

# Professional behaviour: are these the non-negotiables for teaching?

**(S) Social engagement** – show the courtesy of spending time with and getting to know your department; they will be the ones who help you navigate the highs and lows of the job

**(T) Take an interest** in the meetings, discussions and professional direction of the teaching and learning in your department and your school. Don't get a reputation for leaving when the bell goes or doing 'the minimum'. You are on placement **to learn** – every chat and meeting is a form of training in itself

**(O) Organise** your social media – spend time applying the right settings to optimise privacy and consider a pseudonym (ie. your middle name) so students cannot search for you. Putting your name into Google will show you how easily curious students and parents can access personal details about you.

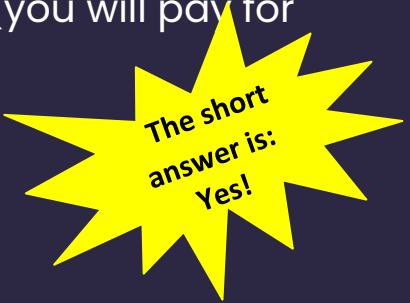
**(P) Polite and present:** be polite and present in interactions with staff and students

**(P) Punctuality:** if you are not on time, your pupils will not value punctuality or your lesson time

**(E) Establish boundaries:** establishing and reinforcing clear boundaries takes time and energy, but is essential.

Remember your position and do not allow lines to be blurred and your professional demeanour to slip (you will pay for it in lower standards of behaviour and effort if you do)

**(D) Dress:** clean, neat, smartly presented (remember: how you dress is a visual reflection of who you are and the type of teacher you want to be)



The short  
answer is:  
Yes!