



# Positive Norms to Encourage in Maths Class By Jo Boaler

## 1. Everyone Can Learn Maths to the Highest Levels.

Encourage students to believe in themselves. There is no such thing as a "maths" person. Everyone can reach the highest levels they want to, with hard work.

#### 2. Mistakes are Valuable

Mistakes grow your brain! It is good to struggle and make mistakes.

#### 3. Questions are Really Important

Always ask questions, always answer questions. Ask yourself: why does that make sense?

#### 4. Maths is about Creativity and Making Sense

Maths is a very creative subject that is, at its core, about visualizing patterns and creating solution paths that others can see, discuss and critique.

#### 5. Maths is about Connections and Communicating

Maths is a connected subject, and a form of communication. Represent maths in different forms eg words, a picture, a graph, an equation, and link them. Color code!

#### 6. Depth is much more Important than Speed

Top mathematicians, such as Laurent Schwartz, think slowly and deeply.

### 7. Maths Class is about Learning not Performing

Maths is a growth subject, it takes time to learn and it is all about effort.

