

## **\*\*\*Top Ten Practicum Tips\*\*\***

Teacher Candidates in the Faculty of Education are expected to demonstrate that they are fully aware of, and are meeting, The Standards of Practice for the Teaching Profession and the Ethical Standards for the Teaching Profession as established by the Ontario College of Teachers.

<http://www.oct.ca/public/professional-standards/standards-of-practice>

As a York University Teacher Candidate and an Associate member of the Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF), you are expected to engage with community organizations, students and staff in a professional manner that is reflected in your actions, dress, speech, communication and personal conduct.

Remember that the community members in your community placement and students in your placement school will be looking at you as a teacher, who will model a high standard of professional conduct, exemplify respectful and responsible citizenship, and demonstrate the value of learning.

### **TOP 10 FIELD EXPERIENCE PRACTICUM TIPS**

1. Be prompt, punctual and reliable, typically arriving in your placement 15 – 30 minutes prior to the expected time and remaining after to ensure the work of the day is complete.
2. Present yourself as a teaching professional. Dress, communicate and conduct yourself in an appropriate manner that adheres to placement expectations (dress code, cell phone usage, I.D. tags, food and scent restrictions, and the use of social media). Carefully read the OCT advisory on social media. <http://www.oct.ca/resources/advisories/use-of-electronic-communication-and-social-media>
3. Respect confidentiality AT ALL TIMES. Never reveal confidential information. Never discuss placement issues outside of a formal meeting called to address the issue.
4. Contribute meaningfully and demonstrate initiative, commitment and enthusiasm to the field experience program.
5. Maintain a complete journal that documents your learning and experiences.
6. Communicate effectively with your Community Contact leader regarding planning, absences and other relevant issues.
7. Remember that you are a guest in the community organization. Do not judge or criticize activities, policies or practices.
8. Ask questions when issues arise and engage in thoughtful problem solving if needed.
9. Be open to new ways of learning, communicating and engaging.
10. Enjoy the experience. A positive outlook and collaborative approach will benefit you and your host community.

Reference:

[http://www.oct.ca/Members/Member%20ENewsletter/~/\\_media/43C66F02D0FF4BE98A0A76301398E72B.ashx](http://www.oct.ca/Members/Member%20ENewsletter/~/_media/43C66F02D0FF4BE98A0A76301398E72B.ashx)