

The Responsive Classroom at Highland Oaks and Home

Highland Oaks School is committed to continue to develop a true learning community for our young scholars in which they feel safe to take risks in their learning and a sense of belonging to a caring community of learners. The Responsive Classroom (RC) is a research based approach to teaching and learning that promotes safe, challenging, and joyful classrooms and schools. RC consists of practical strategies and respectful language for bringing together social and academic learning. RC is a philosophy that encourages the empowerment of children as individuals, as a classroom family, and ultimately as a school community.

The Responsive Classroom enhances social awareness in a caring learning environment. Skills, procedures, and social appropriateness are embedded within the school environment to help students meet individual and group goals, as well as challenge themselves with social and academic goals and expectations.

The RC learning environment models a proactive approach to discipline and behavior management strategies school-wide. Like any good academic program, it encourages students to *think*, listen, work cooperatively, be actively engaged, and take responsibility for their own choices, actions and learning.

The Responsive Classroom helps to foster a feeling in students that they are valued, respected, and that their voices are heard. In doing so, it also emphasizes the importance of students in demonstrating those same qualities to others in their classroom as well as the greater school community.

"We don't accomplish anything in the world alone... whatever happens is the result of the whole tapestry of one's life and all the weavings of individual threads from one to another that creates something."

Sandra Day O'Connor

It is the intent of the Responsive Classroom to create a productive and cooperative learning environment for students where they will thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. This website

will provide information throughout the year to support the RC at home and to connect similar strategies and language at home.

Highland Oaks Mission Statement

Highland Oaks School is committed to enhance learning for all students with an emphasis on depth of learning, critical thinking skills, and social curriculum. We believe the key components that favor quality results and growth are developing a respectful community of learners, teamwork, goal setting, and the use of data to inform instruction. Instruction is differentiated to best support each student's learning while students from diverse cultures are collaboratively engaged in meaningful work supported with cutting edge instructional technology.