

“Skill UP for Mixed Ability Classes: Getting to Know Your Students ”

by Jake Whiddon

Mapping Ideas for your Mixed Ability Classes

Knowing your class is key to getting the most from your students. It helps to plan and create the best learning opportunities. Check out the simple ideas for mapping you class below and use the Small Talk video as a reference point.

Procedure:

1. Download the ‘Mixed Ability Class Mapping’ pdf
2. After each of your first 2-3 classes, write down where each of students fit on the maps
3. Add your own parameters that relate to your teaching context
4. Share with any co-teachers teaching the same class
5. Reassess after 4-5 classes and end of course
6. Plan your grouping and activities accordingly.

Using a Learner Profile

The attached Learner Profile document will help to gain a deeper understanding of your class. The longer you spend on this at the beginning of a semester the better you will be able to cater to your whole class. This also is very useful when a teacher takes over your class to give them a solid background of who they will be teaching.

Procedure:

1. Download the ‘Learner Profile Template Macmillan Education’ pdf or word doc
2. Try to meet your students before you begin the first class.
3. Individually or in groups of 2- have an open discussion and use the template as a guide
4. After a few lesson continue to add more detail
5. Remember to focus on observed behavior form the class.
6. Taking a few minutes after each class to add to your learner profiles.

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Breakthrough Plus is a 5 level young adult communicative language series. The flexible material and pick-and-mix nature of the course helps teachers address the reality of mixed-ability classes and the challenge of students who need to be stretched as well as those who need a helping hand. With a Digital Student’s Book optimized for tablets to provide learning on the go for students, and the flexibility of learning when and how they want to. For more information please visit <http://www.macmillanbreakthroughplus.com/>