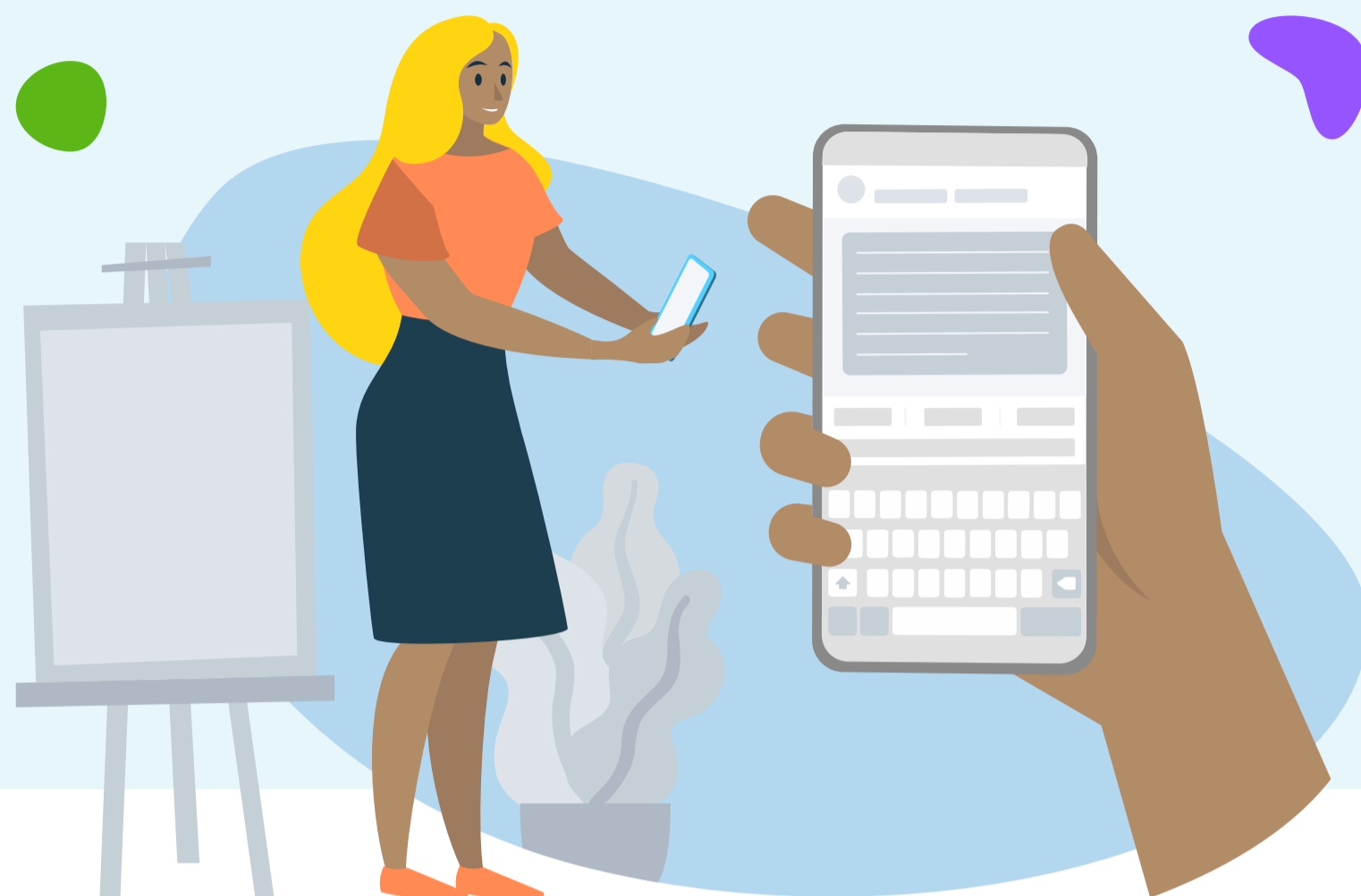


Tips for building strong relationships with teachers

Meaningful connections with your child's teacher are built on understanding expectations, trust, respect and collaboration. TalkingPoints has put together a list of suggested steps you can take to create and maintain those relationships throughout the school year.



Make it Personal

Every family is unique just as every child is unique. Help your child's teacher get to know you by sharing about your child's specific needs. It also helps to share family needs or priorities that might be useful for the teacher to know, such as planned school absences. The more comfortable you and your child's teacher feel with one another, the better you'll be able to work together to help your child succeed.

TP Tip

Send a message through TalkingPoints to your child's teacher introducing yourself and your family. Let them know how they can best communicate with you, and how you might be able to support with class events or activities. Remember to share anything that might be helpful for them to know about your child's specific needs.



Establish Expectations

You may have certain expectations for what kind of academic and social experience you want your child to have this year. Their teacher will also have plans and expectations for your child. Be up front about your expectations and ask the teacher to share theirs. Work with the teacher to align those expectations, so that you can become a team with a common goal of doing what's best for your child.

TP Tip

To let your child's teacher know what you expect, and to find out what they expect from you, start a conversation through TalkingPoints. Send a message asking about what the school year holds and how you can be involved.



Maintain Communication

Many parents wait to hear from teachers rather than initiating and maintaining communication themselves. But effective communication goes both ways! Take charge of your child's education by keeping conversations going.

TP Tip

Use TalkingPoints to send direct messages to your child's teacher. Ask questions, answer questions, and give feedback. You are and should be an active member of your child's educational experience.



Trust Intentions

Every teacher wants their students to succeed. Every parent wants their child to succeed. These facts should be the foundation of each relationship you build with your child's teacher.

If challenges arise, remind yourself of these common intentions. Keep them in mind when you message with teachers and communicate about difficult news.

TP Tip

Use your voice to ask for clarification, express concern, and share your insight. TalkingPoints is a great tool for you to use when communicating with your child's teacher.



Ask for Help

Sometimes you won't have the answers—and sometimes you will need help. That's why teachers are there! When you need help with anything related to your child's education, don't hesitate to ask. A positive teacher-parent relationship is built on open and helpful communication.

TP Tip

Send a message through TalkingPoints asking for help with homework, behavior, development, or anything else that your child's teacher might be able to answer. You are part of a team working towards your child's success and growth.

