

Seven Habits of Success

1. Be at school and be on time.

This includes getting to class on time. By requiring students to be on time, we send the message that school and the classes are important. We help develop the student's sense of responsibility, and we help break some students' habit of making weak excuses.

2. Be respectful of others.

If we are to live in a civil society, all of us must understand the delicate balance between the rights of the individual and those of the group. Students in particular must **respect others' right to learn.** This habit of success also includes **respect for authority**.

3. Take responsibility for your actions.

The overarching theme of this habit of success is that we have a great deal of control over our actions and must therefore expect the positive or negative consequences resulting from those actions. Similarly, it is the individual who is the most responsible and accountable for learning that which is being taught.

4. Persevere. This habit of success describes one's ability to see a task through until the end. It is "stick-to-it-ness." We need to help students learn to keep trying and not to give up easily. This habit of success also helps students understand that failure is a part of life and that one can learn to move beyond the setbacks and still be successful.

5. Strive for accuracy.

With this habit of success we help develop an appreciation for exactness and craftsmanship. We help students avoid sloppy work and help them pay attention to detail. Adherence to this habit of success fosters a "check-it-again" or "get-it-done-right" mentality.

6. Do your best work at all times.

This habit of success is similar to striving for accuracy. More than that, it means continuing to work hard to improve proficiency and reach one's potential. We need to teach students that they do not have to settle for second best and that in some things average just is not good enough. Reaching high goals usually requires our best work and a habit of doing our best all the time.

7. Engage positively.

At the heart of this habit of mind is optimism – optimism that problems can be solved. Students need to learn that a civil society requires people to engage positively in order to solve problems. This means that they should not cast aspersions from the sidelines or simply complain. They need to engage, and that engagement or contribution toward solving the problem should be positive and constructive.