

respect each other at school

At school students must work in groups and spend time in classrooms and on the playground mixing with many different people. For this reason, it is important to remember that every student at your school is unique. That means that each person is different.

You may have some things in common with some students but you will never have *everything* in common with anybody. The number of ways that people differ is endless.

For example, not everyone:

- looks the same
- speaks the same
- enjoys the same movies
- dresses the same
- likes the same food
- is good at sport
- is good at school work
- is tall or short

➤ **What are some of your unique qualities?**

➤ **List five ways that students are different.**

Considering that everyone is so different, it might be hard for all students to get on well with each other. But even if there is something that you do not like about another student, you can still **RESPECT EACH OTHER**.

Respecting other people can be hard, but when you remember that everyone is different, it can be easier. Once you realise that everyone is different you can **ACCEPT INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES**. Another way to respect other students is to think about how another person feels, or **CONSIDER OTHER PEOPLES FEELINGS**.

Have you heard the saying "put yourself in someone else's shoes"? This means that you try to know how another person is feeling and how you make them feel. This helps you to treat other people the way that you want people to treat you. Try to say things that will make other people feel good, rather than say or do things that will make other people feel unhappy.

➤ **How do you feel when someone gives you a compliment?**

➤ **How do you feel when someone says something bad about you?**

Once you consider other people's feeling and accept individual differences, it might help you to **THINK BEFORE YOU ACT**.

Sometimes we all do things that we do not mean or know are not very nice. This can happen because we just do something without thinking about it. Thinking before you act helps you to make better decisions. It could help you to have more friends, achieve more, stop you from doing something that you might feel bad about or even prevent you from getting into trouble.

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consider other people's feelings

➤ When would it help you to think before you act?

Another part of respecting other people is to make sure that you **DO NOT BULLY** other students. You probably know that bullying is extremely bad behaviour and can get you into serious trouble. There is also a good chance that if you bully someone you will get bullied back and end up with less friends. Remember from the "be friendly" poster that the more friendly you are, the better your chances of having more friends.

If you think or feel that someone is bullying you, you should immediately speak to your teacher.

If someone is bullying you or your friends you can:

- Ignore them
- Ask their friends to stop them
- Tell your parent
- Tell them that they are not being very nice
- Tell a teacher
- Do not tease or bully them back

➤ What else could you do if someone is bullying you?

Respecting each other, accepting that everyone is different and thinking before you act all help to make sure that you do not become a bully.

➤ If someone is a bully what could they do to help stop it?

Remember that respecting other people at school is one of the most important things you can do to help: 1) feel good about yourself, 2) keep friends and 3) contribute to your school being a fun and enjoyable place to be.

➤ What other things could you do to help you respect each other at school?

➤ How else does respecting each other at school help you?