

Classroom De-Escalation Job Aid

Scenario: Callum ? 8th Grade Classroom Disruption

Learning Objectives

- ? Recognize when student behavior is escalating.
- ? Choose responses that de-escalate rather than provoke.
- ? See how your choices affect classroom climate and outcomes.

During the Scenario ? Quick Cues

- ? Pause before you speak; lower your volume and slow your pace.
- ? Watch the escalation meter ? it reflects Callum's stress level.
- ? One calm, respectful response at a time; avoid stacking demands.
- ? After each choice, notice peer reactions and Callum's body language.

De-Escalating Responses (use these)

- Validation ? Acknowledge feelings without agreeing to misbehavior.
- Empathetic listening ? Hear the concern behind the behavior.
- Offer choices ? Give two acceptable options, not ultimatums.
- Encouragement ? Recognize effort and invite re-engagement.
- Strategic approach ? Address privately while class continues.
- Motivation ? Connect behavior to what Callum values.

Escalating Responses (avoid these)

- Blame, criticism, confrontation ? Attacks invite defensiveness.
- Dismissal ? Ignoring or minimizing fuels resistance.
- Threats & ultimatums ? Cornering increases crisis risk.
- Avoidance ? Walking away without a plan leaves chaos.

If Escalation Rises

- ? Increase personal space; avoid blocking exits.
- ? Use short, concrete language; one request at a time.
- ? Signal support (colleague, counselor) per your school protocol.

De-Escalation Training v1.0 ? CPI-inspired practice simulation.

Technique Reference (this course)

Response Type

De-escalating: validation, empathetic listening, offer choices, encouragement, strategic approach, motivation, directive tone when paired with respect.

Escalating: blame, criticism, confrontation, dismissal, threat, ultimatum, avoidance when it abandons the student.

Reflection After Play

- ? Which techniques lowered escalation? Which raised it?
- ? How did the class respond when you validated Callum?
- ? What would you try differently on a second run?

Original training aid aligned to this simulation's decision tree.

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