

Why Effective Classroom Management Happens Quickly

By Michael Linsin

There is a tendency among teachers to view classroom management as a work in progress, as something that, given enough time, will form into shape.

It's a belief that as students mature into their new grade level, and adjust to their teacher's expectations, things will eventually get better. Behavior will improve, disruptions will become less frequent, and peace will reign in the kingdom. It makes sense.

But it isn't true.

Classroom management is rarely a slow and steady march to Camelot. In fact, the hope in this belief often leads to crushing disappointment, frustration, and doubt as to whether it's even possible to create a well-behaved classroom.

It turns lovely and caring teachers into jaded cynics, filled with resentment and negative thoughts about their class, their school, and their profession. Unless freed from this idea, they're destined to be stressed-out, snapping at students and turning into the "mean" teacher they swore they'd never be.

The upshot is that if your approach to classroom management isn't working right now, if it isn't providing the peace and enjoyment you really want, then it's unlikely to work in the future.

The lesson here is twofold.

First, an understanding of [what really works in the classroom](#), and how to apply it, is incredibly powerful. It really is possible to take over any group of students – first day of school, midyear, or otherwise – and transform them into your ideal class.

Second, it must happen fairly quickly. Although perfection is ever elusive, effective classroom management is something that happens within a window of a few days.

This doesn't mean that it can't keep getting better as you build stronger relationships with your students. It can and will. But if you're not feeling really good about your class within a week's time, at most, then it's a sign you need to make some changes.

Maybe you've grown inconsistent or developed some bad habits. Maybe your new class or new school is unlike anything you've ever experienced before. Maybe you're flying by the seat of your pants or employing a hodgepodge of strategies that were never meant to be used together.

Whatever the case, we're here to help.

We're here to show you exactly what to do, regardless of how difficult your class is or how long you've been teaching. Our approach is simple,

doable, and fast acting. It's meant to save you time and eliminate your stress.

Now it's important to note that if you're new to our books and website, and still in the process of learning our approach, then it isn't at all unusual to see a steady line of progress. In this case, it can indeed take time for the upward trend to reach its destination.

But as soon as you're able to unleash the full complement of strategies, as soon as you have a firm grasp of our principles and philosophy, you'll be able to walk into any teaching situation, no matter how chaotic or unruly, and turn it into the peaceful and fulfilling experience you've always longed for.

In order — you'll be able to gain control, replace bad habits, establish boundaries, strengthen accountability, remove tension, build relationships, revive a love of school, and create a classroom your students can't wait to get to every day.

And it will happen . . . quickly.