

Assertive discipline is a classroom management technique that relies on the teacher taking effective control of the classroom through a positive, assertive approach rather than a vengeful or hostile manner. Teachers must establish rules and directions that clearly stipulate the limits of acceptable and unacceptable student behaviour. These rules and directions must: be clear to and understood by the students; involve positive recognition that the students will receive for good behaviour; and include appropriate (and escalating) consequences when students disobey.

The reinforcement of positive behaviour gives students a model to work toward, and exemplifies the rewards associated with that behaviour. The escalation of consequences should only be conducted on a lesson or daily basis. Under normal circumstances, students are given a clean slate each day. Teachers need support for this programme from school officials, administrators, and parents in order to reinforce this positive learning environment.

Source:

Canter, L. (2010). *Assertive Discipline: Positive Behavior Management for Today's Classroom*. 4<sup>th</sup> edn. Bloomington: Solution Tree Press.