



University of Sussex

Sussex Centre for Language Studies

‘Being fair and showing care’:
the moral discourse of an English language teacher

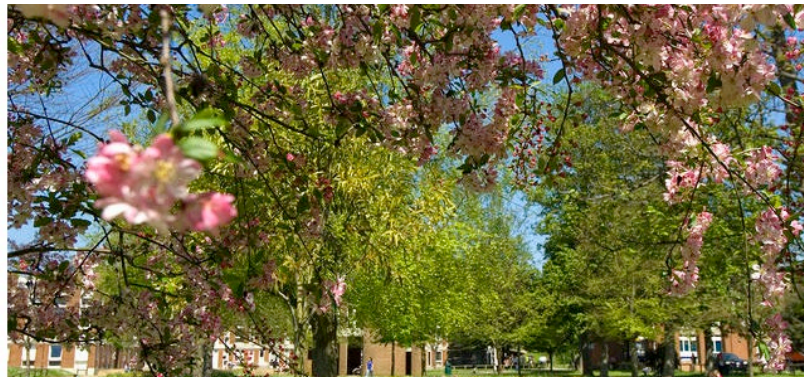
Simon Williams

Aim

- To define moral discourse in the EAP classroom
- To suggest that EAP teachers routinely negotiate conflicting moral imperatives
- To claim that EAP teachers achieve renewed social integration

Outline

- Survey of moral activity in the classroom
- Research questions
- Data analysis, findings and implications



Task

- Turn to a stranger
- Share your worst teaching moment in the classroom – what happened? How did you resolve the situation? What could you have done differently?

Shelf mark LP 40000

- the neglected stack?

Morality in English language classroom discourse

- not values education
- not teacher education

UK Professional Standards for the Award of Qualified Teacher Status

Scotland	Northern Ireland	Wales	England
Moral and religious values	Moral purpose and responsibility	Professional values and practice	Positive values, attitudes and behaviour

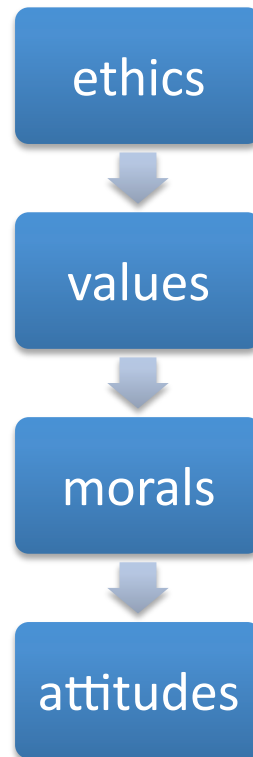
Effective Learning and Teaching in UK Higher Education, n.d.

Aristotelian moral virtues

bravery **friendliness** generosity honour
justice magnanimity magnificence
mildness temperance truthfulness wit
(Aristotle, trans. 1985)

Fallona (2000) analysis of manner in 3 middle school teachers

The teacher-student relation





Teachers' expression of moral values

- forms of address to learners and each other
- dress
- language
- choice of curricular content
- the learners they pay attention to
- manner of standing while talking with learners

(Pantic and Wubbels 2012: 451)

The teacher-student relation

justice



JANUS.

care

being fair vs being caring

‘at the core of teacher-student relations ... is a potential tension between two different moral orientations that are bound up with a teacher’s effort to treat students well’ (Katz 1999: 61)

Classroom interaction

comprises the moral and the ethical via activity and exchanges (Campbell 2003: 27)

EAP teaching is characterised by a plethora of both

Habermas: process of modernity

- the system, parasitic on
- the life world