

LMC ESL HABITS OF MIND

Intelligent Behaviors and Thinking Dispositions for Success & Excellence

INNOVATE

Make and take time to imagine and be creative. Work to build fluency and eloquence of expression. Don't just recycle. **UPCYCLE!** Look for new ideas everywhere, and share everything. Desire and achieve originality. Fail UP! - "Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better." ~ Samuel Beckett

STRIVE FOR ACCURACY

Always do your best. Review, revise, and refine. Set high standards and achieve them. Look for ways to constantly improve and help others do the same. Take pride in your work. Check it, and then check it again, and again!

PERSIST

Remain focused. Look for ways to reach your goals when stuck and get unstuck. **DO NOT GIVE UP!!** Persevere with tasks through to completion. Know when you need help and ask for it. Keep going and going and going... **BELIEVE TO ACHIEVE!**

EMPATHIZE

Listen with authentic appreciation. Devote mental energy to another person's thoughts and feelings. **WANT to understand.** Put yourself in another's place, and make an honest effort to hear and relate. Listen and hear with your heart. Respond with respect.

SEEK OUT AND RESPOND WITH WONDERMENT AND AWE

Explore and find the world awesome and mysterious. Get carried away in and by thought. Look for and be intrigued by phenomena & beauty. Delve into and marvel at the rich depths of discussion, kindness, and life's many simple gifts. Pursue wonder and have fun figuring things out.

REFLECT

Think about your thinking. Recognize the thinking strategies you use to accomplish different tasks. Know your knowing. Be aware of your own thoughts, feelings, and actions and their effects on the work you do and on others. Learn how you learn.

THINK FIRST

Think before acting. Remain calm, thoughtful, and deliberate. Be mindful and manage impulsivity. Take your time to compose yourself and what you want to say. **ALWAYS** consider the consequences. Strive to defeat *unmindfulness* and *careless haste*.

COLLABORATE

Work together. Want and be able to work with and learn from others. "I'm on your team. Be on my team." ~ Kid Pres. Participate. Engage. Share. Be accountable. Think interdependently. Learn, Teach, Know, and Grow **TOGETHER!**

LEARN MORE

Embrace having more to learn. Have humility and pride when admitting you don't know. Resist complacency. Seek out and create your own 'new & improved' learning opportunities. Remain open to continuous learning.

RISK RESPONSIBLY

Live on the edge of your competence. Seek out opportunities and possibilities. Be bold and adventuresome. Try new things on a regular basis. Venture outside your comfort zone. Prepare yourself to face your fears or take that unexpected chance.

ASK QUESTIONS

Have an inquiring attitude. Request. Query. Investigate. Challenge. Probe. **ASK** in order to succeed. Who? What? WHY? Where? When? How? Pose problems. Explore, practice, and develop questioning strategies.

FIND SOLUTIONS

Access and apply past knowledge to solving new problems. Look for and create connections between what you are learning in different situations. **USE** what you know, have learned, and are learning. Transfer knowledge beyond the context in which it was/is learned. Appreciate that what you learn now will help you in the future.

COMMUNICATE CLEARLY

Be clear. Aim to communicate carefully and skillfully in both written and oral form. Think and interact with clarity and precision. Avoid overgeneralizations, distortions, deletions and exaggerations. Compose, present, discuss, and express yourself with composure and confidence.

PAY ATTENTION

Gather information through all of your senses. See. Hear. Taste. Feel. Smell. Attend to the world around you. Use your natural pathways: mind, body, and spirit. Focus **AND** expand your awareness. Observe and become increasingly aware. Strengthen your noticing and perceiving powers.

LOOK AT THINGS ANOTHER WAY

Think flexibly. Consider other opinions and ways of doing and being. Generate alternatives. Explore different ideas and options. Be willing and able to change perspectives. Open your mind and heart to new and varying possibilities.

FIND HUMOR

Laugh! Relish the whimsical. Appreciate the fun in learning. Don't take yourself or any situation too seriously. Create happiness and joy for yourself and others. Smile at the unexpected and enjoy the incongruous. Let play enter your world of learning 😊