



LEARNING GOALS

Active Thinking

Learning presupposes that students are thinking. Teachers construct classrooms in which information - analysis, synthesis, and creative problem solving- happen every day. Goals:

- Develop intellectual skills with questions more than answers
- Provide models of creating and problem solving to imitate
- Identify standard activities that contribute to the ability to verify thinking

Effective Communicating

For centuries, training in civil discourse—rhetoric—formed the spine of Western education. The rhetorical forms provide a reliable approach to ensuring students can do more with information than recite it back to their teachers. Therefore, students consistently practice winsome and precise speaking and writing. Goals:

- Consistently develop writing mechanics
- Teach and assess oral learning interactions
- Help students to always have something meaningful to say

Integrated Understanding

Learning is more than individual subjects taught in parallel lines that never intersect. Students should regularly draw on various experiences (their own and others') and subject matter (curricular and co-curricular) to develop a more sophisticated understanding of the "big picture" of knowledge. Goals:

- Lead students to make mental connections between content areas and to their own lives
- Train students to illustrate and explain using various sources of knowledge
- Assign and assess thinking exercises that rely on multiple formal content areas

Disciplined Self-governing

The ultimate goal of a Habersham education is to become more fully human, that as self-possessed learners students are growing into our Portrait of Graduate: thoughtfully engaged, culturally aware, and community minded. They are capable of taking the initiative in becoming a positive cultural influence—in school and beyond. Goals:

- Base each expectation on the premise that it will help students become better students
- Surround students with models of self-governed characters
- Give students opportunities to organize their work environment