



## TEACHERS TALKING

## FORWARD FROM DR TINA LAMONT // Director TEC



Hello Friend,

We know that teachers are committed and caring. Plus, they can be incredibly busy. For us as Christians, we also know that teachers can struggle with how to express the deeper purposes of what our teaching is about, as we work to be faithful to what God has called us to do.

Our hope at The Excellence Centre is that these short pieces will encourage you, stimulate you, and give you some practical ideas. Please feel free to send in your ideas of what you would like to see in future series. If you do not wish to keep receiving these *Teachers Talking* pieces, go to the "Unsubscribe" link below.

Dr Jina Lamont Director TEC The Excellence Centre





Have you ever *accidentally* broken a rule? How did you feel when it was pointed out to you? Were you then punished because of the mistake, and how did you respond to that?

Daily, we as teachers have to adjudicate over more little (and sometimes big) conflicts, or potential conflicts, than any other professional. Our students likewise must remember the ground rules for each teacher they have, and then figure out the likely consequences if they make a mistake (unintentionally or otherwise).

In the same way that our Creator God has let us know what happens when we take things into our own hands, it is good to teach our students the normal consequences of them taking things into their own hands. As we do this, it is good to remember that:

- It is helpful to describe to students our type of response to the 'routine mistakes' in the classroom e.g. talking out of turn, not paying attention
- They will accept more serious warnings if we teach them what a formal warning looks like e.g. "When I use your name, and ask you to look at me,

you are receiving a more formal warning and instruction"

• They will understand and are more likely to accept the justice and fairness of discipline if they are taught what this involves, before they find themselves in that situation e.g. describing to them that the focus of our discipline is owning our mistakes, and then working towards reconciliation

Until next time.

