

Picture News



What qualities should a positive role model have?

Ex-England football manager, Sir Gareth Southgate, has shared his thoughts on young people, and his fears that many are spending too much time online, gaming and using social media. He stated how important it is for young people to have positive role models beyond social media influencers. Drawing on his own experiences during a talk for the BBC, he said the UK needs to do more to encourage young people – particularly young men – to make the right choices in life and not be afraid of failure.



- Look at this week's poster. Do you know who is on it? It is former England football manager, Sir Gareth Southgate.
- Watch this week's useful video, where Gareth offers his advice to young people. Do you think he is a good role model? Which parts of his advice do you feel are the most important?
- Read the information found on the assembly resource, which provides more details about Gareth's recent speech.
- Thinking about your own role models, who are they? Are they someone you know? Do you believe role models should be people you know? Why?
- Can you make a list of the qualities you feel make a good role model?
- Can anyone be a good role model? Is age important?

Reflection

A positive role model can be anyone who inspires us to be our best selves. They might show kindness, make good choices, or simply encourage others by the way they live and treat people.

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KS1 focus

What is a role model?



- This week's assembly resource shares more details on the qualities Gareth Southgate feels a positive role model should have.
- Gareth spoke about the importance of teamwork, how he chose football players for the England squad who set good examples for others, and what 'being successful' means to him.
- Can you think of a time when you worked as a team? Can you remember when someone made the right choice, and it made you want to do the same? Can you reflect on a time when something was difficult, but you worked hard to get better at it? Share your thoughts as a class.
- Look at resource 1, which gives examples of what a role model could be.
- How do these thoughts about role models make you feel? Do you have anyone in your life that you feel is a role model to you?
- If you have a role model, share a little more about them with a partner and with your class as well, if you want to. Who are they? Why are they important to you? How do they make you feel? What do they do that makes you think of them as a role model?
- Can anyone be a role model? Does a role model have to be someone you know?
- Would you like to be a role model? Do you think you have to be a grown up to be a role model?
- How can a role model help you learn and grow as a person?

Reflection

A role model is someone who you look up to and respect. They guide others through their good choices and set an example. They often inspire others to be like them.

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KS2 focus

Who is your role model?



- What sort of things spring to mind when you hear the phrase 'role model'? Share your thoughts as a class. You could create a thought shower to record all your ideas.
- Think about Gareth Southgate (or another famous figure). What qualities does they have that make them a positive role model?
- Do you have a role model? Why are they important or significant to you? What qualities or actions make them a good role model?
- Look at resource 2, which explores potential role models in more detail.
- Why can it be helpful to have role models? How can they support us, give us confidence, or help us make good choices?
- Can you name someone you know (like a friend, family member or teacher) who you think is a good role model? What do they do?
- Can someone be a role model without knowing it? How do you feel when you see someone doing something kind or generous? Could that inspire you to do something similar?
- Are famous people always good role models? Why? What can you do if a role model lets you down?
- Can role models be younger than us? Does age matter, or is it more about the way someone behaves and the values they show?
- What's one thing you can learn from your role model that might help you or others?

Reflection

A role model is someone who inspires us to grow and become our best self. They can guide us through their actions, values and the choices that they make.



KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Letter to a role model. Too often in life, we think highly of someone, but never pluck up the courage to let them know! Be brave and write a letter or note to someone who inspires you. You could include:

- What qualities do you admire in them?
- How have they influenced your life for the better?
- What might you change or adopt, moving forwards?

Deliver your letter to its recipient. If it is someone famous, see if you can find an address or email to send your message.

Option 2

Create a unique portrait of your role model. Choose someone you know or a famous figure, who you look up to as a positive role model. How would you like to depict them? You could use collage, paint, sketching, charcoal, or any medium you like.

Around your portrait, add words or short sentences explaining what makes this person a good role model.

Share your finished portraits with the class, or display them in a 'Role Models Gallery'.



KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Wouldn't it be lovely to be able to celebrate our role models? Let's do this by creating a class role model heart wreath!

What you will need to do:

- On a small piece of paper (colourful paper might be nice!), write the name of the person who is your role model.
- Collect everyone in the class's piece of paper with their role model's name on.
- Make a heart shaped template that will be the base of the wreath.
- Stick the small pieces of paper with the role models' names onto the base.
- Display your wreath proudly in your classroom, celebrating all your important role models!

Option 2

Draw a picture of you and your role model! It could be of you both doing something where your role model helps or inspires you, or could be a picture of you both together. Choose whatever medium you'd like for your picture, such as pens, pencils, paints or pastels, and make your picture bright and colourful.

Perhaps you could share your picture with your role model, if it is someone you know, or you could display it somewhere special.



This week's useful websites

This week's news story

www.primediaplus.com/2025/03/20/young-men-need-better-mentors-and-role-models-sir-gareth-southgate

This week's useful video

Sir Gareth Southgate's advice for young people
<https://youtu.be/udNTj3QI3E4>

This week's Virtual Picture News

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This week's vocabulary

Diverse

Having a lot of differences. It can describe a group of people who are not all the same.

'By the end we knew who we were. A proud, **diverse**, resilient team that stood up for each other...'

Emulate

When someone tries to be like somebody else, because they admire them. People may often emulate their role models.

'They were role models I wanted others to **emulate**...'

Resilience

A quality someone has, that means they are able to bounce back and recover from difficulties, failures or challenges.

'Because true success is how you respond in the hardest moments. It's about having the belief and **resilience** to persevere...'

Ridiculed

When someone or something is laughed at, mocked or teased.

'They were role models I wanted others to emulate...where mistakes weren't **ridiculed**, but were seen as part of a process...'

Role model

A person who sets a good example to others, by modelling the right behaviour, kind actions, or inspiring achievements.

What qualities should a positive **role model** have?

Social media influencers

A person who has built a following on social media platforms. They can influence the opinions, behaviour, and purchases people make based on their comments.

He stated how important it is that young people have better role models beyond **social media influencers**.