

RESPONSIBILITY

Parent Resource

What is responsibility?

Responsibility means using good judgment, self-control and owning one's actions.

As your child gets older, it is important for him or her to continue to develop responsibility by taking ownership of his or her life. It is also important that your child acknowledges that he or she is accountable for the choices he or she makes.

In grades nine through twelve, children begin or continue:

- ✓ Analyzing how actions and reactions can influence one to respond differently.
- ✓ Exhibiting leadership skills in the school and community.
- ✓ Identifying the benefits of volunteering, mentoring and seeking leadership responsibilities.

Below are ways you can help your child learn, practice and demonstrate responsibility:

ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE ACTIVITIES



Encourage your child to get a summer job or do volunteer work. This will help your child understand the importance of responsibility, practice strong self-management and develop leadership skills.

HELP IDENTIFY A LEADER



Responsibility helps your child establish leadership skills in their home, school and community. Ask your child to identify a leader in his or her life. What characteristics of responsibility does that individual demonstrate?

PREPARE FOR OPPORTUNITIES



Responsibility plays a role in preparing for opportunities after graduation. For example, applying for scholarships and writing a resume allows your child to showcase responsibility through his or her academic achievement, community involvement and civic engagement.

BY TEACHING YOUR CHILD TO BE RESPONSIBLE, YOU ARE HELPING HIM OR HER POSITIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO THE FAMILY, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY.



SKILLS TO CONSIDER PRACTICING WITH YOUR CHILD:



Implementing effective time management strategies to meet the demands of competing priorities.



Implementing strategies and monitoring progress in achieving a personal goal.



ACTIVITY FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

Identify different responsibilities your child may take on during high school, such as learning how to drive, volunteering in the community, starting a job or registering to vote.

EXAMPLE

- Make a plan to start a job or volunteer.
- Research what jobs or volunteer opportunities are available
 - Identify what is required to apply.
 - Determine how many hours he or she can work or volunteer while also balancing other priorities such as school, sports and friendships.