



The Centre for PEACE
Research and Development

While most schools embrace individuality and personal expression in a healthy way, there are many behaviours that diminish a learning environment and prevent teachers from ever achieving their potential in the classroom. No school is without their behaviour issues that have negative impact in a classroom and cause significant adverse effects to the well-being of teachers and students.

Teachers are special people and some of them are 100% inspirational when they have the opportunity to deliver lessons on their terms. Unfortunately, in the current paradigm it is rare to find whole classes of astute exemplary students who are receptive of such teachers. They are out there, and if you ask these teachers, they'll certainly say that they enjoy teaching.

While any mature adult fully understands that children are designed to push boundaries and challenge authority; this is what keeps the world developing and exciting. Although, there are unacceptable behaviours that go beyond challenging the parameters of a classroom and cross into dangerous, idle and completely inappropriate. Schools are NOT a babysitting service for disengaged children.

Recently, I asked for a student to pack his phone away three times in a space of ten minutes, he was persistently sharing the content and giggling with his elbow partners. Once the rest of the class was engaged, I walked up behind this student and took his phone. On the screen in large words was "Porn Hub ... loading" this 14 year-old boy was so disenfranchised from education that he was watching pornography in class and destroying the articulate education of those around him. This is not ok! What is society doing for these people? Is the system so corrupt they don't want some students to succeed? This problem is fundamental to health, crime rate, relationship development, higher-order thinking capabilities, safe futures, employment rates and everything that constitutes human development and well-being. *Parents must get involved* and demand that their child is placed in a highly effective learning environment and not a mediocre learning environment.

Inappropriate behaviour in a classroom is the number one problem in the high-school system. It has long been said that teachers should manage the majority of behaviours in the classroom. I am certain this is wrong! Behaviour issues must be taken out of a classroom, so the teacher and the lesson can approach a state of flow and achieve maximum efficiency for the students who desire to learn.

The following is a proposal for a pilot program called 'Recovery Space'. It's obvious the approach will be expensive but not as expensive as the sacrifice of quality education due to classroom disruption or teacher burnout.

The science behind the Recovery Space is based on the same strategies as buddy class, detention and suspension but the approach is more refined and immediate, preventing the initiation and escalation of most issues. Inappropriate behaviours require dissociation, withdrawal for reflection and retraining – this is considered the best and most pragmatic approach humans have for managing dissenting behaviours. More importantly, the teacher must be allowed to continue the lesson with minimal disruption and that requires a refined process where the inappropriate students are removed immediately.

This card is given to the student and taken to the Recovery Space:

<u>Recovery Space</u>	
Classroom teacher _____	Classroom Ext: # _____
PLEASE GO DIRECTLY TO THE RECOVERY SPACE	
1. Disrespect	
2. Refuse to engage in work	
3. Explicit language	
4. Improper uniform	
5. Improper use of equipment or technology	
6. Violence	
7. Refuse to follow classroom routine	
8. Late for class	
9. Other	
Teacher's description:	
At the Recovery Space you will be listened to and supported.	
You will be welcome back in class when all issues are resolved.	
We all make mistakes – Success can be measured by how quickly we recover.	
Recovery Space teacher _____	Student _____
YOU ARE ENTITLED TO AN EDUCATION AND SO IS EVERYONE ELSE	

Notes:

Student arrives at the Recovery Space and it is decided if they are to remain secluded from the group there, or included in a reflective activity in the Recovery Space.

Parents receive instant notification if student is sent to Recovery Space.

Three Recovery Space visits in one term and student will be suspended.

Refusal to attend Recovery Space means the whole classroom must stop and attend the Recovery Space – and consequences are escalated.

If the students leaves the classroom and does not arrive at the Recovery Space or arrives more than five minutes late, the student is considered truant for that time.

Tasks provided in Recovery Space - Letter of apology to teacher and class, reflection of bad behaviour, empathetic counselling, employment guidance, or phone call to someone they trust for support. Also, Recovery Space is located near the sport centre; they can burn of the energy there!

***Teachers must be explicitly trained to discern what warrants Recovery Space consequence.**