

## Encouraging pro-learning behaviours

Some children may have a harder time than other children 'winning' a teacher's approval and developing a positive relationship with their peers.

Supporting your child requires you to:

- ✓ Attend to pro-learning behaviour
- ✓ Recognise efforts at achievement
- ✓ Praise attempts as well as successes
- ✓ Try to ignore minor negative behaviours as these may be habits in terms of gaining attention
- ✓ Spend a few minutes each day talking with your child about what has been successful or difficult for them and be specific
- ✓ Discuss strategies for improvement and be specific
- ✓ Ask your child to come up with ideas too!

- ❖ Use the interest of your child and/or their competencies as a starting point during lessons, or as reinforcement or completed work.
- ❖ For example, if your child is interested in computers, you could use computer time as reinforcement for good behaviour at times during the school day.
- ❖ Use positive encouragement, frequent, immediate and consistent feedback about acceptable and unacceptable behaviours.
- ❖ Provide feedback in a calm and unemotional manner, and accompanied by explanation of the appropriate alternative behaviour.
- ❖ Be consistent but be fair. Always follow through with regard to agreed consequences to misbehaviour, such as loss of privilege, time-out, or loss of points (if a token system is used).
- ❖ Check for understanding or misunderstanding of what happened and why.
- ❖ Check to see if there are associated learning or language difficulties that may be impacting on understanding, or impulsivity.
- ❖ Be aware that impulsiveness may be a response to a difficult interaction or situation. It is likely not to be intentional but may have negative consequences.
- ❖ Encourage your child to jot down ideas as he/she has them to reduce answering out of turn

