incident process**

This teaching style involves a case study format, but the process is not so rigid as a full case study training session. The focus is on learning how to solve *real* problems that involve *real* people—preparing your students for life beyond your classroom. Provide small groups of students with details from actual incidents and then ask them to develop a workable solution.

**e. Q&A sessions**

On the heels of every topic introduction, but prior to formal lecturing, ask your students to jot down questions pertaining to the subject matter on 3×5 index cards. After you collect the cards, mix them up and read and answer the student-generated questions.

**f. Learn and teach**

Ask students to prepare questions for their opponent group.

**4. Tips to improve class management skills**

- Prepare yourself before the school year starts.
- Know what you want students to learn.

- Plan and follow a timeline for teaching while allowing for flexibility.
- Know in advance what your school policies are and the support you can expect.
- Be prepared—and willing—to ask for support.
- Have a record-keeping system prepared for attendance, grades, and behavior.
- Remind yourself every morning that *you* are in charge of your classroom.
- Accept the responsibility for being in charge.
- Accept the responsibility for teaching your students.
- Believe in yourself, and believe in what you teach.

### 5. Establishing classroom rules

- Write them down, hang them up, and hold yourself and your students accountable to any rules you set for your classroom.
- Class rules should not be complicated—keep them simple for your students.
- Be consistent and fair with your rules.
- Make a printed list of the rules and give each student a copy
- Have one copy signed by the student and the other by a parent.
- Ensure that any substitute teacher knows and enforces your rules.
- Have students raise their hands to answer or ask questions.
- Expect your students to be on time—punctuality is important.
- Don't yell, and don't allow students to yell at either.
- Do not tolerate bullying.
- Altercations will lead immediate action.
- Create a system that provides credit for good behavior.
- Establish an organized system for bathroom breaks.

**6. Practice while you teach:** There's no better time to put your classroom management skills to use than while you're teaching.

Following these tips will help keep your students engaged and help you maintain control of the class.

- Student attention spans are limited(40 min), so break up lectures to keep your students interested.
- Change the volume and tone of your voice while lecturing. An occasional whisper can command attention.

- Find subtle ways to refocus students' attention.
- If you pass out papers, do so from side to side. Front to back can lead to chaos.
- Show respect for your students, even if they do not show respect for you.
- At the end of class, give students an idea of what the next class will involve.
- Walk around while you lecture.
- Surprise students with pop quizzes.
- Break students into small groups for special projects.
- Require students to participate and complete their share of the project.
- Give role play as a puzzle.
- Involve students to correct papers within the section.
- Ask students to enact any concept in the lesson for the next day start of the class.

## 7. Different type of students

- Overactive:** He always has a question to ask and comment to make. Overactive personalities can be found just about everywhere, and they can become irritating, since other students in the class have no chance to make a name for themselves. They try to seek attention of everyone.
- Teacher's Pet:** These students take front seats in the class and laugh loudly at teachers' jokes. They haunt teachers in school halls or torture them after class is over. They bombard educators with endless questions. The thing is, aside from annoying the other students, they immensely annoy teachers as well.
- Hard Worker:** These students are highly motivated. They know what they want and how to achieve their goal. Even though they are not always the smartest in the class, they still try hard and really get what they want. No entertainment activities only academic activities are their goal.
- Star:** School celebrities can be famous/notorious for a huge number of reasons: They play sports, they are A-students, and more. They are just fabulous, no matter what they actually do. They have groups of both fans and haters, and this kind of student touches practically everyone's feelings.
- Intellectual Outsider:** This outcast usually takes the back seat. He got used to the fact everyone in the class ignores him. He seems to be quite odd and misanthropic. Nevertheless, when talking to the Intellectual Outsider, you can be favorably impressed that this student is very smart!
- Clown:** Sometimes their jokes are funny. Sometimes they are not. However, Clowns are doing their best to carry their entertaining mission. Everybody must laugh: classmates, educators, and coaches.
- Clueless:** Clueless students have no idea what they're doing over here. Educators also have no idea what clueless students are doing here. Clueless personalities hardly understand what's going on

around them and try to make everything clear. They ask questions. Billions of questions, many with already-discussed answers.

- h. **Nerd:** Nerds prefer books to social life. Books are clever. Books don't bully you. Books don't ask stupid questions. What's more, books fertilize your mind with superb ideas and make you monstrously intelligent.
- i. **Artist:** They have a kind of a separate world where creativity and inspiration rule. Artists appear to be interested just in creative assignments and don't stay motivated when performing other tasks. It's very hard to pique Artists' interest.
- j. **Drama Queen:** This person wants to get some attention at any cost. And really loves dramas. You don't have to join a drama club to be a Drama Queen. For this, you just need to be the center of attention when it comes to classmates and educators alike
- k. **Bully:** Bullies keep in awe Nerds and Intellectual Outsiders and other much weaker species. Even several years after, when school or university is in the past, Bullies' victims recollect studying time with hatred. However, other students are of no interest for the roughs, since they can stand up for themselves.
- l. **Natural Leader:** Natural Leaders have an inborn capacity to stand out like a sore thumb. They always have good ideas and know how to attract people. They are great examples to follow. That's why students and teachers truly adore Natural Leaders. Or hate them.
- m. **Slacker:** Practically nobody knows what he looks like. He's such a rare guest that sometimes everyone forgets he's their group mate. However, Slackers appear on tests and make other students ask each other, "Who's that guy?"

## 8. Conclusion:

On the whole each student is a new challenge for teacher. Every day is a day of challenge for a teacher. Handling these type of student is not a difficult task if you have clearly understood the type of student you are handling and if you are clear in what you would deliver in the session for that day.

Classrooms are like diverse ecosystems with their different types of learners. Each type of learner plays a role and contributes to the overall liveliness of the classroom.

Both educators and students can spot this array of different student types in a classroom. Depending on the student at hand, there are always ways to promote engagement and motivation, even when it seems difficult to do. And each type of learner has something unique to offer.

Hope all the best for all teachers.

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