Eavesdropping on experts

**Tips for starting a new school term or year Tip 2**

[Music]

Chris, I CAN Network

My second tip would be in your first class especially, with students on the autism spectrum, I would run what I like to call an interest circle and the idea of an interest circle is just gathering your group of students in the class together and just everyone having an opportunity to share well, my name is X my interest, is this so it could be minecraft, it could be x-men it could be Yougio, whatever, it might be when did they get interested in it, why are they so interested in it and have everyone in the class share that. Not a bad use of that first class and I think in terms of sharing the WHY - why are you doing it, it just gives you as the teacher an opportunity to hear what they're naturally motivated by and how you could weave that motivation into the way you deliver instructions for your subject.

Michelle, Autism Coach

My second top tip would be sharing lots of information with as many relevant people as possible, so we might use documentation from a previous site or the previous year, that might be an individual learner profile but just ensuring that everyone in the new environment knows as much as possible about that individual student and also that the student and family members also know as much about that new environment as possible.

Kylie, Deputy Principal

Definitely make as many trips past the school and familiarize yourself and your child as much as possible with the setting if you can have the opportunity to go in and meet some of the staff beforehand, take lots of photos and just get a general feel of the geography of the school. A map would be really, really helpful as well, particularly for helping your young person be able to navigate the geography of the school.

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