



## Droichead - Positive Behaviour Management – Post-primary

### The ‘Least to Most Intrusive’ Principle

#### At a Glance

Dr Bill Rogers developed the ‘least to most intrusive’ principle for behaviour management. The approach aims to correct behaviour without disrupting the lesson flow.

#### A Bit More Information

Least intrusive strategies can **remind, direct and question** students.

Examples include:

- tactical ignoring
- non-verbal cues
- directed choices
- diversion

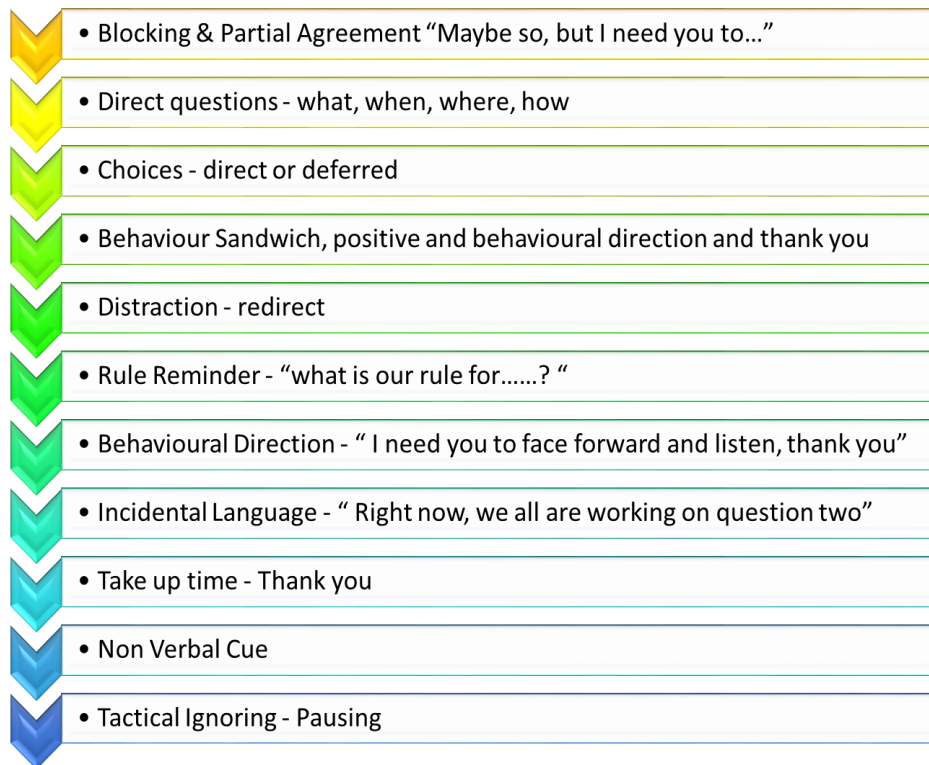
The second stage of the continuum involves **redirection**. The teacher repeats expectations and refocuses the students. The teacher provides ‘take up time’ for the students and does not engage in a discussion or debate with students. ‘Take up time’ is the time given to students to allow them to complete tasks. It is important to allow students time to process instructions. Sometimes teachers expect students to respond to instructions immediately, but this may be impossible for some students. Sometimes it is necessary to walk away having given an instruction and leave students to get on with things.

The continuum then moves towards being more intrusive through **clarifying immediate or deferred consequences**. An example of deferred consequences “If you choose not to put your phone in your bag, you will be choosing to see your Year Head after the class, that is the school rule, thanks.”

The final step is to **follow through** with immediate or deferred consequences for a student’s misbehaviour. When moving through the continuum, it may be necessary to provide a student with cool-off time, and to ignore secondary behaviours such as eye rolling etc.



After students have corrected their behaviour, it is vital to **re-establish a working relationship with the student** and maintain a positive learning environment. The image below lists the least intrusive (Tactical Ignoring) to the most intrusive (Blocking & Partial Agreement) strategies.



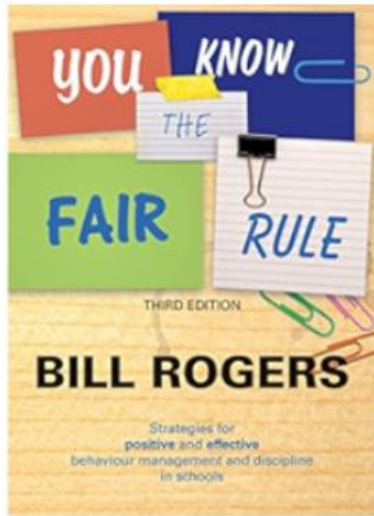
**Figure 1:** Low Level Behaviour Management Skilling: Evidence based behaviour management skills. (Dr. Bill Rogers)





## Further Information

### Books



You Know the Fair Rule: Strategies for Positive Effective Behaviour Management and Discipline in Schools by Bill Rogers

### Websites

<https://www.tes.com/magazine/archive/watch-bill-rogers-behaviour-management>

