EVERY TEACHER IS A COUNSELOR ALSO

"One person can make a difference and everyone should try"-John F. Kennedy

The concept of Counselling in the field of Education is not new as the same is in practice since time immemorial. The teacher in the literary sense by way of the narrow approach is supposed to teach contents of the course curriculum but in the larger context it is his/her bounded duty of the teacher to shape his /her students as a complete person for his /her holistic development. Therefore, the teacher is not only able to teach the subject but is also expected to guide and counsel the students too.

A teacher who is in constant touch with the students can also initiate conversations and encourage students to open up. The guidance minded teacher is the one who knows the most about the child. He/she sees the child in many differing situations in and out of the classroom. He/she notices the frustrating, boring and the stimulating situations of a child.



Some qualities that encourage students to talk to a teacher are:

- **<u>Objectivity in approach</u>**: A teacher views the student in an objective manner and without any personal bias, based on academic records or personality.
- <u>Active listening skills:</u> The teacher shows genuine interest in what the student is telling them. They practice self-control, show patience and supportive body language by nodding their head and responding to the student's cues.
- **Empathetic and exploratory:** A teacher is empathetic as it helps her to understand the issue from the student's perspective.
- <u>Creating a harmonious environment</u> and sound classroom environment for the student and builds a positive attitude among the students.

So, the teacher cum counselor must believe in the potential power of his pupil, and he/she must employ all his/her art in seeking to bring out the best in his/her pupil.

Thus, gain the student's Trust and build a Rapport with him /her.

Priya Kapoor [Primary Teacher] Ahlcon International School.