

## Learn the children's names.

This is **really important**, and sometimes teachers feel a bit overwhelmed – especially at the beginning of a school year, or in a new school, or if they are given a new unfamiliar class to teach.

If you don't know their names, you have **no chance** of controlling the class, really!

***Here are some ideas of different ways to approach this quickly and easily:***

- Create name-cards for their desks out of a triangle folded piece of card, stick the card to the desk so that the name is clearly visible to the teacher. (This can be a class activity – let the children draw and decorate their own.)
- Establish a routine (make a game out of it) where the children say their own name before answering a question every time.
- Draw yourself a map of the classroom to have in front of you, and refer to it as you call out names – and you will quite quickly learn them anyway.
- Draw names out of a 'hat' when you are asking questions.
- Get each (and every!) child to come out the front to make a presentation – talk about their family, or favourite food, or 'show and tell' about something they drew.) Mark them on what they do – while you are watching them and thinking about their mark you have a better chance of learning some names.
- Do a drama activity where the children use each other's names in a little conversation.
- Ask the children to stand up and introduce each other, along with telling what their partner's favourite food/activity (etc.) is, after a partner activity.
- Ask the children to draw a picture of themselves/their friend/themselves with their friend, collect them, put them on the wall and make it a fun activity where you and they can guess who is who.