

FRIENDSHIP, AS AN EDUCATOR'S IMPORTANT ALLY IN TEACHING

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Although a close bond between a teacher and a student is natural, this kind of relationship should always be handled with utmost responsibility. Having a positive teacher-student relationship undoubtedly affects the atmosphere in the classroom. Making students feel that they are valued will make them feel more secure and safer when at school. Learning becomes more fun and interesting and good communication is maintained. Overdoing it, though, can sometimes produce unfavorable outcomes.

If students think their teachers genuinely care about them and support them, they will be more open to us about their struggles and concerns, especially when it comes to academic matters. We can easily have their active participation and cooperation in class. We can motivate them more to become responsible students and to strive for better grades. Having a sense of humor may also be a great tool to make them feel more at ease being around us and make learning feel lighter than it is.

However, there are some instances that this bond exceeds its limits and these must be corrected accordingly. The most common channel for this is social media, where its purpose sometimes gets misused. Though using this channel has become very useful nowadays when disseminating announcements or tasks to students, we must still act professionally when communicating with them. Having private conversations aside from group chats may be okay but sending inappropriate messages to them is definitely not okay.

In addition to imparting knowledge to their child, we are trusted by parents as the second guardian once they are on the school premises. So, building good relationships with your students is a necessary step, but don't take advantage of it. Let's constantly strive to help our students develop and be a teacher with whom they can be proud of others as someone who supported them throughout their academic careers.

References:

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