The mission of Great Expectations® is to motivate, inspire, and challenge individuals to achieve excellence in learning and living.

Transforming Lives Through Education.

Basic Tenets

ALL CHILDREN CAN LEARN
William Glasser

BUILDING SELF-ESTEEM
Harris Clemes, Reynold Bean, and Aminah Clark

CLIMATE OF MUTUAL RESPECT
Rensis Likert

HIGH EXPECTATIONS
Robert Rosenthal and Lenora Jacobson

TEACHER ATTITUDE AND RESPONSIBILITY
Haim Ginott, John and Eunice Gilmore

TEACHER KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL
Benjamin Bloom

The Eight Expectations

1. We will value one another as unique and special individuals.
2. We will not laugh at or make fun of a person's mistakes nor use sarcasm or putdowns.
3. We will use good manners, saying "please," "thank you," and "excuse me" and allow others to go first.
4. We will cheer each other to success.
5. We will help one another whenever possible.
6. We will recognize every effort and applaud it.
7. We will encourage each other to do our best.
8. We will practice virtuous living, using the Life Principles.

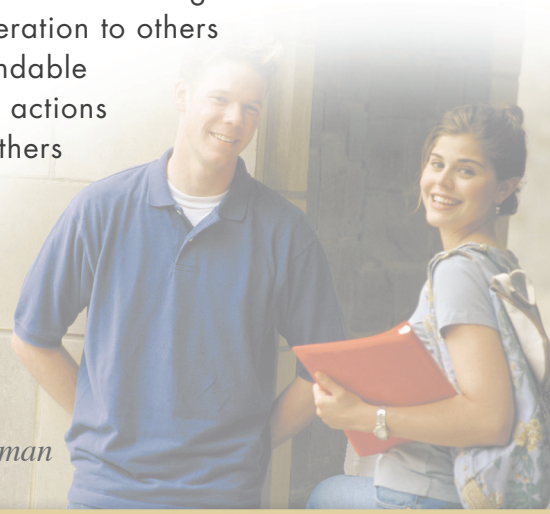
17 Practices

1. Educators and learners model desired behaviors and attitudes such as those set forth in the Life Principles and the Eight Expectations for Living.
2. Educators and learners speak in complete sentences and address one another by name, demonstrating mutual respect and common courtesy.
3. Learners are taught thoroughly and to mastery, ensuring success for all. Whole group instruction is interwoven with flexible group instruction and individual instruction.
4. Learning experiences are integrated, related to the real world, reviewed consistently, and connected to subsequent curricula.
5. Critical thinking skills are taught.
6. The environment is non-threatening and conducive to risk-taking. Mistakes are viewed as opportunities to learn and grow.
7. Memory work, recitations, and/or writing occur daily. These enhance character development and effective communication skills while extending curricula.
8. Enriched vocabulary is evident and is drawn directly from challenging writings, informational text, and/or wisdom literature.
9. The Magic Triad, a positive and caring environment, and discipline with dignity and logic are evident.
10. Learners' work is displayed in some form. Positive and timely feedback is provided through oral and/or written commentary.
11. Word identification skills are used as a foundation for expanding the use of the English language.
12. Learners assume responsibility for their own behavior. Their choices determine consequences.
13. A school, class, or personal creed is recited or reflected upon daily to reaffirm commitment to excellence.
14. All learners experience success. The educator guarantees it by comparing learners to their own past performance, not the performance of others. Learners are showcased, and past failures are disregarded.
15. Educators teach on their feet, thus utilizing proximity. They engage learners personally, hold high expectations of learners, and should not limit learners to grade level or perceived ability.
16. Educators and learners employ effective interpersonal communications skills.
17. Educators and learners celebrate the successes of others.

GEX.0126.13_FL_4N1

Life Principles

- **Citizenship** • behaving in a responsible manner as a citizen of a community
- **Commitment** • keeping a promise or a pledge
- **Common Sense** • thinking before acting; using good judgment
- **Compassion** • ability to share another's feelings or ideas
- **Cooperation** • working together
- **Courage** • strength to act even when afraid or uncertain
- **Courtesy** • consideration, cooperation and generosity
- **Curiosity** • desire to learn, to explore, to investigate
- **Dedication** • binding oneself to a course of action
- **Effort** • doing one's best in an endeavor
- **Empathy** • capacity for participating in another's feelings or ideas
- **Esprit De Corps** • devotion among members of group for each other and the group's purpose
- **Flexibility** • ability to make adjustments or alter plans
- **Forgiveness** • act of forgiving for an offense; pardoning
- **Fortitude** • strength of mind that enables a person to encounter danger or bear pain or adversity with courage
- **Friendship** • caring for and trusting others
- **Honesty** • truthfulness
- **Humanitarianism** • promotion of human welfare and social reform
- **Humility** • being humble, not proud or haughty, not arrogant or assertive
- **Initiative** • taking action; originating new ideas
- **Integrity** • acting according to a sense of right and wrong
- **Justice** • being fair, right, and upholding what is right
- **Loyalty** • faithfulness to another
- **Optimism** • an inclination to put the most favorable construction upon actions and happenings or to anticipate the best possible outcome
- **Patience** • enduring hardship, difficulty, or inconvenience with self-control
- **Patriotism** • love for or devotion to one's country
- **Perseverance** • ability to persist or continue striving to the end
- **Problem-Solving** • creating solutions; finding answers
- **Propriety** • standard of what is socially acceptable in conduct or speech
- **Resiliency** • recovering from or adjusting easily to misfortune or change
- **Respect** • paying proper attention or showing consideration to others
- **Responsibility** • making the choice to be reliable and dependable
- **Self-Discipline** • the ability to choose and control one's own actions
- **Service** • giving of one's time and energies to help others
- **Sincerity** • honesty of mind; freedom from hypocrisy
- **Temperance** • moderation in action, thought, or feeling



**"Men of genius are admired.
Men of wealth are envied.
Men of power are feared,
but only men of character are trusted."**

- Arthur Friedman

Great Expectations®

www.greatexpectations.org