THE 8 C's OF BUILDING RESILIENCE IN YOUNG PEOPLE



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CONFIDENCE

Young people who possess a solid belief in their own abilities are more likely to navigate the world, think outside the box and recover from challenges.

- Providing young people with good educational experiences, either formal or non-formal.
- Encouraging young people to develop and use talents and interests
- Providing opportunities to demonstrate their skills in real situations
- Setting reasonable expectations.
- Offering genuine praise.



COPING

Young people who develop a wide range of positive, adaptive coping strategies are more likely to be able to respond effectively to challenging situations.

- Ensuring that young people are not excessively sheltered from challenging situations- such situations provide young people with opportunities to develop coping skills.
- Supporting them to develop a range of positive, healthy coping strategies.
- Helping them develop problem-solving skills where they can identify solutions that will lead to positive outcomes.



COMPETENCE

Young people who have the ability or know-how to handle situations effectively are more likely to demonstrate resilient behaviour.

- Offering opportunities and experiences to acquire and develop competencies.
- Letting young people figure things out for themselves.
- Noticing and praising effort rather than intelligence or the end result.



CONNECTION

Connections with other people, schools and communities offer young people the security that allows them to stand on their own and develop creative solutions.

- Listening and connecting with the young person. This shows them how to listen and connect with others.
- Creating opportunities for the young person to connect with, and contribute to, their family, school and wider community.



CHARACTER

Young people who have a fundamental sense of right and wrong are more likely to make wise choices, contribute to the world and become stable adults.

- Role modelling positive traits and values e.g. trustworthiness, kindness to, and respect for others
- Supporting young people to differentiate between right and wrong and to use this knowledge in their decision-making.
- Instilling in young people a sense of responsibility for themselves and for their home and community environments.



CONTROL

Young people who learn that they can control the outcomes of their decisions and actions are more likely to "bounce back".

- Providing clear boundaries and expectations
- Supporting them to develop the "stop and think" message and to use it to make choices about their actions.
- Providing opportunities for young people to make their own decisions and take responsibility for the consequences of these decisions.



COGNITIVE **STYLE**

Young people who have the ability to think in a balanced and flexible way, and see situations from different perspectives, can problem solve more effectively.

- Encouraging young people to see themselves and their situations as optimistically as possible.
- Encouraging young people to be flexible thinkers and capable of viewing problems from different perspectives.
- Encouraging young people to always have a Plan B.



CONTRIBUTION

Young people who make a personal contribution to the world around them learn that contributing feels good and may, therefore, more easily turn to others.

- Giving young people a say in what is important to them.
- Enabling them to make their own decisions in life.
- Providing opportunities for the young person to contribute to their families and communities.
- Support them in addressing wider civic, social and/or environmental concerns that they may identify.





