



Social connection



Social connection is the interpersonal and interdependent closeness between people that results in a sense of belonging. It is a precondition for learning and wellbeing, increases longevity, strengthens the immune system, and impacts what students can learn, retain, and apply.

A socially connected student:



How to cultivate social connection

Clearly communicate and routinely uphold school-wide anti-discrimination policies

Develop a curriculum that represents an array of perspectives and cultures

Create opportunities for service learning, combining academic learning with social responsibility

Develop advisory groups that pair students with a teacher throughout high school

Give students the opportunity to act as mentors

Build trusting relationships by adopting the 'compassionate disciplinarian' approach

Take time to cue into students' moods, worries and frustrations

Teach conflict management

Explicitly teach perspective-taking