

Character Education Skills Ladders: Trust



6

Children know and understand the signs of distrust or someone who can't be trusted. They know the words 'instinct' and 'gut reaction' and learn to trust their feelings. Year Six understand the impact that distrust or breaking trust can have on people: physically, mentally and emotionally.

5

The 'circle of trust' is something that Year Five children use to help them know who to trust, i.e. further out of the circle can not be trusted as much as in the circle. Children can discuss how some online relationships cannot always be trusted, and why this is.

4

Children understand that trust is a two-way process and know it has to be equal between the two people; expectations need to match. They recognise the main signs of what distrust looks like. Children know that trust takes a long time to build and develop but far less time to break. Year Four know that sometimes doing the right thing might break trust between them and a friend.

3

Children in Year Three show trust by knowing different kinds of secrets, and when to tell and not tell somebody. They know what might happen if they tell people's secrets. Year Three know it's ok to tell the truth about something that has been done wrong, i.e. when someone is mean, tell an adult. They link this understanding to the Value of Honesty. Children understand the importance of keeping promises and how promises build trust.

2

Children understand trust as having faith and belief in somebody else and themselves. They do this by thinking about what has happened in the past and judging whether or not they think it will happen again, i.e. *The boy who cried wolf*. Children start to make their own mind up about who they can trust.

1

Children know how to build good, trustful relationships with each other. They link this to the Value of Co-operation, i.e. they speak nicely when working together and know how to settle disagreements. They begin to understand that *some* disagreements can be good to have their own opinion but use trust to work with others well.

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Children understand trust as somebody who is always kind and friendly to them and so they can rely on them to be kind and friendly. Reception know that if children are mean, then trust might be broken.