

Positive parenting

Positive parenting is an approach that emphasises the importance of creating a supportive and nurturing environment for children, where they feel valued, respected, and encouraged to grow and develop to their full potential. It focuses on building strong relationships with children and fostering their emotional, social, and behavioural wellbeing, rather than relying solely on punishment and control. By recognising and responding to a child's needs, setting clear and consistent boundaries, and teaching life skills and values, can help children develop resilience, self-esteem, and a sense of responsibility, which will serve them well into adulthood.

Empower confidence. Start the conversation using these strategies:

- 1. Build strong relationships**
This is based on mutual trust, respect, and communication. This means taking time to listen to children, understand their perspectives, and show a genuine interest in their lives.
- 2. Set clear boundaries**
Children thrive when they have clear and consistent boundaries that provide structure and security. Establish clear rules and expectations, and consistently enforce them in a firm but fair manner.
- 3. Encourage independence**
Encourage children to be independent, responsible, and confident by allowing them to make mistakes and find their own solutions to problems.
- 4. Foster positive behaviours**
Praise children for positive behaviours and achievements, and avoid criticism or any negative comments. This helps to build a child's self-esteem to repeat their positive behaviours.
- 5. Use positive reinforcement**
This is a key element of positive parenting. Use rewards, such as praise, treats and privileges, to reinforce positive behaviours and discourage negative ones.
- 6. Manage emotions**
Parents need to help children manage their emotions and develop emotional intelligence. Teach children to identify and express their feelings, and helping them learn healthy coping strategies.
- 7. Encourage problem-solving**
Teach children to solve problems in a positive and constructive way. Encourage them to identify the root causes of problems to find creative and effective solutions.
- 8. Teach life skills**
Learning life skills, such as communication, decision-making and time management, will help children navigate the world successfully.
- 9. Nurture creativity and imagination**
Encourage children to be creative and imaginative. Help them pursue their interests and passions to develop a sense of purpose and enhance their wellbeing.
- 10. Celebrate successes**
No matter how small, celebrate your child's successes and accomplishments. This will boost their self-esteem and help them develop a positive self-image to feel confident in their abilities.