

Mentor Handout 6.1: Pupil observation: positive relationships with pupils

What you need to do

Carry out an observation in a colleague's lesson. The focus of this observation is on **how the teacher builds and maintains positive relationships with pupils**.

Choose three pupils to focus on. Be aware not to embarrass or identify the pupils.

Discuss with your mentor the ethics of recording, storing and then destroying any notes that might identify an individual pupil.

Record brief notes in response to the questions below to share with your mentor.

Notes

1. Notice how the teacher interacts with the pupils as they enter the classroom/learning space.
2. What actions or words does the teacher use during the lesson to demonstrate that they have a respectful relationship with the pupils?
3. In what ways does the teacher use their knowledge of pupils' prior experiences and perceptions of success and failure to encourage them in learning?
4. What can you learn from the teacher's body language and behaviour about their relationship with pupils?
5. When/how does the teacher use language to help the pupils see that success in this lesson is achievable?
6. Does the teacher respond consistently to pupil behaviour? What words and strategies do they use?
7. How do the pupils respond to opportunities for learning through mistakes and success?
8. In what ways has the teacher built a positive, predictable and safe environment for pupils?