

# Growth Mindset



Mission Statement-

Nurturing ambition through a living faith

Vision-

Our academy delivers a purposeful curriculum through its living Christian faith. We nurture ambition in all our learners in order for them to become positive citizens of tomorrow.

Bible Verse-

Let us not love with words or speech alone but with actions and truth. John 3:18

At Darwen St James', we know that pupils who have a positive attitude towards their learning will make good progress and be successful, not only in school but in all aspects of life. Consequently, instilling all our pupils with 'growth mindsets' has become a key priority for the school since September 2018. We have introduced the theories of Dr Carol Dweck to staff, pupils and parents and are determined to continue to embed its ideas within our school ethos.

We want all our pupils to relish challenges, embrace their mistakes as part of the learning process, value the importance of effort, respond carefully to feedback and take inspiration from others. This will help them to achieve, not only with us, but also in their future lives as adults as well.

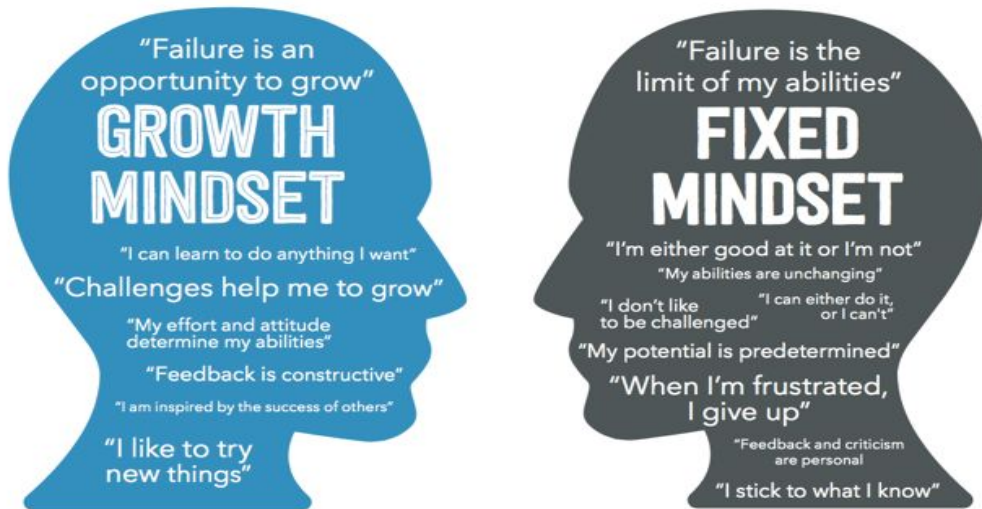
## **Encouraging children to become confident and resilient learners**

We know that in order to fulfil the potential of our pupils and encourage them to become confident and resilient learners we, as a team of parents and staff, need to be modelling the mindset of a learner who is not afraid of making mistakes but who thrives upon them, knowing that this is all part of the learning process. The way in which we encourage children to learn and explore is vital to their success, not only at school but at home as well.



# Growth Mindset

Central to this attitude and approach to learning, are the theories and proven evidence of Growth Mindset. This is a term coined by psychologist Carol Dweck and her research has identified the characteristics of learners with a fixed and a growth mindset:



The following video explains the concept in more detail:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUWn\\_TJTrnU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUWn_TJTrnU)

## Key aspects of growth mindset at DSJ:

- We celebrate making mistakes – we can learn from them;
- We never give up – **perseverance** is the key if we are to succeed;
- We learn from each other;
- We don't compare ourselves with others;
- We challenge ourselves and take risks, especially on challenge days;
- We remember that our brains are making new connections and growing all the time;
- We are recognised for using a Growth Mindset;
- We are encouraged to use Growth Mindset language.

For further information on how to encourage confident and resilient learners at home, have a look at some of the links below.

<https://www.mindsetworks.com/parents/growth-mindset-parenting>

<https://www.oxfordlearning.com/growth-mindset-tips-for-parents/>