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Responsibility



SUPPORTIVE VALUES

Self Discipline • Reliability

DEFINITIONS

Taking care of your duties and answering for your actions.

Responsibility means being accountable or answerable to something within one's power. Thomas Lickona calls this the active side of morality. "It includes taking care of self and others, fulfilling our obligations, contributing to our communities, alleviating suffering, and building a better world." (Lickona)

Self-discipline is the disciplined training of one's self with some form of self-improvement in the mind. This is a trait used by athletes, artists and musicians and should be used by students in the same way. There is also an important underlying theme of self-control. For personal happiness and social harmony we need to act and speak appropriately.

Reliability means that we can be counted on to follow through on all our responsibilities; our word is trustworthy, we are dependable in achievement, accurate in our assessments and honest in all our dealings.

PURPOSE

Along with respect, responsibility is a core value under which fall several other themes. Lickona's broad definition is connected with other values we will consider later. The emphasis for this unit will centre on accountability and dependability. Since so many other values relate to respect and responsibility, success in making them understood depends on how well these first two are learned. The goal is to make respect and responsibility central character traits within the lives of all students.

LEARNING ABOUT _____ *Responsibility*

RESPONSIBILITY IN OTHER LANGUAGES

Chinese	<i>zé</i>	duty; responsibility; to lay charge upon; to upbraid; to ask from; to demand
	<i>ren</i>	an official position; an office; to employ; to put in office
French	<i>la responsabilité</i>	the ability to make a decision without the need to have the approval of a higher authority; the obligation one has to make up for a mistake, fulfil a duty or a commitment
German	<i>verantwortung</i>	to answer for, to account for, to defend, to vindicate; accept the reasons for being accountable
Hawaiian	<i>kuleana</i>	right, privilege, concern, responsibility
Japanese	<i>sekinin</i>	to condemn someone to carry a heavy task on that person's back seki – to press a person for payment, to condemn, to blame nin – to carry a heavy thing on one's back
Korean	<i>chaek im</i>	accountable for given task
Latin	<i>cura</i>	from Latin 're' (back) + 'spondere' (to pledge)
Spanish	<i>responsabilidad</i>	responsibility, liability, accountability
Tagalog	<i>katungkulan</i>	take care of one's tasks, duties, debts, and, especially, children