

RESTORATIVE ESSENTIALS

Restorative Conversations
Relational approach – growing
staff relationships and capability

TIME REQUIRED

40 minutes minimum

RESTORATIVE PRACTICE LEVEL

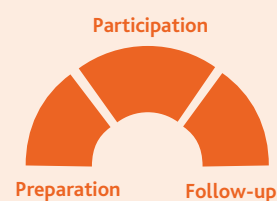
Levels 1 and 2

FORMAT

Individual reflection, pairs,
whole-group discussion

OBJECTIVES

- To share and discuss effective, non-confrontational strategies for handling and de-escalating situations.
- To create a bank of effective low-level strategies that staff can draw on in their everyday practice.

PROCESS PHASE COVERED**COMMENT: DEALING WITH THE EVERYDAY, EVERY DAY**

This activity aims to foster high-quality collegial discussions among staff on the details of practice, building a range of effective strategies that staff can draw on in their day-to-day practice in their classrooms and throughout the school environment.

ACTIVITY**Individual reflection**

Using the worksheet **Keeping the small things small** (or similar), reflect for a few minutes on your top 4–5 strategies for keeping the small things small – the least intrusive techniques you use to de-escalate situations and turn the heat down.

Pairs

Share these strategies with a colleague for 2–3 minutes. Repeat this 3–4 times with different colleagues.

Whole-group discussion

Discuss and evaluate the strategies. Have each person choose 2–3 strategies that are new to them to try out in the next fortnight.

Finally, list the strategies for displaying in the staffroom and distributing to staff online.

Read the scenarios below and consider how you would respond in order to effectively de-escalate each situation and arrive at a satisfactory outcome. Then list your top 4–5 strategies for keeping the small things small.

SCENARIOS	YOUR TOP STRATEGIES
1. Two students are having a noisy row in the school grounds.	1.
2. You hear a student swearing in the school corridor.	2.
3. While on duty you come across a student who is clearly breaking the school uniform code.	
4. A student is continually distracting others in your class.	3.
5. You see a student casually drop litter in the school grounds.	
6. A student is using their cellphone in class for social purposes.	4.
7. You discover a student smoking in the school grounds.	5.