

SECTION 3

RECORD OF PROGRESS

MINDSET

What is a mindset?

A mindset is a belief about yourself; about what makes you, you. This includes your qualities, your talents and what you think. There are two main mindsets - a fixed mindset and a growth mindset. People with fixed mindsets believe that things like intelligence and ability don't change much over time. People like you, we hope, with growth mindsets, know that things like hard work, determination, listening to your teachers will help you to change, improve and succeed. We believe that you'll be able to do it, just like in the poem below:

*Somebody said that it couldn't be done,
But he with a chuckle replied
That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one
Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.
So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin
On his face. If he worried he hid it.
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it.
Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;
At least no one ever has done it";
But he took off his coat and he took off his hat,
And the first thing we knew he'd begun it.
With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,
Without any doubting or quiddit,
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it.
There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,
There are thousands to prophesy failure;
There are thousands to point out to you one by one,
The dangers that wait to assail you.
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,
Just take off your coat and go to it;
Just start to sing as you tackle the thing
That "cannot be done," and you'll do it.*

by Edgar Guest