

STORY BEHIND THE AGS LEARNER

AGS Learner defines our comprehensive approach to nurturing the character of our students. Through it, we prepare students for the challenges they will face both within school and beyond - a responsibility we undertake with great seriousness.

It was in September 2015, following broad and inclusive feedback from students, staff and parents, that we identified the AGS Learner traits of Ownership, Motivation, Resilience, Innovation and Courage – characteristics that as a community we wholly believe in. Teachers at AGS develop these key learning habits through the delivery of their subject in all lessons, for all students. September 2019 brought the introduction of regular personal development sessions to enable students to better understand their emotions, increase their understanding of mental health and wellbeing and foster a shared sense of common morality.

Innovation: engage your curiosity and discover limitless possibility. Be adventurous with your ideas and embrace opportunity. Innovation happens when you apply your knowledge in fresh ways; when apparently insignificant experiments yield worthy improvements. Take a new approach. Daydream. Enjoy the freedom to imagine what is possible.

Motivation is about committing to your aspirations. Start from where you are. Acknowledge that the passage may be difficult. Gather your resources, determine your direction and navigate upwards towards your own goals.

Ownership: students with ownership understand the global world and their responsibility within it. They take care of themselves, respect others and show compassion to those around them. They value equality, diversity, sustainability. Our young people are often society's best ambassadors for ownership.

Courage is finding the inner strength to create your own place in the world. It is not bravado, or victory, battle or daredevilry. It is the quiet ability to do what is right, to admit to self-doubt, to reach out to others to give and to accept help. The bright blue borage flower – this star of nature with its history of courage and endeavour – embodies the everyday bravery of the modern world.

Resilience: let go of old ideas of doggedly trudging onwards. As well as bouncing back, modern resilience is about adaptability and advancement. It might mean changing direction, resting and taking time to recover. It might mean regaining a sense of purpose and then trying really hard again. Our seedling is a strong one with space to grow and flourish, nurtured by the stream not drowning in a torrent.

