

Need and Importance of Non-Verbal Communication for Educator In Classroom Management

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Abstract

Communication in general way is the process of sending and receiving message that enables human to share knowledge, attitude and emotions. Although we identify communication with speech, but it is composed of two dimension: Verbal and Non-verbal. Non-verbal communication (NVC) has often been defined as communication without words and is particularly important with respect to teaching. Educator's Non-verbal communication has a vital role in classroom management. The objective of the present paper is to highlight the need and importance of Non-verbal communication for educator in Classroom Management.

Key Words: Non-Verbal Communication, Educator, Classroom Management.

Introduction:

Non-verbal communication is the process of communication through sending and receiving wordless cues between people. It involves the process of encoding and decoding. Encoding is the act of generating the information such as facial expressions, gestures and postures. Decoding is the interpretation of information from received sensation from previous experiences. Non-verbal communication of Educator's plays a very important and significant role in managing classroom. Classroom Management refers to the wide variety of skills and techniques that teachers use to keep students organized, orderly, focused, attentive, on task and academically productive during a class. For effective classroom management it is necessary to articulate our ideas, feelings, emotions and skills we communicate should not only with verbal methods but also with non-verbal methods as it is essential in teaching – learning process.

Concept of Non-Verbal Communication:

Communications that are not expressed verbally are called non-verbal communication. It has too many areas. Some of the major areas of NVC are:

1. **Gesture:** A gesture is a movement of the head, hand, body, etc. to express an idea, feelings, emotions, etc. Gestures were probably one of the first meanings of communication even before oral communication came to existence.
2. **Posture:** It includes position of the body, for e.g. the way we walk, talk, stand and sit.

3. **Paralanguage:** This facet of non-verbal communication includes such vocal elements as; tone, pitch rhythm, loudness, etc.
4. **Chronemics:** It includes use of time, waiting and pausing.
5. **Eye-contact:** It is an important channel of inter personal communication, helps to regulate the flow of communication. It can convey interest, concern, warmth and credibility.
6. **Haptics:** Haptics (touch) is the easiest and one of the earliest forms of human communication. Stroking, hitting, patting, shaking hands, etc. are some of the types of haptics.
7. **Kinesics:** It is the behaviour related to movement either of any part of the body, or the body as a whole, example blushes, shrugs, foot tapping, drumming fingers, etc.
8. **Artifacts:** They represent objective language, includes decoration, covering personal decoration of physical bodies with clothing, jewellery and cosmetics.

Principles of Non-Verbal Communication:

You are always communicating-

Professor Albert Mehrabian, a pioneer since the 60's in communication research determined during a communication project for the University of California that there are 3 factors that influence the effect a conversation has. These are:
7%-Verbal-The words which spoken
38%-Vocal-How these words sound, and
55%-Visual-How you look when you say these words. That comes 7% verbal and 93% nonverbal.

Need and Importance of NVC in Class Room Management:

Classroom management is an important aspect of successful teaching and it is the process of ensuring that classroom lessons run smoothly despite disruptive behaviour by students. Educator can effectively manage classroom by involving clear non-verbal communication and by creating cooperative learning environment. Following are the need and importance of non-verbal communication over Verbal Communication.

1. Words tend to have limitations and in some situations people need a stronger medium of communication, such as when explaining shapes or giving directions. In these cases Non-verbal behaviour plays a significant role.
2. Non-verbal cues are usually more powerful than words. In situations when a person wants to communicate extreme feelings such as disgust or even an insult, a gesture would be much more expressive.
3. Verbal language can be manipulated by the speaker to deceive the interlocutor; conversely, nonverbal language is difficult to manipulate. Nonverbal signs are thus, more genuine than words.
4. Body language tends to be more spontaneous than words. A child normally communicates with his mother through cries, eye-contact and touch.
5. For the disadvantaged group, non-verbal messages are more significant to pupils than teacher verbalizations when they attempt to

ascertain the teacher true feelings and attitudes toward them.

6. NVC regulates the flow of communication.
7. NVC helps in defining and reinforcing the relationship between people.

On the basis of above point we can say that we are all human and non-verbal communication is an important part of human interaction. Our body language produces 'emotional leakage' and allows other people to "read" us. As a teacher we need to be aware of how we can have more control over these non-verbal cues, and on the other side of the coin, how we can use non-verbal cues to reinforce our words and intentions in the classroom.

Conclusion:

Nonverbal Communication (NVC) serves many purposes in the communication and its importance cannot be underestimated. Teachers wanting to communicate effectively with their students will need to pay attention to their body language, eye contact, gestures, facial expressions, presentations, etc. with the role of teacher becoming more challenging; awareness of the impact of these elements is an important step toward success as an educator. Therefore, while realizing the importance of NVC, some special activities, training, seminar should be organised to improve the NVC skills of educator for making teaching learning effective. Teacher who can systematically utilize the full range of NVC skills are able to reinforce consistent and fair parameters while preserving their relationship with each student, regardless of unique learning styles or cultural background.

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