

# Model positive and caring teacher-teacher relationships

A suggestion for implementing the strategy

'Foster positive relationships and partnerships' from the Guide: [Behaviour and learning](#)

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## **Includes:**

- The influence of teacher attitude
- Move towards collegial relationships
- Model quality relationships
- Reflective questions

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Behaviour and learning](#)

Strategy: [Foster positive relationships and partnerships](#)

Suggestion: [Model positive and caring teacher-teacher relationships](#)

Date

26 April 2024

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/behaviour-and-learning/model-positive-and-caring-teacher-teacher-relationships](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/behaviour-and-learning/model-positive-and-caring-teacher-teacher-relationships)

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## The influence of teacher attitude

Consider the influence you have on others.

Since your attitudes and values (as a teacher) are continuously conveyed to students by your actions – particularly your interactions with others – the most powerful influence in your programme is probably your own attitude.

**Source:**

[Mental health education and hauora: Teaching interpersonal skills, resilience, and wellbeing \(p. 14\)](#)

<https://www.nzcer.org.nz/nzcerpress/mental-health-education>

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## Move towards collegial relationships

Teachers are role models.

Four types of relationships amongst adults commonly exist in schools:

- Parallel play – where everyone busily gets on, in a self-absorbed way, working in isolation.
- Adversarial relationships – where people compete with each other to develop their own resources and reputations, often putting the practices of others down.
- Congenial relationships – where people are friendly, interested, and concerned about each other but don't share professional ideas.
- Collegial relationships – where the focus is on talking with each other, and sharing knowledge about professional matters.

In what ways could you contribute to a culture where collegial relationships are more dominant in your school?

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## Model quality relationships

A teacher describes how the quality of the relationships between the adults in a classroom influences the students.



Conversations are on the fly.

Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/159138435>

Closed Captions

Source:

[Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga](#)  
<https://vimeo.com/user25073968>

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## Reflective questions

Consider these statements from the Wellbeing@School survey.

Reflect on your response and its influence on students.

School leaders encourage staff to share ideas rather than compete with each other.

Staff always behave how they would like students to behave.

Staff treat each other with respect.

Staff have a strong sense of belonging.

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