



CALGARY ARTS ACADEMY

POLICY MANUAL

CIRCLE OF COURAGE



The Circle of Courage classroom management model is based on contemporary research, the heritage of early youth pioneers and Native American Indian philosophies of child care. This model is based on four core values which are representative of four universal human needs:

- Generosity: Character is cultivated by concern for others so that all can say: *I have a purpose for my life!*
- Belonging: The universal longing for human bonds is cultivated by relationships of trust so that all can say: *I am loved!*
- Mastery: The inborn thirst for learning is cultivated by learning to cope with the world so that all can say: *I can succeed!*
- Independence: Free will is cultivated by responsibility so that all can say: *I have the power to make decisions!*

The purpose of using this model in the daily student school experience is to promote student empowerment. It is intended to create caring and empathic students, thereby lowering the incidence of discipline problems due to self-centered and anti-social behaviours. Research indicates that students demonstrate improved self-worth, self-esteem and are more able to cope with the problems that arise at school, at home and in the community. The practice of the

Circle of Courage

Circle of Courage in the school enhances its overall asset-based approach to learning.

All staff will be trained in the Circle of Courage philosophy and will use it daily with students. Inservice on this model will also be provided to parents and the school community,

Reference: <http://www.reclaiming.com/>