

RESPONSIBILITY

Parent Resource

GRADES
9–12

What is responsibility?

Responsibility means owning my actions, using good judgment and practicing self-control.

As your child gets older, it is important for him or her to continue developing responsibility by taking ownership of his or her actions and using good judgment when making choices.

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

Help your child identify and prepare for different responsibilities he or she may take on during high school (for example, learning how to drive, volunteering in the community, starting a job or registering to vote).

EXAMPLE

If your child is starting a job or volunteer work this year, sit with him or her to research what is available, identify what is required to apply, and determine how many hours he or she can work while also balancing other priorities in schools, extracurricular activities and friendships.