

Supporting Academic Success: Strategies for Working with Others

Whether you formally hold a leadership or mentoring role, or simply want to be a helpful friend, here is a conversation design that can help you support someone's academic success. While the design seems linear, the ability to be flexible and let the conversation go where the speaker takes it is key.

1. Inquire (ask questions to help students focus their thoughts and commitments), *listen carefully*, and restate to ensure you understand the issues and intentions
2. Explore possibilities (help them think about what they might try before making suggestions)
3. Offer resources (you don't have to have all the answers, but it helps to know where to refer)
4. Build a Plan (help them think through their next steps and ways to move forward)
5. Follow-up (help students reach their goals by checking in with follow-up inquiry)

