

Student Accountability in Online Environments

Strategies for Improving Student Accountability in Online Environments

"**Accountability** is not about following rules and procedures rather it is **staying committed to learning and growing**. It is being responsible for developing one's own **self-efficacy** and taking the initiative to follow through with the application of learned content and skills." (Riebel, 2017)



1

CREATE A SECURE ENVIRONMENT

The right learning environment is crucial in building student accountability. Students are likely to engage and take responsibility for their learning when the following are established:

A sense of connection between the teachers & other students

A sense of respect, trust, and support for success

An understanding of consequences of actions

2

SCAFFOLD STUDENT LEARNING

Students may feel overwhelmed without appropriate guidance. It can be helpful for students to integrate the following components:

A weekly schedule guiding students in their learning plans

Virtual office hours to provide support to students

Acknowledgement of student achievements to foster self-efficacy

3

INCREASE STUDENT OWNERSHIP

It can be powerful and guide students to their full potential when they take ownership of their learning. This can be achieved by integrating the following components:

Use a student-centered approach to improve online learning

Teach students how to evaluate their own work such as using assessment rubrics

Encourage student reflection through the use of learning journals

4

INCREASE PARENT/FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Parents and families are foundational support systems for students' learning in online learning environments. Parent and family involvement can be encouraged by integrating the following components:

Share learning schedules, expectations, and activities

Provide parents with small checklists that will help them connect with their child

Establish a video conferencing protocol for parents and guardians to ask questions



In what ways could you strengthen your students' accountability in online learning environments?



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