

### Relationships – The Key Ingredient for Child Success

In order for children to succeed, we need to build better relationships with each other. Below are some ideas for building more meaningful relationships with parents.

	Parents	Teachers/ECEs	Administrators
Express Care – Show me that I matter to you.	<p>Send someone at the school a positive email every week.</p> <p>Show empathy and patience for adults who work with children.</p> <p>Find creative ways to support the goals of the classroom/school.</p> <p>Talk positively about your child's teacher and the school...especially with your children.</p>	<p>When notes go home, say 2 positive things for every negative.</p> <p>Show empathy and patience for parents. Reassure and normalize children's behaviour.</p> <p>Use parent strengths to strengthen your classroom. For ex., Ask a chef mom to run a sandwich workshop or a yoga dad to teach the class.</p> <p>Say positive things to the kids about their parents.</p>	<p>Identify key messages for your parents that will be repeated and will resonate in all your communication. For ex., We are in this together. It takes a village and you are part of this school's village. Relationships are important to your child's success. Play, connect, learn, everyday.</p> <p>When you call home, identify some positive things about the child.</p> <p>Show empathy and patience for parents. Reassure, normalize children's behaviour.</p>
Challenge Growth – Push me to keep getting better.	<p>Get to know the teacher as a person.</p> <p>Follow your teacher on twitter and respond positively.</p>	<p>Try to learn all the parent names and communicate regularly.</p> <p>Be approachable and be yourself.</p>	<p>Be a resource when parent's need extra support.</p>
Provide Support – help me complete tasks and achieve goals.	<p>Write a letter at the beginning of the year introducing yourself, your child and the family to the teacher.</p> <p>Let the teacher know</p>	<p>Use humour to lighten a tough situation.</p> <p>Ask the parent for advice about how to help their child.</p>	<p>Find space for parents to meet and support each other on a regular basis.</p> <p>Play calming music at the entrance of the school in</p>

<p>Share Power – Treat me with respect and give me a say.</p> <p>Expand Possibilities- Connect me with people and places that broaden my horizons.</p>	<p>how you can support them in their goals this year.</p> <p>Keep your vision big for your children...like to be happy and healthy, but keep your goals small.</p> <p>Show empathy and patience for parents. Reassure and normalize children's behaviour.</p> <p>Find out the other side of the story when something happens.</p> <p>Look for community resources that support parents and professionals.</p>	<p>Give parents different options about how to support your classroom.</p> <p>Offer a parent survey at the end of the year to identify areas for growth.</p> <p>Engage your parent community to find interesting field trips opportunities in the community or at their work. Or to share things from home that adds to the curriculum.</p> <p>Be a critical friend to families who are in crisis.</p> <p>Send home creative projects that families can do together.</p> <p>Ask parents to do short presentations in class about their culture, a hobby, a favourite book.</p> <p>Find a way to use invisible wrap around for families that are struggling with crisis, food or shelter.</p>	<p>the morning.</p> <p>Use warm, simple and clear language when communicating with parents via phone or letters home.</p> <p>Sit beside parents not across a desk.</p> <p>Budget for meals and refreshments when hosting parents in the building.</p> <p>Facilitate an activity where parents can meet each other.</p> <p>Ensure the main office is the friendliest place in the building.</p> <p>Block time in your schedule to be in the hallways at the beginning and at the end of the day.</p> <p>Share your survey results with the parent council and enlist them in your school improvement goals.</p> <p>Offer staff PD related to relationship building skills like, communication listening, empathy.</p>
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