If a learner is talking or playing in class:

1. Stand near that learner to let him or her know that you are aware of his or her behavior.

2. Look at the learner with a serious facial expression.

3. Tap the learner on the shoulder.

4. Say the learner’s name in a natural way and get their attention. For example, “as you can see John, River Nile is the longest river in the world”.

5. Ask the learner if he or she has something to share with the class.

6. Separate the learner from the learner he or she is making noise with.

7. Give the learner a simple activity, such as handing out text books.
TIPS ON HOW TO PREVENT MISBEHAVIOR IN THE CLASSROOM

There are many easy, simple things that teachers can do to build relationships with the learners in their class. These include:

✶ Smiling and using a friendly voice.
✶ Calling them by their names.
✶ Making an effort to talk to each learner and showing interest in them.
✶ Asking them about their hobbies and interests.
✶ Finding out about their lives.
✶ Making time for them if they have problems.
✶ Asking how they are if they have been sick.
✶ Making it clear that you care about them.
✶ Being sincere in the way you talk to them.
TIPS ON HOW TO PREVENT MISBEHAVIOR IN THE CLASSROOM

The best way to deal with undesirable behavior is to prevent it from happening in the first place. Teachers can do the following to maintain control in the classroom:

TIP 1:

✓ Clearly communicate expectations.
✓ Learners should know exactly what is expected of them, and exactly what kind of behavior is and is not permitted.

TIP 2:

✓ Make lessons interesting.
✓ Develop activities that keep learners interested and busy.

TIP 3:

✓ Always keep learners occupied constructively.
✓ Have some additional activities planned in case you or learners finish classwork quicker than expected.
✓ Keep time between tasks or lessons as short as possible.

TIP 4:

✓ Keep lessons flowing: Deal with disruptions immediately and with as little interruption as possible.

TIP 5:

✓ Start teaching your class each day with the expectation that learners will behave.
✓ Do not hold a grudge or assume that a particular learner will misbehave.
TIPS ON HOW TO IMPLEMENT POSITIVE DISCIPLINE IN THE CLASSROOM

1. Focus on the positives.
   ✓ Build learner’s self-confidence by recognizing and supporting good behavior. It will encourage them to repeat the good behaviour.

2. Set a good example.
   ✓ Learners learn by observing the adults around them.
   ✓ Model the good behavior that is expected from learners such as kindness, patience and tolerance. They’ll copy it.

3. Listen before judging.
   ✓ Ask questions to find out why learners misbehave.
   ✓ Listen to learners’ explanations.

4. Be consistent.
   ✓ Be fair and consistent and avoid showing any favoritism.
   ✓ Apply the same rules to all learners.
   ✓ If an exception is made, discuss this with the learners and explain your reasons.

5. Separate the behavior from the learner.
   ✓ If a learner breaks a window while playing, don’t let your anger cloud your judgement. Remember that he has made a mistake, but that doesn’t make him a bad person.
   ✓ Look for the learner’s ability, strength, talent or gift and build on it.

6. Use the Countdown Technique.
   ✓ Tell learners you are going to count down from 10 and that you want them to be quiet by the time you reach 1.

7. Reward Groups.
   ✓ Group rewards encourage class members to work together.
   ✓ Give rewards when the entire class behaves well.