

Habits of Mind

The thinking habits that students, teachers, and administrators need to develop and practice to succeed in school, work and life.

Persisting: <i>Stick to it!</i> Persevering in a task through to completion; remaining focused.	<i>an internal compass to guide actions, decisions, and thoughts</i>
Managing impulsivity: <i>Take your time!</i> Thinking before acting; remaining calm, thought and deliberative.	
Listening with understanding and empathy: <i>Understand others!</i> Devoting mental energy to another person's thoughts and ideas; holding in abeyance one's own thoughts in order to perceive another's point of view and emotions.	
Thinking flexibly: <i>Look at it another way!</i> Being able to change perspectives, generate alternatives, consider options	
Thinking about your thinking (metacognition): <i>Know your knowing!</i> Being aware of one's own thoughts, strategies, feelings, and actions that their effects on others.	
Striving for accuracy and precision: <i>Check it again!</i> A desire for exactness, fidelity, craftsmanship and truthfulness.	
Questioning and problem posing: <i>How do you know?</i> Having a questioning attitude; knowing what data are needed and developing questioning strategies to generate information.	
Apply past knowledge to novel situations: <i>Use what you learn!</i> Accessing prior knowledge; transferring knowledge beyond the situation in which it was learned.	
Thinking and communicating with clarity and precision: <i>Be clear!</i> Striving for accurate communication in both written and oral form; avoiding overgeneralizations, distortions, and deletions.	
Gathering data through all senses: <i>Use your natural pathways!</i> Gathering data through all the sensory pathways- gustatory, olfactory; tactile, kinesthetic, auditory and visual	
Creating, imagining, and innovating: <i>Try a different way!</i> Generating new and novel ideas, fluency, originality.	
Responding with wonderment and awe: <i>Having fun figuring it out!</i> Finding the world awesome and mysterious, and being intrigued with phenomena and beauty.	
Taking responsible risks: <i>Venture out!</i> Being adventuresome, living on the edge of one's competence.	
Finding humor: <i>Laugh a little!</i> Finding the whimsical, incongruous, and unexpected. Being able to laugh at one's self.	
Thinking interdependently: <i>Work together!</i> Being able to work with and learn from others in reciprocal situations.	
Remaining open to continuous learning: Learn from experiences! Having humility and pride when admitting we don't know; resisting complacency.	

~ *Habits of Mind*, Costa and Kallick (2010)