

Cobb County Character Education Program

The Cobb County Character Education program was formed to support parents' efforts in developing good character in their children. The schools, parents and communities identified a list of character words and definitions deemed important regardless of a person's political leanings, race, gender or religious convictions.

The purpose of the Character Education program is to integrate good character traits into the total school environment, as well as into the community. These words and definitions focus on the attitudes and personal qualities that build a foundation for success in life and work. These character traits are imbedded throughout the curriculum and are a daily focus of both students and school staff members.

In addition to the Character Education program that exists in every school in Cobb County, a positive leadership development class exists in each high school. These classes, called Principled Thinking, focus on development of positive student leadership skills. The purpose of the Principled Thinking class is to establish and promote character driven student leaders for the community and school. Ultimately, this will evolve into community service projects, as well as into deeper integration within the total school community.

Character Traits Calendar

* State Mandated

RESPECT

Showing regard for the worth of someone or something

Week 1	Self-respect*	Pride and belief in one's self and in achievement of one's potential.
Week 2	Respect for Others*	Concern for and motivation to act for the welfare of others.
Week 3	Respect for Authority	Respect for those individuals who are in positions of responsibility.
Week 4	Respect for Learning and Punctuality*	Appreciation for the importance of and effort involved in acquiring knowledge. Showing high regard for the worth of promptness.

INTEGRITY

Steadfast adherence to a strict code of moral, ethical or artistic values; to consistently be truthful, sincere, and fair. Keeping one's word.

Week 5	Honesty*	Truthfulness and sincerity; free from deception.
Week 6	Trustworthiness	Worthy of confidence; reliable; dependable.
Week 7	Self-control	The power to direct or regulate your actions and emotions.
Week 8	Justice / Fairness*	Correct, proper, and reasonable treatment of behavior and viewpoints of others.

RESPONSIBILITY

Taking care of one's self and others; to carry out a duty or task carefully and thoroughly

Week 9	Cheerfulness*/ Positive Attitude	Good humored, bright and pleasant. Realistic positive confidence of feeling toward one's self.
Week 10	Accountability	Being responsible for your decisions and actions; dependable.
Week 11	Honor	A sense of what is right, just and true; privilege.
Week 12	School Pride / Cleanliness*	Care and satisfaction in your school's environment, achievement and success.

CITIZENSHIP*

Respectful devotion or allegiance to one's country and/or school

Week 13	Democracy	Individual, responsible participation in decision making; government by the people.
Week 14	Patriotism*	Respectful devotion or love to one's country.
Week 15	Service* to Others	Useful, usable, and required duty to others.

COMPASSION*

Showing concern or sympathy for others

Week 16	Gratitude	A feeling of thankful appreciation for benefits received.
Week 17	Generosity	Unselfish willingness to give and share your time and talents in your community.
Week 18	Kindness*	Being gentle, willing to help, friendly, courteous, and considerate.

RESILIENCE

The capacity to successfully manage high levels of change

Week 19	Humility	Willingness to admit mistakes and take responsibility; not pretentious.
Week 20	Self-confidence / Empowerment	Realistic positive attitude about, and trust in one's self; sense of security, and self-assurance.
Week 21	Flexibility*/ Creativity	Adaptability and versatility; clever, imaginative, and inventive.
Week 22	Initiative / Effort	Proactive; thinking and taking action on your own; industry.
Week 23	Self-reliance	Relying on one's own abilities, efforts, or judgments.

TOLERANCE*

Consideration for the individual differences, views and beliefs of other people

Week 24	Acceptance	Recognition of the diversity of others, their opinions, practices, and culture.
Week 25	Forgiveness	Benefiting yourself and others by ceasing to feel resentment towards others.
Week 26	Cooperation*/ Sportsmanship*	Working together for a common purpose. The ability to take winning and losing without gloating or complaining.
Week 27	Courtesy / Civility*	Polite, civil, and courteous behavior towards others in words and action.

COMMITMENT

The obligation or pledge to carry out some action or to support some policy or person

Week 28	Dedication / Loyalty	Sense of commitment and duty.
Week 29	Respect for the Environment*	The conservation and care of your surroundings and planet earth.
Week 30	Motivation	The desire to move towards a goal.
Week 31	Leadership	The ability to take on every task with a sense of purpose and caring for those around them.

ACCOMPLISHMENT

Pride and appreciation for attaining one's goals

Week 32	Perseverance*	Working hard without giving up.
Week 33	Courage*	To meet a challenge without giving in to fear.
Week 34	Patience* / Moderation	The power to wait calmly without complaining; avoiding extremes.
Week 35	Wisdom	Good judgment; ability to make reasoned decisions; insight.
Week 36	Character	Reflect on your Understanding (Thinking), Caring About (Feeling), and Acting Upon (Behavior) in becoming a good example of positive character this year. A summary.