

## HONESTY IN TEACHING

by:  
**Vanessa V. Magcalas**  
*Teacher II, Almacén Elementary School*

To protect the right of every Filipino to quality, equitable, cultured-based, and complete basic education where students learn in a child-friendly, gender-sensitive, safe, motivating environment and teachers facilitate learning and constantly nurture every learner.....this statement is a part of the Department of Education's mission.... a mission which will only turn into reality if honesty in teachers' interaction with the learners is observed and practiced to foster a safe and motivating environment where learners will feel that they are valued and respected.

Here are some ways how we can practice honesty in our everyday dealings with our young learners:

H – High ethical standards

As an educator, we should abide by the Professional Code of Ethics for Teachers at all times. It is our foremost responsibility to strive for the welfare of our students and respect their dignity and uniqueness. We should observe morality, not only through our interactions with learners but also with our colleagues. Always make it a point that we are doing the right thing and have respect for our learners.

O – Open communication with your learners

Open communication is said to be a crucial aspect of teaching. This will enable our learners to feel that they have a supportive environment where they can freely share their feelings, and thoughts and ask questions. Having good communication with them will

also let them share their problems and seek your assistance as their second parent in school. Because of this, everyone can feel appreciated and trust will grow.

## N - Nurturing trust in your classroom

Trust building is an essential part of every teacher-learner relationship. We can start by knowing them well and what kind of lives they live. We can talk to them and show them that we are interested in what they like, their interests and hobbies. Show them that we are willing to listen, may it be about their scholastic struggles or personal problems. Although we have the authority inside the classroom, show them we care. Remember that when trust is built, honesty will follow.

## E - Encourage good behavior

Constant reminders to do good to others will help them practice the right conduct. Do not forget to express your approval for doing good behavior and praise their efforts in striving to do good. As a teacher, I strongly believe that constructive feedback, praise, and encouragement are more effective than punishing them. Discuss with them what it means to be honest and why honesty is an important value.

## S - Speak the truth

We, teachers, should be role models to our learners. We should set an example by being truthful, not just in words, but most importantly, in our actions. Let us be transparent about our mistakes. If we make errors, acknowledge them, thus making our learners realize that making mistakes is a part of learning.

## T - Transparency in grading

We must show transparency in grading because this will help build trust, accountability, and motivation among them. We can do this by informing them how we grade their work such as their projects, assignments, or performance tasks. We should be

fair and consistent in our grading rubrics and avoid favoritism or being biased. Always bear in mind that transparency in grading them will ensure fairness, build trust, and make them track their performance and understand their progress.

Y - Your integrity sets an example

A teacher's honesty, fairness, and accountability will affect the learners' development of values. If we are truthful in all our actions, treat all learners equally, take responsibility for our actions and mistakes, practice punctuality and show commitment to our work, show respect and open-mindedness, we are setting a good example that will eventually lead them to develop a good moral and ethical foundation thus making them act with integrity in their dealings in their lives.

Honesty in teaching is important in fostering trust, integrity, and a positive learning environment. Applying this value, we can be assured that we can shape the character of the young generations, positively ensuring a brighter future for them.

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