

Wood End Park Academy – Growth Mindset

This term teachers at WEPA will be promoting the philosophy of 'Growth Mindset' with the pupils in their classes.

Growth Mindset is a simple idea discovered by world renowned Stanford university psychologist Carol Dweck- as simple idea that makes all the difference! In a fixed mindset people believe that basic qualities like their intelligence or talent are fixed traits and that they do not need to put in any effort. In growth mindset, people believe that their basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience. Teaching a growth mindset creates motivation and productivity and enhances relationships among people.

So how will we promote Growth Mindset with our pupils?

Teachers will embed growth mindset in everyday language and actions. Teachers will focus on independence and risk taking, getting our pupils to give things a go first themselves. Teachers will be using the language of Growth Mindset e.g. This will be a challenging task today but I know we can all stretch ourselves to achieve our goal!

Teachers will continue to write next step comments with specific feedback on how to improve and letting children know that we believe they have the capacity to improve.

Helping pupils develop resilience, to see learning as a process of growth through improvement, to work through mistakes and see them as a way to develop themselves rather than as failing. Remind children F.A.I.L= First. Attempt. In. Learning.

Teachers will let pupils know that when they are practising hard things their brains are forming new connections and making them smarter and letting our pupils know that we value challenge-seeking, learning and effort.

It would be fantastic to hear any stories from you or when you see your child using 'Growth Mindset' when completing a challenging piece of work or 'fixing' a mistake with an attitude that it's ok. Have a go at home, if your child tells you 'I'm not good at this' tell them 'You are not good...yet!'

Here are some examples of how teachers will be using this in the class room:

"I will be telling my class that when they make mistakes their brain grows and encouraging them to keep trying." Miss Giffard

"It's not how we make mistakes but how we correct them. 'Miss Austin

"Mistakes are proof that you are trying" Ms Bridden

"I like that it links to our building learning power qualities such as resilience." Miss McIntosh

"I'm excited to embed this into my daily routine to really encourage our children to learn, and enjoy learning." Miss Shirley

"We are using growth mindset in years 3 and 4 to ensure children enjoy challenges and see mistakes as opportunities to deepen their learning. Ensuring children are always encouraged and praised for effort seen has made children more resilient learner.' Mr Barnes

We will let you know how it's going!

Mrs Hudson-Ford

Director of Teaching and Learning