

BUILDING COLLEGIAL RELATIONSHIPS: A GUIDE FOR WORKING LEARNERS

As a working learner, you're not just here to clock in and out—you're part of a dynamic team. Building strong relationships with your colleagues and supervisors is crucial not only for your current role but also for your future career success. Here's why:

1 Learning and Development

- Positive relationships foster a supportive environment where you can learn from others' experiences and expertise.
- Colleagues and supervisors can provide valuable feedback and mentorship to help you grow in your role and beyond.

2 Job Satisfaction

- Building rapport with your team enhances your overall job satisfaction and happiness at work.
- A supportive work environment can alleviate stress and increase motivation, leading to higher productivity.

3 Career Advancement

- Strong relationships can open doors to new opportunities within your organization.
- Supervisors are more likely to consider you for promotions or special projects if they trust and value your work.

TIPS FOR BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

- 1. Be Genuine:** Show real interest in others and their experiences. Engage with your coworkers sincerely about their interests or strengths. When you ask questions or give compliments, make sure they are heartfelt and genuine and not just for the sake of politeness.
- 2. Communicate Effectively:** Share your thoughts and questions clearly and respectfully. Make sure to ask for clarification when needed and actively listen to others. Good communication helps prevent misunderstandings and ensures everyone is on the same page.
- 3. Show Appreciation:** Acknowledge and thank your coworkers for their help and contributions. Let them know specifically what they did that you appreciate and how it positively impacted the team or project. This helps build a positive work environment.
- 4. Seek Feedback:** Ask for advice and constructive criticism to improve your skills and performance. Showing that you value others opinions and are open to learning helps you grow and builds stronger working relationships.
- 5. Be a Team Player:** Offer to help your colleagues be proactive in supporting the team's goals. Being cooperative and willing to assist others demonstrates that you care about the team's success and fosters a collaborative atmosphere.

Remember: Building relationships takes time and effort, but the rewards are well worth it. Invest in cultivating positive connections with your colleagues and supervisors—it's an investment in your present and future success.