

# 25 Tips For Building Strong Relationships with Classroom Teams

- Have a clear plan for how you want your classroom to run.
- Have clear expectations for everyone's role in the classroom.
- Remember that everyone you are dealing with is an adult and deserves respect.
- Differences in opinion are okay- it's how you work through the differences that matter.
- Each year should be a fresh start.
- As a teacher- you are the leader of the classroom. Be the leader you would want.
- Putting things in writing provides clarity for everyone.
- Remember- everyone wants to hear good things from time to time.
- Set a weekly meeting.
- Have a question box/ board where staff can write their questions to be reviewed at the weekly meeting.
- Model respect so that the students see that all staff in the classroom deserve the same level of respect.
- Boundaries are important.
- Encourage questions, not "questioning."
- Understand that everyone has their own story and may be struggling with things you don't know about.
- Having high expectations/demands is fine! Just consider how you present those expectations and how you support staff in delivering on those expectations.
- 100% is not realistic- everyone needs a little leeway.
- Kindness is never wrong.
- Being strong does not mean being unfair or unpleasant.
- Sometimes you will have to ask people to do things they don't want to do. That is okay!
- Be open to feedback presented in an appropriate way.
- Communication and collaboration will be a "work in progress." Don't get frustrated if it doesn't happen overnight.
- Holding a grudge doesn't help anyone.
- Always be the "grown-up" in the room.
- The energy you bring to the classroom (positivity vs. negativity) will set the stage for the day/year.
- Sometimes (doughnuts, bagels, cookies) are just what the "family" needs!