

GOOD MANNERS CHART

THE A.L. SERIES

"GOOD MANNERS"

BASED UPON RULES OF THE
Children's National Guild of Courtesy

COURTESY, Politeness, or Good Manners, means kindly and thoughtful consideration for others. A Celebrated writer has said that a Boy who is Courteous and Pure is an honour to his country. Brave and Noble men and women are always Courteous. Three of the bravest and greatest men who ever lived—the Duke of Wellington, General Gordon and General Washington—were distinguished for their courteous behaviour.

Courteous Boys and Girls will always be careful to observe the following RULES :-

AS TO THEMSELVES	Be Honest, Truthful, and Pure. Do not use Bad Language. Keep out of Bad Company. Keep your Face and Hands clean, and your Clothes and Boots brushed and neat.
AT HOME	Help your Parents as much as you can, and do your best to please them. Be kind to your Brothers and Sisters. Do not be Selfish, but share all your Good Things.
AT SCHOOL	Be Respectful to your Teachers, and help them as much as you can; their work is very difficult and trying. Observe the School Rules. Do not "Copy," nor Cheat in any way. Do not Cut the Desks, nor Write in the Reading Books, etc. Never let another be Punished in mistake for yourself; this is Cowardly and Mean.
AT PLAY	Do not Cheat at Games. Do not Bully; only Cowards do this. Be Pleasant and not Quarrelsome. Do not Jeer at your Schoolmates, or call them by Names which they do not like.
IN THE STREET	Salute your Ministers, Teachers, and Acquaintances when you meet them; they will Salute you in return. Do not Push nor run against people. Do not Chalk on doors, walls, nor gates. Do not Throw Stones, nor destroy Property. Do not Annoy Shopkeepers by Loitering at their shop doors and windows. Do not make Slides on the pavement, nor throw Orange Peel or Banana Skins there; dangerous accidents often result from these practices. Do not make Fun of Old nor Crippled People, but be particularly polite to them, as well as to Strangers and Foreigners.
AT TABLE	Always Wash your Hands and Face before coming to the Table. Do not put your Knife to your Mouth. Look after Other People; do not Help yourself only. Do not be greedy. Do not Speak nor Drink with Food in your Mouth. Turn your head away from the Table and put your Hand or Handkerchief before your Mouth when you Sneeze or Cough. Do not sit with your Elbow on the Table.
EVERYWHERE	Never be Rude to anybody, whether older or younger, richer or poorer, than yourself. Remember to say "Please" or "Thank You"; "Yes, Sir," or "Yes, Ma'am"; "No, Sir," or "No, Ma'am." Before entering a room it is often courteous to Knock at the Door. Do not forget to close the door quietly after you. Always show attention to Older People and Strangers by opening the door for them, bringing what they require (hat, chair, etc.), giving up your seat to them if necessary, and in every possible way Saving them trouble. Never Interrupt when a person is speaking. Always Mind your own Business. Be Punctual. Be Tidy.
REMEMBER	All these rules respecting your conduct towards others are included in the one GOLDEN RULE, "Always do to others as you would wish them to do to you if you were in their place." Whenever, therefore, you are in doubt as to how you should act towards others ask yourself this question, "How should I like them to act towards me if I were in their place?" and then do what your conscience tells you is right.

PUBLISHED BY F. J. ARNOLD & SONS, LTD., Educational Publishers, LEISLES, EDINBURGH and BELFAST. 1898

This 'Good Manners' chart was first issued to Queensland schools in 1898 as part of the systematic teaching of conduct and manners. The rules covered personal conduct at home, at school, at play, in the street, at the table and general courtesy. School rules emphasised that children should respect teachers, other students and school property. Cheating, bullying, dishonesty and cowardice were discouraged at school and play.

The chart continued to be issued to Queensland schools until the 1960s.

The museum's copy of the chart has been hanging on display in our old Calico Creek State School building for many decades, and is now somewhat worse for wear. It has now been archived and replaced by a reproduction copy. Smaller colour copies are available for sale at the museum.