

Welcoming Communities , Welcoming Schools

School Tips for Welcoming Newcomer Students



School Tips for Welcoming Newcomer Students

- Model respect
- Engage in personal reflection on your biases that may reinforce stereotypes
- Select classroom resources that are culturally relevant
- Provide opportunities for students to share their own cultural traditions and beliefs
- Use teaching strategies that consider culture

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- Invite parent participation and use community resources for classroom activities
- Impart a worldview that promotes a positive, self-sufficient future for everyone
- Encourage cross-grade mentoring between mainstream and newcomer students in schools and community
- Support cultural and community connections
- Promote a sense of belonging
- Understand the importance of promoting equity, not equality

School Tips for Welcoming Newcomer Students

- Hire teachers from diverse backgrounds
- Conduct staff training in cultural awareness and cultural competency
- Support policies to secure adequate funding
- Assess and monitor academic progress
- Educate school counsellor and librarian on community resources and services available for new families

Factors to Consider when Newcomer Students and their Family Arrive

- The country of origin's history/political situation
- Exposure to prior formal schooling
- Parents' educational background
- Parents' knowledge of English
- Proficiency in English
- Inappropriate placements
- Lack of familiarity with the school's routines and culture
- Experiences with Canadian teaching and learning styles
- Classroom behavioural expectations
- The impact of leaving home