



THE  
JUBILEE CENTRE  
FOR CHARACTER & VIRTUES

UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

# Teachers of Character

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*“A man’s reputation is the opinion people  
have of him. His Character is what he  
[or she] really is”*



*‘The Function of Education is to teach one  
to think intensively and to think critically.  
Intelligence plus character, that is the goal  
of true education’*

Martin Luther King

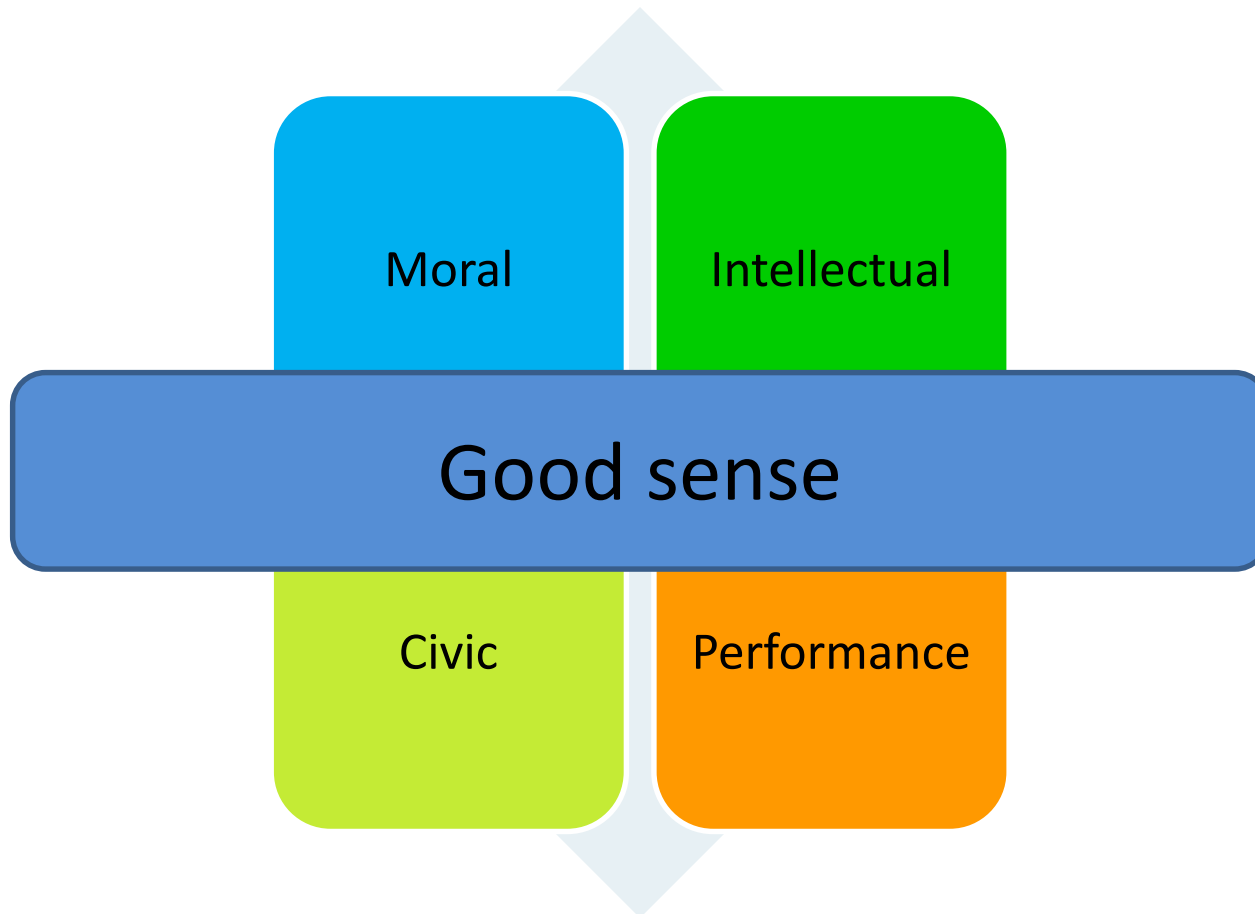


*‘I have never let my schooling  
interfere with my education’*

Mark Twain



# Domains of Virtue





## Moral Virtues

These are virtues that enable us to respond well to situations in any area of experience.

These are the virtues of courage, self-discipline, compassion, gratitude, justice, humility and honesty, which every child should learn.



# Performance Virtues

These virtues can be used for both good and bad ends – they are essentially the qualities that enable us to manage our lives effectively. The virtue most commonly mentioned in this category is resilience – the ability to bounce back from negative experiences. Others include determination, confidence and teamwork.

These virtues should derive their ultimate value in being enablers and vehicles of the moral virtues.



## Civic Virtues

These are the virtues which are necessary for engaged and responsible citizenship.

They include service, citizenship and volunteering. These civic virtues assist the flourishing of each person and promote the common good of society.



# Intellectual Virtues

These are the virtues which are necessary for right action and correct thinking – for example autonomy, reasoning and perseverance. We want students to think and react in the right way so that they do the right thing and in so doing promote human flourishing for all.

These intellectual virtues are required for the pursuit of knowledge, truth and understanding and include how to interpret, analyse, evaluate, compare and judge, all essential to a well formed mind that reasons well.



*‘Success is going from failure to failure  
without loss of enthusiasm’*

Winston Churchill



*‘The single most powerful tool you  
have to impact a student’s character is  
your own character’*



*‘Those who have humility are open to things greater than themselves while those who lack it are not. That is why those who lack it make you feel small whilst those who have it make you feel enlarged. Their humility inspires greatness in others.’*

Jonathan Sacks



## A clear theoretical grounding in virtue ethics and character education:

- Aim at human **flourishing** through the cultivation of **universal** values
- Main focus on **moral** virtues, such as honesty, compassion, justice, service, but also civic, intellectual and performance virtues





# Teachers of Character

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## What is Character Education?

***Character*** is a set of personal qualities or dispositions that evoke specific emotions, inform motivation and guide conduct.

***Character education*** is an umbrella term for all explicit and implicit educational activities that helps young people develop positive personal qualities called *virtues*.