

# Managing Time for Restorative Practices: Making it Work in a Busy Day

Streamline your day by integrating restorative practices naturally into your routine, balancing academic goals with relationship-building.

## What Does Managing Time for Restorative Practices Mean?

Managing time for restorative practices involves seamlessly embedding relationship-building and conflict-resolution strategies into daily routines to balance academic goals with social-emotional needs. By prioritizing high-impact practices like morning meetings, affective statements, or collaborative circles, teachers can address conflicts proactively and reduce classroom disruptions. These strategies save time, foster a culture of trust, and ensure that restorative practices become a sustainable part of teaching without overwhelming schedules. Effective time management transforms restorative practices into a natural, efficient, and impactful aspect of daily classroom life.

## Why Use It?

**Prevents Escalation:** Addresses conflicts proactively, saving time and reducing stress.

**Seamless Integration:** Embeds relationship-building into existing routines.

**Balances Academics & Relationships:** Ensures instructional goals and social-emotional needs are met.

**Fosters Calmer Culture:** Minimizes disruptions to maximize teaching time.

**Sustainable Approach:** Maintains restorative practices without overwhelming your schedule.



## The Research Says:

- » **Classroom Management Effect Size 0.52 (Hattie, 2009):** Integrating proactive strategies into routines minimizes disruptions and saves instructional time.
- » **CASEL, 2013:** Embedding SEL practices like restorative strategies increases instructional time by reducing conflict and promoting student self-regulation.

# Steps for Managing Time Effectively

## 1. Start Small:

- » Introduce one strategy, such as daily check-ins or affective statements, to build relationships.
- » Gradually expand as these practices become second nature.

## 2. Embed into Existing Routines:

- » Use circles to reflect on classroom dynamics or discuss academic topics.
- » Address minor conflicts during transitions, entry/exit routines, or independent work time.

## 3. Plan for Key Moments:

- » Begin or end the day with relationship-building activities like Morning Meetings.
- » Dedicate moments for community circles after challenging days or events.

## 4. Leverage Group Activities:

- » Incorporate collaborative projects that promote teamwork and reinforce restorative values.
- » Schedule weekly circles to build community and strengthen classroom bonds.

## 5. Focus on High-Impact Practices:

- » Prioritize strategies that maximize both academic engagement and social-emotional support.

## Signs of Effective Time Management for Restorative Practices

- » Restorative practices are naturally integrated into your schedule, reducing the need for extra planning.
- » Students participate actively, with minimal prompting, in restorative activities.
- » Behavioral disruptions decrease, leading to more instructional time.
- » Teachers feel confident balancing academic and relational goals.

## Questions for Reflection

- » What restorative strategies can naturally fit into your current routines?
- » How can proactive practices reduce time spent on reactive disciplinary measures?
- » What tools or support might help you embed these practices more efficiently?