Top 10 tips\_Graduate teachers Transcript

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**Dr Mary Jean Gallagher (Education expert):** The first thing I’d say is: welcome to the teaching profession! Get ready and engage in a lifetime of learning and the excitement of sharing student growth.

Seize the day. The day you stop learning is the day you’ll stop teaching. Be open to feedback from your colleagues and your students to reflect on your own growth as a teacher.

Successful teaching is about relationships, and respect is a two-way street. Treat your students the way you would like to be treated, and make sure that people understand how much you care. Because they won’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.

Travel on your learning journey with a friend. Or better yet, several friends. But choose those friends and colleagues to help you reflect on your practice – wisely. Pick people and surround yourself with people with positive attitudes – who have a ‘can-do’ way of approaching teaching and learning – and your career will be more enjoyable and more successful for it.

Have a mentor. Seek out someone whose teaching you respect and admire, and ask them specifically to help you in your first few years of your career. It will go better, I promise.

Take time to celebrate success. Focus and think about those lessons that have gone really well, and celebrate your students’ successes as well. Know that you’re giving them a far better future when you manage to do this well – for their sake and yours.

Nurture a lifelong, passionate and persistent curiosity about what you can change in your teaching practice to better meet your student needs. That focus needs to be central to your work for a lifetime.

Engage parents in a positive way. Communicate early with your students’ parents. Find positive things to contact parents about. Have them understand the positive parts of the student’s relationship in your classroom. And then later on when you need to deal with something more challenging, you’ll find those parents a much better ally to your work.

Be kind to yourself. Take care of yourself. Teaching can be exhausting. So practise the principles of a healthy lifestyle – both physically and emotionally. And take time to reflect on the good things in your life. Perhaps even get a journal and do some gratitude recording. So that in those times when you’re feeling tired and you’re not sure you’re making progress, you’ve got something to look back to that reminds you of the better half.

Take advantage of the resources and supports that are available. The Department has a wonderful teacher induction support process, your principal and your colleagues are there to welcome you to the profession and want to help you be successful. So make sure that you connect with those resources and supports, and use them to your advantage so that you can enjoy a lifetime of success.