

My Teaching Philosophy

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My teaching philosophy highly revolves around inclusion and making sure that the classroom environment is suitable for all. I see importance in the aesthetics of a classroom that is warm and welcoming. I believe that every child has the potential to succeed as long as I provide them with the proper tools and support. To make my classroom inclusive, I will make sure that all materials and spaces in my classroom are accessible and that the setup allows for everyone to easily move around. To me, creating an inclusive classroom also means celebrating diversity and representing all students in my classroom.

I believe in building relationships with my students and their families. I will reach out to parents to hear about their beliefs and how they celebrate the holidays. I care about my students' home lives and believe that it is my job as a teacher to represent all religions and cultures in my classroom so that my students can see that their differences are cared for and accepted. I believe that when students see their culture being represented in the room, it helps them feel more at home and helps me to form a relationship with them. As a teacher I will strive to ensure that my students are being fulfilled emotionally when they enter my classroom and that they feel a sense of belonging. I will provide an environment that allows students to explore and learn in a judgement-free zone where they can feel as though they fit in.

I believe in listening to my students and their needs. I value student honesty on how I can teach them better and support their learning styles. As a teacher I will make adaptations that will allow students to learn and show what they know in meaningful ways. I strive to offer many methods of instruction such as hands-on activities, visual aids, and incorporating the use of technology in my classroom. A quote that resonates with my teaching philosophy is "Expecting all children the same age to learn from the same materials is like expecting all children the same age to wear the same size clothing" by Madeline Hunter. In a class of 25+ students, we cannot

expect all of them to learn from the same form of instruction and the same tools. I will provide variety in my classroom in order to show my students that I believe in them and want them to succeed.

In my classroom I will encourage risk taking as I am continuing to take risks in my own learning. I believe that no matter how old we get we will always be learning new things. I am on a lifelong journey of learning about Treaty 4 and I am discovering new things every day on my truth and reconciliation journey. There is a big difference between good intentions and being intentional in our teachings, and I will be intentional with Treaty education and apply it in meaningful ways. I plan to use a cross-curricular method in order to be an advocate for incorporating Indigenous ways of knowing into daily teachings. I know that there will be days where I may stumble and fall, but learning has its ups and downs. I will teach my students that mistakes are totally acceptable as we are only human and the mistakes help us grow.

The thought of teaching and having my own classroom one day absolutely lights me up inside. I cannot wait to share my passion for learning with the future generations and walk alongside them in their own educational journey. I believe that teachers hold so much power in the sense that we can have a lifelong impact on our students. My classroom will be a positive and safe space where all students can feel accepted for who they are. I hope to be the type of teacher that my students remember for many years, even after they graduate. I often think back on all of the amazing teachers I had growing up and I will work endlessly to make those same positive impacts on the lives of my students.