



Classroom management

In Australia, classroom teachers must create and maintain a supportive and safe learning environment for students. To support student participation and prevent classroom behavioural issues, specific proactive student engagement approaches are utilised, including building relationships of mutual respect and understanding individual identity and culture.

Teachers must demonstrate effective classroom management and student engagement. Regardless of which career stage teachers are in, Australian teachers must demonstrate a range of verbal and non-verbal communication strategies to support student engagement. Further to this, part of successfully engaging students in their learning is effectively organising classroom activities and providing clear directions.

In Australia teachers, alongside school leadership and student wellbeing staff, are expected to build supports in school that assist students who exhibit unacceptable behaviours and teach them more appropriate ones. Despite a teacher's best efforts, challenging behaviours may still arise in the classroom. When this occurs, teachers are required to demonstrate knowledge of practical approaches to manage challenging behaviour. It is therefore essential to ensure that you are aware of effective strategies and relevant policies that support students' wellbeing and safety working within school and/or system, curriculum, and legislative requirements.



Resources:

Classroom management

The Australian Education Research Organisation (AERO) provides resources and useful guides to help teachers and school leaders, and they are aligned with the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers.

AERO has developed for teachers a set of [classroom management practice guides and resources](#). These guides and resources cover a variety of topics related to classroom management practices including rules and routines, students gaining teacher attention, responding to disengaged and disruptive behaviour and more.

Information and communications technology

Information and communications technology (ICT) capability is an important component of the Australian Curriculum. ICT is regularly used in Australian classrooms and requires active supervision by teachers to ensure student safety and active participation in their learning.

It is a requirement of Australian teachers to incorporate ICT into lesson plans not only to teach students skills by using them, but also to build engagement in their learning. However, with the increased use of technology comes the need to teach students about online safety and the risks that may come with its use. Australian teachers must establish an understanding of the relevant issues and the strategies available to support the safe, responsible, and ethical use of ICT in learning and teaching.



Resources:

eSafety resources

eSafety is Australia's independent regulator for online safety. eSafety educates Australians about online safety risks and helps to remove harmful content such as cyberbullying of children, adult cyber abuse and intimate images or videos shared without consent.

eSafety provides [online resources and professional learning](#) for teachers, school leaders and communities. The resources cover important and currently widely discussed topics of cyberbullying, unwanted or inappropriate content that threaten student's safety online.

Education Services Australia

Education Services Australia (ESA) is a not-for-profit company committed to working with all Australian education systems and sectors to improve student outcomes, enhance teacher impact and strengthen school communities.

ESA's [Digital Technologies Hub](#) provides resources and professional learning such as lesson ideas, scope and sequence documents, and assessment strategies to help teachers engage in digital technologies. There are also courses and tutorials available on the hub which can be used for self-paced learning about relevant Digital Technologies concepts.

Reflection questions

Use these reflection questions as a checklist to help you understand teaching, pedagogy, and classroom management in Australian classrooms:

- What information or resources can you utilise to learn about your cohort of students? For example, personalised learning plans (PLPs), student files or discussions with coordinators.
- Are the majority of interactions between yourself and your students positive?
- Do you have orderly routines and rules for students?
- Do you hold your students to high standards?
- Does the school have a proactive approach to student behaviour and wellbeing? Will there be training on this?
- What are the school's ICT, mobile phone, and personal technology policies? What should you be looking out for? For example, what websites are they allowed to access while at school?
- Who can assist you with managing challenging student behaviour?
- What do you do if there is an emergency? What constitutes behaviour which requires immediate support? Who can you contact for immediate support?
- What documentation is required to monitor positive student behaviour, and how is it reported to parents?
- What is the process to alert parents of negative behaviour in the classroom, and can these be successful conversations? Is there anyone at school who can support you with this?

