Top 10 non-negotiables of successful lessons

*Plan to use the following strategies in your classroom daily.*

(Adapted from Cochrane Collegiate.)

**Every successful lesson will have:**

1. **a clear learning intention**

**What is the intended goal of the lesson? What do you expect your students to know, understand or do (skill) by the end of the lesson? Most importantly, why are they learning it?**

1. **a connection to the previous lesson**

**Provide time to recap the previous lesson and explain how this lesson builds off what they have learnt previously. Help students make the connection with what they already know and can do.**

1. **a hook to engage students’ curiosity and interest**

**What is something that ignites the interest of each student and makes a connection to their world or prior knowledge?**

1. **collaborative activities (at least one)**

**Step aside and let students collaborate in order to learn. Collaborative activities allow students to discuss, create, synthesise and test ideas with their peers.**

1. **movement during the lesson**

**Many students need to be physically moving to be actively engaged, particularly boys.**

1. **relevant vocabulary and terminology identified and scaffolded**

**Does the lesson use new or technical language that students may be unfamiliar with? If so, ensure any new language is explicitly covered so that it is not a barrier to learning.**

1. **appropriate use of reo and tikanga**

**Māori students need to hear and see their culture and language as a natural part of the classroom every day.**

1. **higher order thinking**

**Use higher-order thinking questions and activities to keep students engaged and provide an appropriate level of challenge to their thinking.**

1. **a summary of the learning**

**Use an exit question to summarise the learning and determine if the learning goal has been achieved. Students’ responses will tell you if the learning needs to be extended or refined.**

1. **a time for student reflection**

**Provide time for students to reflect on their learning, what worked, what they did well, what they want to do better. Use various activities to help students be specific.**