

YOUR CPD MINI GUIDE

For positive behaviour strategies

Support classroom routines

Reinforce the teacher's expectations by gently and consistently reminding pupils. Use prompts like *"remember our rule about listening"* rather than setting new rules yourself.

Build strong pupil relationships

Use your one-to-one or small group time to show interest in their activities and hobbies, listen attentively, and praise their effort to build strong relationships. See the video *What Makes a Great Teaching Assistant? Top Tips and Advice*.



Use positive reinforcement

Celebrate small wins, whether it's staying on task for five minutes or remembering to put a hand up. Positive feedback helps pupils feel noticed and valued.

Spot and reduce triggers

Watch for early signs of frustration or restlessness, especially in pupils with SEND. Quietly redirect or offer a break before behaviour escalates. Refer to the video *Triggers in Children – What Are They & How to Avoid Them*.



Support with de-escalation

Stay calm, use a reassuring tone, and avoid adding to the child's distress if they are upset. If needed, guide them to a quiet space or support the teacher in following the behaviour plan. *10 Tips to De-escalate Behaviour* is a useful resource.

Support mental wellbeing

Pupils often confide more easily in TAs. Listen without judgment, offer reassurance, and pass on concerns appropriately. Use *Helping a Child with Anxiety* and *Tips for Pupil Wellbeing* as guidance.

Assist with relationship repair

If conflict occurs, help pupils reflect afterwards. Use restorative language and encourage them to share their feelings. The video *How to Repair the Relationship* offers strategies.

Communicate with the teacher

Don't try to manage serious behaviour incidents alone. Share observations about pupil behaviour calmly and factually with the teacher, so they can act and support with the resolution.



View the full CPD for Teaching Assistants playlist

