

LEARNING AND SOCIAL EXPECTATIONS

We are a curious, confident, capable learners empowered to be compassionate world citizens.

At Orchard Avenue we believe children learning how to manage social and emotional expectations in life is equally, if not more important, than their academic learning. The importance for families and school staff to partner in supporting their child's social emotional learning is critical to their feeling of success both at school and in life.

We think about students learning social responsibility through a layered system or progression. This system is based on Don Hellison's work, *Teaching Personal and Social Responsibility*. Each of these traits will be modeled and reviewed at the start of each school year and reinforced throughout the year as a class and school community.

Your child's teacher develops a code of collaboration, or class promise, with all students in the classroom while incorporating our *school vision* (above). Please visit with your child's teacher to understand more about their classroom code of collaboration.

Each trait builds upon the next starting with the following.

Respect and Self-Control The motto for this trait is to be nice to others and our learning tools. Learners would be observed following instructions, listening to others, and making wise choices both socially and in the learning environment.

Effort and Cooperation The motto for this trait is for the learner to *try hard* and *try everything*. Learners would be observed giving their personal best and realizing it is ok to make mistakes. They are working well with others and making wise choices that help one another grow.

Self-Responsibility (including others and property) The motto for this trait is doing the right thing because "it's the right thing to do." Learners are observed being patient, focused, and following directions without additional prompts. They think positively about themselves and others as well as show behaviors listed in the first two levels without adult reminders.

Helping, Caring and Leading The motto for this trait is to first think of others and to help one another. They are mentoring their fellow classmates as well as successfully following the positive behavioral traits of one through three.

World Citizen This trait is the highest achievement. The motto for this trait is to be a positive, respectful community member in the school, home and community setting.

If a learner is having difficulty being a part of the community and instead is showing disrespectful behaviors or not having self-control, **students will be asked to reflect on their behavior through a *Refocus* process.**

Process of Reflection (refocus)

If a learner is needing more than an occasional reminder to follow the classroom code of collaboration, the teacher or other staff may ask your child to reflect on their behavior utilizing a *Refocus* sheet. These are for minor incidents. The intent is for a child to pause and reflect on their behavior with guidance from an adult. The ultimate goal is for each child to develop a plan for new strategies or habits that help them find greater success. If your learner brings home a *Refocus* sheet, please spend time reflecting with them and discussing their plan while sitting alongside your child.

Should a child's behavior be considered as a major behavior incident such as bullying, physical aggression, fighting, theft, threats, abusive language, harassment, vandalism, or repeated incidences a visit with the principal will be required.

Overall, communication is the most important component for us to team in making your child's time at Orchard Avenue the best possible learning experience. We appreciate your support and would ask that you visit with your child's classroom teacher should you have any questions.

TITLE VI, TITLE IX AND SECTION 504

It is the policy of School District 51 not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or disability in admission, access to, treatment of, or employment in its educational activities.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Children are allowed to bring their own playground equipment (**with the exception of hard bats and balls**) to play with on the playground. **All items brought from home should be clearly marked with the child's name.** The school cannot be responsible for items lost, damaged, or stolen. Safety is of prime concern and we reserve the right to exclude any items deemed unsafe or inappropriate.

