



PERIMETER SCHOOL

A Covenant Christian Community

Explanation of Our Habits

Charlotte Mason said of habits in her book, *A Philosophy of Education*, “Habit is to life, what rails are to transport cars.” Habit is inevitable. Good habits enable children to avoid unnecessary distractions, giving them more energy and focus to tackle the challenges of schooling. Please consult our list of habits, which we value here at Perimeter School. These are taught throughout our entire curriculum and in all grades. Please read over the habits carefully, review them with your child, and help them understand and practice these concepts as they prepare for school. This concept may be new to you and your child. Modern research has confirmed Charlotte Mason’s principle that the development of self-regulation is a prerequisite to many academic skills.

Habit of Attention

- Focuses mind and body on the task at hand
- Follows instructions the first time
- Motivated by a desire to know, rather than to gain approval

Habit of Courtesy

- Kind to others, respectful, and helpful
- Uses polite manners
- Apologizes for discourtesies

Habit of Fortitude

- Exhibits mental and emotional strength when facing difficulty
- Works with confidence
- Has determination, endurance, and purposefulness

Habit of Neatness and Order

- Maintains the adage “a place for everything and everything in its place”
- Executes work properly and neatly

Habit of Obedience

- Exhibits an appropriate level of respect to adults
- Looks at the person speaking
- Follows instructions upon first request
- Verbally acknowledges requests when appropriate

Habit of Remembering

- Recalls information, facts, and knowledge
- Retains knowledge from previous lessons and can assimilate with the lesson at hand

Habit of Responsibility

- Is prompt and completes work
- Asks for help when needed
- Takes care of personal belongings
- Accounts for attitude, action, work, and relationships

Habit of Self-Control

- Displays strengthening of the will to do what is right
- Pleasant, positive, and cheerful instead of critical, negative, and complaining
- Patient instead of discontented
- Humble instead of prideful

Habit of Thinking

- Wonders and carefully thinks to form an opinion
- Participates in conversation and listens to others' views in a cooperative manner
- Traces effect to cause; cause to effect

Habit of Truthfulness

- Careful to speak the truth
- Pursues what is true
- Keeps words simple without exaggeration