



The PLS Leadership Style Model

An overview of adults' leadership styles in relationships with children and a practical guide to the Authoritative Leadership Style.

Authoritative Leadership Style in relationships with children
Family - Kindergarten - School - Culture

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High
Leadership, boundaries, rules and expectations

Structure

Read more and download your copy at www.familab.no/en/



Unclear leadership, rules and expectations.

Low

Authoritarian

Coercion
Punishment

"You must listen to me, I don't need to listen to you"

Dominance values
Strength, power, winning
Dominance hierarchy

Controlling
Lots of rules, for you

Task focus
Expectations without support

Can't tolerate other people's opinions
Rigid, inflexible

Physical/verbal aggression

Aggressive categorization and labeling

Neglectful

Absent
Confusion
Chaos

Survival
"No one talks to or listens to each other"

Distanced
Low emotional support and warmth
Passive

Busy

Uninterested

Indifferent

Uninvolved
Few/no expectations and boundaries

Authoritative

Adults' perspective, plan and needs
Well considered, fair, mutual, consistent expectations, rules, decisions, structure and system

Value-based assessments
Engagement
I-language

Practical and natural consequences

Stability
To protect
Personal boundaries

Mutual skills learning
Positive limit setting
Role clarification

Reciprocity and cooperation
Participative decision making
Safe error correction

Safe error correction

Task and relationship focus
Reflection

Reasonable adaptations and adjustments
Flexibility
Explanations

Kindness
Softness

Caring
Warmth and closeness

Perspective taking communication
Listen and understand

Repair
Fun and humor

Play and exploration

Flexible, fair, situation-based decisions and leadership
Autonomy support

The child's perspective, needs and initiative

Permissive

Avoidant
Avoid confrontation
Can't tolerate disagreement and discomfort

Overly adaptive
Relationship focus
Reverse hierarchy

Warmth and closeness
Caring values

"I'm very happy to listen to you, it's not that important with me"

Few rules and boundaries
Low expectations

Overprotective

Coldness, low support and responsiveness.
Low communication, understanding and coordination

Warmth

Support, responsiveness, perspective-taking, autonomy support. High communication, understanding and coordination

High

The Authoritative style is considered the best for children's development, relationships, mental health and learning motivation

Leadership styles based on Baumrind, Dreikurs, Lewin, Skinner etc.