# Safe Haven

## **5** Practising positive communication

Use respectful, inclusive language, maintain an equal and friendly tone, and encourage open self-expression.

#### Being responsive

Greet students warmly, check in on their wellbeing, be alert to signs of distress, respond with empathy, and offer appropriate support.



#### **Promoting** prosocial values

Model and encourage kindness, helpfulness, respect, and acceptance among students.

Fostering personal connection

Get to know each student individually, including through non-academic interactions.

### Facilitating a secure space for socioemotional learning

Provide time for students to express emotions, practice interpersonal skills, and resolve conflicts through mutual understanding.

**Safe Teaching** is based on the development of positive teacher-student relationships in which the teacher acts as a secure attachment-like figure for students: a **Safe Haven**, a caring adult whom students can turn to for emotional regulation and connection, and a Secure Base, a trusted figure who encourages, supports, and empowers them to explore and learn new things.



