



CLASS CLOWN

How can you deal effectively with a "class clown"?

1. Let the student know in private how you feel about their unacceptable behaviour, and explain what is expected of them.
2. Try to form a trusting relationship with this student. Listen to their feelings and expectations. Try to channel their talent for humour into something more productive, such as creating a class play or dramatic skit.
3. If you think it would be beneficial, try role-playing with this student. Give them the role of the teacher who is trying to teach a lesson. You take on the role of the class clown and exhibit the same behaviours that they show in class. This may be a learning experience for the entire class!
4. Explain to the student that the solution to their problem is their responsibility as well as yours. However, if the "class clown" behaviour continues and it affects the level of learning for the rest of the class, then the responsibility for the solution will lie with them and the Headteacher.
5. Try to find the curriculum areas in which the student is interested. Give them some independent work in these areas and observe any change in behaviour.
6. Let the student gain the attention of the class in such a way that it has a positive effect on the class. The student could conduct mini-lessons, lead study groups, assist students, or make other contributions that will benefit the entire class.
7. Ask for the assistance of Head of Year to investigate various possible reasons for the student's need to be the "class clown."