

Know Your Threshold

Knowing your threshold is very similar to creating boundaries in your life. Boundaries in our life are there to protect us from getting depleted. Knowing your threshold and providing a classroom structure that keeps student behavior in check, does the same thing.

Here is a short list of questions you should consider when trying to identify your threshold in the classroom. By all means there is no correct answer and this is just some situations in which you will encounter while being a teacher.

THINGS TO CONSIDER	YOUR THOUGHTS
How do you want your student (class) to be when they first walk in the room?	
How do you want them to be the first 5 minutes of class? Do you want them to work right away or do you want to give them 5 minutes to get the wiggles out?	
While working on independent work are you okay if they talk with each other about things besides the assignment?	
How do you feel about group work and what are your expectations if students are in groups?	
How off task can students be before you get concerned or feel you should step in?	

THINGS TO CONSIDER	YOUR THOUGHTS
Are you okay if students sleep in class?	
How much goofing off will you allow in class?	
How much disrespect are you willing to tolerate?	
How much defiance before you feel you have to draw the line?	
How strict will you be with electronic devices in your class?	
Are you okay if students listen to music or watch videos while working independently?	
When you are instructing how quiet do you expect it to be?	
Do you want to make your classroom very active or do you prefer students to remain in their seats?	

THINGS TO CONSIDER	YOUR THOUGHTS
Are you okay if students move around your classroom without your permission?	
How much profanity will you tolerate?	
What is your opinion about eating or drinking in the classroom?	
How much harassment of students by another student is acceptable?	
What are your expectations when it comes to fire drills or any other safety drill?	