

IntegratedEthics

Talk About Ethics

One of the ways to foster an ethical environment and culture is to make it clear that ethics is something that matters. A simple way to express this is to make it a point to do and say things that demonstrate you care about ethics.

Using the table below, challenge yourself to incorporate several of the phrases into your daily work. Jot down the date you used each phrase followed by a short description of the context, reactions, and the outcome of using the phrase. After completing the table, share the results with your colleagues by discussing it at lunch, or bringing it up at a meeting. You can start the discussion with questions like, “What phrases do you use to talk about ethics?” and “What has worked well for you?”

Phrase	Date(s)	Description
“I see ethics as a priority.”		
“If it’s the right thing to do, we’ll just have to figure out a way to do it.”		
“Here’s a story that illustrates how important ethics can be.”		
“We have an obligation to do the best we can for our patients.”		
“Everyone deserves to be treated with respect.”		
“How can we balance these competing values?”		
“If you have any ethical concerns about this I encourage you to speak up.”		