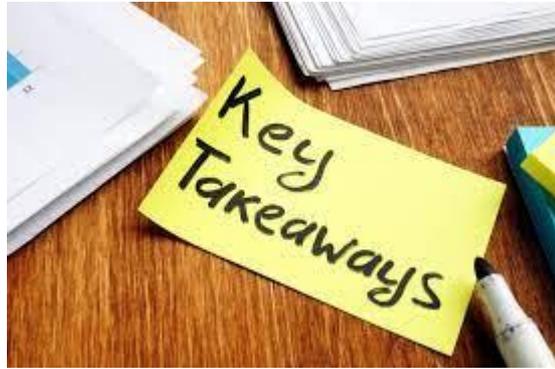


Marking the Role



Key episode points

Episode 5: June 1, 2022: The Battle for Behaviour

- Poor student behaviour and abuse suffered by teachers is the 2nd most common reason for teachers leaving the profession.
- This ranks above salary.
- Ian Luscombe from 'Behaveability' discussed steps teachers can take to help students understand limits and school rules
- The dominant point from him was to always give an instruction that was fair and reasonable, and that the student was capable of carrying out
- The next step was to not allow the student to have options eg: "Please put the book on the table Greg". Greg then says "No – bugger off". **DO NOT** then tell him it's OK to put the book on the floor
- If his behaviour escalates, then deal with that but **NEVER** offer more options.
- School Principal Leah Thomas from St Thomas Aquinas School in the ACT has been using this approach and school behaviour has improved markedly
- She said that some parents didn't like the inflexibility but got used to it.
- Some parents took their children to another school
- Some teachers said that poor behaviour by students was often a reflection of poor attitudes to education by parents.
- Suspension was viewed as a necessary tool to not only help the poorly behaved student, but give the rest of the students and staff respite from their poor behaviour.
- A student who is abusive can make other students scared to go to school and if allowed to get away with poor behaviour, can gather a gang of likeminded students who make things worse.
- **In addition Teachers are scared to set rules and stick to them as they are frightened the student's behaviour will escalate. Often the teacher will be blamed for this escalation by parents and executive. Escalated behaviour also caused extra paperwork which takes away from a teacher's key role.**