

Wilmington Montessori School

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The Wilmington Montessori Community Based on C.A.R.E.S.

Wilmington Montessori community members work to have a positive and healthy learning community based on:

- ▶ Respect and appreciation for what each member contributes to the community.
- ▶ Mutual respect and trust in communications, no matter what our roles may be.
- ▶ Teamwork and support of each other in our personal growth.

We focus on the principles of C.A.R.E.S. (Cooperation, Assertion, Responsibility, Empathy, and Self-Control) in our everyday interactions in the community.

Cooperation

1. Listening respectfully and actively to all perspectives
2. Collaborating to share resources, information, and ideas
3. Participating positively and actively in the process to support a positive outcome
4. Compromising to achieve a common goal

Assertion

1. Setting healthy boundaries and expressing needs honestly, directly and respectfully
2. Considering appropriate time, place and participants when addressing concerns
3. Behaving in a manner that is mutually safe and respectful
4. Stating ideas clearly using a calm voice and respectful tone
5. Staying on topic and focusing on solutions

Responsibility

1. Keeping our commitments to each other and the community
2. Acting as positive role models for others in the school community
3. Approaching challenges from a solution-oriented perspective
4. Inviting and including all parties who need to be part of, and could be affected by, our conversations and decisions.

Empathy

1. Being responsive to the needs of others, supporting, encouraging, or assisting as necessary
2. Seeking to understand other points of view

Self-Control

1. Taking time to reflect on a situation before responding to it
2. Maintaining confidentiality in communications
3. Accepting differences gracefully and speaking positively about others in our school community.
4. Being mindful of our commitment to the C.A.R.E.S. principles.

The Development of our Human Potential

- **Character**

WMS community members are trustworthy, compassionate, and demonstrate integrity. We seek to understand the needs of others and work for what is best for all concerned in our school, local and global communities.

- **Leadership**

WMS community members combine vision, ethics, and courage to empower each person to understand their unique worth and potential to make a difference in the community.

- **Thinking Skills**

WMS community members develop thinking skills to support life-long and collaborative learning including: flexibility, perseverance, curiosity, imagination, inventiveness, wonder, and reflection on both process and product.

- **Life Management Skills**

WMS community members strive to know ourselves fully, developing our physical, social, emotional, intellectual, creative and spiritual selves. We aspire to make healthy, responsible and balanced life-work choices.

- **Knowledge Base**

WMS community members seek knowledge to understand the connectedness between ourselves and the well-being of our planet and our place in the universe.

- **Creative and Artistic Abilities**

WMS community members strive to discover and develop our creative gifts and encourage others to do the same. We celebrate the richness and diversity of expression across cultures.

- **Service and Responsibility**

WMS community members are committed to improving the quality of life on Earth and protecting the natural environment that sustains us. We view active service in our families, school, local and global communities as an applied learning opportunity that develops empathy, compassion, social responsibility, perspective and appreciation of our roles in the community.

