

3 Ten ground rules for pupil-pupil discussion

Here are some suggested 'ground rules' for **pupils** to use as they work in groups. These could be displayed and reinforced over time.

Maybe you could involve you class in drawing up a similar list.

1. Give everyone in your group a chance to speak	"Lets take it in turns to say what we think". "Claire, you haven't said anything yet."
2. Listen to what people say	"Don't interrupt - let Sam finish". "I think Sam means that"
3. Check that everyone else listens	"What did Sue just say?." "I just made a deliberate mistake - did you spot it?"
4. Try to understand what is said	"I don't understand. Can you repeat that?" "Can you <i>show</i> me what you mean?"
5. Build on what others have said	"I agree with that because ..." "Yes and I also think that"
6. Demand good explanations	"Why do you say that?" "Go on ... convinced me."
7. Challenge what is said	"That cannot be right, because..." "This explanation isn't good enough yet."
8. Treat opinions with respect	"That is an interesting point." "We all make mistakes!"
9. Share responsibility	"Let's make sure that we are all able to report this back to the whole class."
10. Reach agreement	"We've got the general idea, but we need to agree on how we will present it."