

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

MODELLING RELATIONSHIP BUILDING BEHAVIOR

Relationship-building behaviors include

- availability
 - student is aware of your office and room number as well as preferable times to meet with you
 - you are available when you say you will be

- enthusiasm
 - convey that you are happy to see the student and that they are important to you
 - smile
 - be prepared for one-on-one conferences
 - seek interaction with students whenever possible

- caring attitude
 - greet students warmly, offering a smile
 - acknowledge presence of the student
 - use their name whenever possible
 - speak quietly
 - demonstrate genuine concern
 - follow-through on any action requested by the student
 - respond to the needs of the student
 - maintain the spirit of caring rather than the letter of the law

- ability to relate to students in an informal manner as opposed to the formal manner often used in the classroom setting
 - avoid scolding, instead encourage and lead student in self-reflection using questions
 - involve student in questions about personal values and attitudes as they search for answers

- listening actively
 - give student undivided attention
 - ask questions for clarification
 - reword what they have told you

 - **Squarely** face the person
Open your posture
Lean towards the sender
Eye contact maintained
Relax while attending

- facilitating discussions
 - ask questions – clarifying, for more detail, about their opinions, would they do differently or the same, how they feel about the topic

Be aware that some relationships will grow more easily than others. Continue your pursuit of all relationships, even the difficult ones. Not all problems will be solved. You will not have all the answers. Seek advice and refer the student to experts as needed.