

Sample Discipline Progression

1st offense: Student is given a warning object.

This can be a pre-printed “notice of warning.” It can be a warning wristband. A warning rock. It can be anything tangible to let the student know that his/her behavior has been noted and further disciplinary action will occur if the behavior is not corrected. This is suggested because, generally teachers say the first offense is a verbal warning or the “evil eye.” These can be misunderstood, but a physical object placed on the student’s desk serves as a physical acknowledgement of misbehavior.

2nd offense: Student is spoken with separately, such as just outside the classroom door, about his/her behavior.

Students tend to be rather sensitive about being reprimanded in front of their peers. Rather than diffuse the situation, they react to the situation to show their peers that they are in control and not the teacher. Depending upon the sociodemographics of the class, this can cause laughter, verbal outbursts, and a greater loss of control on the part of the teacher.

3rd offense: Student must do something to make amends for his/her misbehavior.

The options here are many:

- Student is relocated to a new seat, away from friends.
- The student must write a copy of the classroom rules.
- Stay after class to clean desktops.
- Student must assist the custodians after lunch.
- Student receives lunch detention, at which time he/she must write an apology to the teacher.
- Student must call his/her parent, in the teacher’s presence, to explain his/her misbehavior.

4th offense: At this point, depending on your school’s policies, the student might receive an office referral. If not, below are a few additional options for teacher consequences.

- Teacher emails or calls the student’s parent.
- Student must report to the teacher for after school detention.
- Student must complete a behavior modification report. This could be a Google form that he/she must complete online. The teacher could give have a shortened URL posted for students to quickly find the form.

1. What is the problem? Begin your sentence with “I.”
2. What could have been differently to have prevented this situation from reaching this point? Begin with “I.”
3. What could your teacher have done differently that would have produced a different result?
4. What will you do next time this occurs. Begin with “I.”

A slightly different set of questions, from www.ahaprocess.com is below.

1. What did you do?
2. Why did you do that?
3. List four other things you could have done.
4. What will you do next time?