

Noticing and responding to student requests for help



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Importance of student engagement

It is imperative that students feel comfortable approaching their teacher with questions and concerns about what is going on in the classroom. Students who avoid getting help or asking questions will suffer academically. Teachers need to be approachable and willing to give feedback to students when they ask for it. We recommend using these tips as a pedagogical support for all teaching professionals.

Strategies for encouraging students to ask for help

1

Do a quick support survey

Set up a **Pulse Check survey** to ask students what sorts of things you could do to provide extra support, then take action.

2

Schedule some online wellbeing checks

Think about your most vulnerable students and schedule in some face-to-face time to check-in on their social and emotional wellbeing.

3

Set up some group support meetings

Look at your planning for the coming days. What might be some concepts that students may find more difficult. Schedule 1:1 meeting times for students to opt in for small group learning support.

Try these additional strategies:

Be proactive

Employ some forward-thinking to anticipate difficulty students may face when undertaking learning in the coming days and weeks. Offer support preemptively in the form of mini-lessons, supportive conversations and resources.

Be responsive

Support students in a timely manner. Taking action quickly builds students' confidence in your ability to assist them when needed.

Be approachable and flexible

Always address students' requests with an open mind and calm demeanour. Allow students alternative ways to communicate with you. Some may feel more comfortable emailing while others prefer conversation.