ZIS Character Standards

Character Learning is happening when students are: considering the potential impact of applying dispositions and values and how we act in authentic contexts; acting as a result of these considerations; and reflecting on the effects of these actions.

Dispositions
Learners are:

OPEN-MINDED
— initially withhold judgement, recognizing how past experiences influence reactions
— are receptive to information and ideas which may challenge their beliefs
— identify and investigate alternative perspectives
— attempt new ways of doing things

RESILIENT
— recognize and manage distractions
— identify and use strategies for overcoming obstacles to achieve goals
— persevere through difficulties when it is productive to do so
— learn from failure or mistakes by reflecting and altering strategies for success
— formulate goals and work to attain them over sustained periods

PLAYFUL
— take risks when approaching new situations and learning experiences
— creatively engage with ideas and materials, experimenting with them in novel and possibly counter-intuitive ways
— avoid drawing conclusions too soon
— explore imaginative alternatives and possibilities by wondering "what if?"

REFLECTIVE
— think before acting, considering options for achieving a goal based on analysis of that goal
— monitor progress, make adjustments and adapt strategies appropriately whilst engaged in learning situations
— increase self-knowledge of strengths, weaknesses and areas for growth through considered reflection on particular strategies or actions used in learning situations

Values
Learners value:

INTEGRITY
— identify and refine what they believe is right in light of our school's mission and values
— do what is right even when no one is watching
— articulate how their beliefs influence their actions
— translate their beliefs into local and/or global actions
— recognize when their actions contradict their beliefs and reflect on why that discrepancy occurred

COMPASSION
— are able to sense other people's emotions and able to empathize
— actively attempt to understand why people hold certain perspectives, are in certain circumstances, and/or feel particular emotions
— feel motivated to relieve another person's suffering
— work to understand the needs of others in order to achieve desirable outcomes for all
— consider actions that will have a positive impact on others

FAIRNESS
— consider the impact of a decision or action on others
— recognize that fair does not always mean equal rather fairness depends on the circumstances and who is involved
— can make and justify a decision based on how fair it is for all concerned