THE RESPONSIBLE THINKING PROCESS

Cooloola Christian College

“Supporting Families, Transforming Lives”
Responsible Thinking Process

by Edward E. Ford.

“We are designed to be self-controlling rather than externally controlled.”

www.responsiblethinking.com
GOAL is to...

teach children to self-regulate their behaviour, choices, goals

and...

grow in awareness of the impact these have on their relationships with others.
RTP

• **When we tell** children to do things, **we** are doing the thinking.

• **When we ask** children about what they are doing, **they** are doing the thinking.

• Therefore, **RTP focuses on the way children think, rather on the way they behave.**

www.responsiblethinking.com
Ford believes that if we want children to behave responsibly, we must *first* teach them to think responsibly.
Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6
At Cooloola Christian College we recognise...

- All Students have the right to learn, and Teachers have the right to teach, in safety.
- No one has the right to disrupt, to prevent others from learning, or to violate the rights of others.

and we remember...

- Our Mission is to ‘Support families in educating their child for a Christ-like life’.
- Proverbs 22:6 – ‘Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it’.
Teachers ask questions rather than tell children what to do.

Questions which are designed to teach children to think about their choices.

Students are then encouraged to create goals to work in this current environment.

www.responsiblethinking.com
RTP is Not....

- Allowing Students complete freedom to behave as they choose.
- ‘Punishment’ based
- Consequence-free
- Removal of Student responsibilities
- RTC is Not a Detention Room
- Suggesting ‘Students are inherently good’
- A ‘miracle’ one-step cure (*RTP takes time and commitment*)
What is ‘External Control’?

Many behaviour models and theories are based on the concept of ‘Control.’ This notion assumes that external people can control (change or manage) the behaviour (actions and choices) of others.

Most teachers struggle continually with misbehavior. Their primary aim is to suppress it. But that never solves the problem.

C.M. Charles

28:1
What is ‘Self-Regulation’?

The Goal of RTP.....

Is to see students re-organize their thinking to reach their goals without violating the rights of others.
Questioning:

RTP Questions guide Students through their own thinking.

1. What are you doing?
2. What are the expectations?
3. What happens when you ignore these expectations?
4. Is this your goal?
5. What do you want to do now?
The RTP Questions

1. What are you doing?

Purpose:
- Limits excuses.
- Brings awareness to their actions;
- Beginning of self-reflection.

2. What are the expectations?

Purpose:
- Links the behaviour to the rules or standards.
3. What happens when you ignore these expectations?

*Purpose:*
- Brings awareness of the impact and outcomes of their actions – *on themselves and others.*

4. Is this your goal?

*Purpose:*
- Gives the student choice/control.
- Self-reflections and feedback of the outcome.
5. What do you want to do now? OR Where do you want to be now?

*Purpose:*
- Students start to think about what they need to do to stay in the area they are in.
- It asks for a *commitment.*

6. What will happen if you disrupt again?

*Purpose:*
- Forward planning or recognition of what will happen if they disrupt again.
Students are referred for 2 reasons only:

- Disruptions to learning
- Dangerous actions

Other issues are managed in Classrooms.
Contacting our Responsible Thinking Classroom
- The RTC -

**RTC email:**

rtc@cccgympie.qld.edu.au

**Phone – 5482 1222**
Plan Making...

- **Why?** *Removal from the current environment to allow time to reflect and work on personal goal setting and social skills*

- **When?** *RTC is open between 8:15am and 3:15pm, Mon – Fri.*

- **Where?** *RTC with RTC Teacher (Sue or Susan)*

- **Purpose of Plans** - *Ownership of choices, Commitment to goals*

- **Looks like** - *Picture plan or Worded contract depended on the needs and abilities of the Student involved*

- **When do students return to class?** *After Negotiation with Referring Teacher*
What are the benefits of RTP for us at CCC?

• Encourages ownership of choices, actions and behaviour.
• Holistic approach to working with students
• Consistent methodology - P-12
• Marries with our Biblical Worldview
• Based on a ‘goals for success’ mindset
• Provides a unique opportunity to build pastoral relationships with students at a particular point of need.