

Character Counts Program

Six Pillars of Character

These six core values form the foundation of the Character Counts initiative:

Trustworthiness

- Be honest
- Don't deceive, cheat, or steal
- Be reliable: Do what you say you will do
- Have the courage to do the right thing
- Build a good reputation
- Be loyal: Stand by your family, friends, and country

Respect

- Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule
- Be tolerant of differences
- Use good manners, not bad language
- Be considerate of the feelings of others
- Don't threaten, hit, or hurt anyone
- Deal peacefully with anger, insults, and disagreements

Responsibility

- Do what you are supposed to do
- Persevere: Keep on trying!
- Always do your best
- Use self-control
- Be self-disciplined
- Think before you act: Consider the consequences
- Be accountable for your choices

Fairness

- Play by the rules
- Take turns and share
- Be open-minded; listen to others
- Don't take advantage of others
- Don't blame others carelessly

Caring

- Be kind
- Be compassionate and show you care
- Express gratitude
- Forgive others
- Help people in need

Citizenship

- Do your share to make your school and community better
- Cooperate
- Get involved in community affairs
- Stay informed; vote
- Be a good neighbor
- Obey laws and rules
- Respect authority
- Protect the environment