

Setting challenging and achievable learning goals

About this Illustration of Practice

In this year 9 class, the teacher assists students to explore the requirements and skills necessary to achieve success in a job interview. He establishes clear classroom goals at the beginning of the lesson and uses group learning and thinking strategies to ensure that students are engaged in their learning. A group learning strategy allows the teacher to interact with groups and individuals.



Standards

Standard 3

Plan for and implement effective teaching and learning

Focus area 3.1

Establish challenging learning goals

Proficient

Descriptor: Set explicit, challenging and achievable learning goals for all students.

Other descriptors

Standard 2

Know the content and how to teach it

Focus area 2.1

Content and teaching strategies of the teaching area

Proficient

Descriptor: Apply knowledge of the content and teaching strategies of the teaching area to develop engaging teaching activities.

Discussion questions

1. What strategies do you use to ensure learning goals are achievable yet challenging for students?
2. How do you ensure learning is meaningful and relevant to a particular cohort of students?

Learning context

Our Lady of Mercy College is a Catholic school for girls in the inner northern metropolitan area of Melbourne. It has a school population of approximately 1,100 students in years 7–12. Based on research findings, the school identified the need to offer an alternative learning program at year 9. An important aspect of the program is the opportunity for students to have rich learning experiences beyond the classroom and in the community. The program targets eight key areas that prepare students for the senior school years as well as life beyond school.

School context

[Our Lady of Mercy College](#)

Victoria

Year level: Year 9

Stage of schooling: Secondary

School type: Non Government

School location: Metropolitan

[View school location in Google Maps](#)