

Minimising exclusions

Andy & Miss Wilkinson: transcript

Miss Wilkinson:	Well, it all started on Monday morning...
Andy:	Monday was a complete nightmare
Miss Wilkinson:	To be honest I was already exhausted. We knew an OFSTED visit was imminent, so I'd had loads of prepping work to do over the weekend.
Andy:	I was tired, even for me! I'd been gaming all weekend solid – and I mean, day and night – but I was just buzzing after smashing everyone online at Cosmos Clash 2.
Miss Wilkinson:	I was certainly a bit worried about the inspection, but, if anything, I was more worried about my car! It had failed its MOT and there was a long list of things that needed paying for, before I was allowed back on the road.
Andy:	I overslept again so skipped breakfast, but I still arrived late at school...
Miss Wilkinson:	My mind really was elsewhere... until Andy sauntered into class late and brought me down to earth with a thud!
Andy:	I got stick from Miss Wilkinson for being late....and for my interpretation of school uniform! I just rolled my eyes – that always winds her up!
Miss Wilkinson:	I know I didn't start the class in the best mood, but when he said he hadn't done his homework it really got to me. That's the fifth time it's happened this term.
Andy:	It was definitely a struggle to concentrate, but I can do without being nagged by my teacher about doing my homework....so I just told her to fuck off.
Miss Wilkinson:	Now, I've always tried hard to reach out to Andy and be understanding, but he's just so angry and disruptive all the time! I reminded him politely that he was here to learn... at which point he told me to eff off.
Andy:	I got the usual nag about respect and manners, so I just pretended to fall asleep at my desk.
Miss Wilkinson:	Well, that was it! I don't come to work to be verbally abused, and this disruption clearly affects the other children in the class. I walked to Andy's desk, knocked on it and called out to get his attention.
Andy:	I was so tired; I probably would have fallen asleep if she hadn't banged my desk and shouted at me!
Miss Wilkinson:	Just as I started turning to walk back to my desk, Andy leapt up, began shouting and swearing at me, and started kicking his desk.

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Andy:	I don't like being shouted at; it happens all the time at home. I can't help getting angry, so I stood up, kicked the desk... and might have sworn, just a bit!
Miss Wilkinson:	I was shocked that Andy had reacted in such an aggressive way. Then, when he started to run towards the front of the classroom, I assumed that he was going to take his anger out on me too! I tried to move out of his way, but he barged passed me, knocking me to the floor.
Andy:	I just had to get out of there. I didn't mean to, but I bumped into Miss on the way out and she fell.
Miss Wilkinson:	He didn't even stop to apologise; he just ran into the corridor. Fortunately, two of my colleagues overheard the commotion and stopped Andy from leaving the premises.
Andy:	I was on my way out when two other teachers came and, marched me down the corridor and stuck me in a room on my own. For an hour! Being boxed in was really not what I needed to calm down - I must've spent most of that hour shouting and banging on the door.
Miss Wilkinson:	At that point, I was thankful that the situation had been contained, and that Andy hadn't hurt himself or anyone else. I quickly gathered my composure and made sure that the rest of the class were okay, before continuing the lesson.
Andy:	It was a weird feeling really, it all happened so fast. I know that sometimes I can't control my emotions, I just get angry and lash out...