

Teacher-student relationships

Relationships can be established in many different ways. Teachers who have harmonious relationships with their classes often establish and cement these in a number of contexts by occasionally or regularly doing, among other things, some of the following:

Out of class

- crossing the yard or walking down corridors talking to students;
- chatting casually to groups or individuals during breaks or lunch hours;
- looking out for quieter or more difficult students to talk to away from the classroom;
- showing interest in extra-curricular activities such as clubs, sports, plays, music, etc.
- meeting parents at parents' evening or other school events;
- knowing the school's catchment area and understanding the way of life of the people who work and live in it;
- taking an interest, in a discreet way, in the social problems encountered by students;
- being familiar with and understanding the leisure and recreational pursuits of the age group.

In class

- talking to students in a friendly way as they enter the room;
- monitoring students' work on an *individual* basis;
- learning and using students' names;
- sharing jokes and sharing good humour;
- creating a sense of collective pride in the work which students do.