



Teaching & Learning Newsletter

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Routines in the Classroom

Why Routines Matter?

Classroom routines provide a sense of order and predictability that help both students and teachers. Whether it's the way students enter the room, how they transition between activities, or how work is handed in, routines create structure.

Great routines are;

- Explicitly taught – demonstrated, practised, and reinforced over time.
- Predictable – the same every day, free from unnecessary variation.
- Purposeful – designed to support learning and reduce cognitive load.
- Simple and memorable – easy for students to understand and follow.



'Helpful for all children, harmful for none, and crucial for some'
Snow and Juel (2005)

Benefits

- Strengthen behaviour and calm in the classroom
- Reduce uncertainty (which reduces anxiety and acting-out)
- Maximise learning time
- Support equity
- Lower cognitive load
- Allow for consistent expectations
- Support vulnerable learners
- Help students self regulate

Easy routines

- Beginning routine (eg. 'Jackets off, homework out')
- A consistent 'Do Now' to settle the class.
- Page layout routine (date, title etc)
- End-of-lesson routine (retrieval activity)

NCSE Relate

A Regulation-First Approach to Reframing Behaviour and Supporting Student Engagement and Participation

Podcast Recommendation

'Classroom Routines' Off Task Teacher Podcast Listen on GoLoud or Spotify