

How to Have the Best School on the Planet



Goals and Principles for the Poly Prep Community: Students, Teachers, Staff, and Parents

Taken from conversations between the students and teachers
of Poly Prep Lower School
about the rights and responsibilities of children



**At school,
we have rights.**

We need...

A Safe Place to Learn

Classrooms filled with books, art, and music



A place to be safe from hurt feelings, hurt bodies, teasing, and bullies

A place to play outdoors

Great Teachers



Teachers who are available and make us comfortable

Who are by our side to help us to learn

Who teach us how to act

Encouragement

To take risks



To ask for what we need

To share our thoughts

Assurance

that in our school there will be...



**At school,
we also have
responsibilities.**

We need to...

Be a Friend

Say "Hi!" to people you meet, and be nice to people when you meet them for the first time.

Make new friends.



Make friends with those who don't have friends.

Don't walk away from people.

Play with your friends when they don't have anyone to play with.

Treat everyone with kindness.

All kids should have fun.

Consider Others

*Listen to people;
no matter
how small the voice is,
it's important.*



Don't take people for granted.



Respect other people's ideas.

Show Compassion

*Protect younger children,
because you need extra care when you are small.*

*Be like parents to younger kids: talk to them,
include them in games,
and protect them.*



Treat animals in school with care.

Remember to be kind.

Don't make anyone feel like a failure.

Be Fair

Don't be bossy or mean.

Don't grab, bully, or tease.



Take care of other people's work.

Take turns.

Resolve Conflicts

*When you are upset, don't hurt people's feelings.
Don't hit, kick, or yell.*



Take time to cool down.

*Listen to each other,
and keep talking until you solve the problem.*

Have Courage

*Speak up if you see bullying,
even if the bully is your friend.*



*Try to get to know someone who is
acting like a bully:
maybe he or she needs a friend.*

And most importantly,

Respect Learning

Come to school on time, rested, and ready to learn.

*Try hard to find the answer.
If you don't understand, don't cheat:
ask your teacher for help.*

Let your teachers know how they can help you.



Pay attention to your teachers.

*Don't distract a friend who is trying to learn
or laugh at a friend who makes a mistake.*

Help your friends to learn.



Produced by the Committee on Community Ethics
and the artists of Poly Prep