



## Portrait of a Graduate

*The purpose of this document is to concisely encapsulate the key characteristics that we seek to cultivate in our students throughout their education at Hillsdale Academy. While these characteristics are not all objectively measurable, they serve as the end goals that guide the academically excellent classical Christian education we provide. It is our goal that by the end of a Hillsdale Academy education our students will embody the following characteristics which are essential for a life of faith, freedom, character, and learning.*

### FAITH

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Appreciate and understand their Judeo-Christian heritage  
Possess a deep understanding of their faith  
Be able to articulate and discuss their faith  
Love the Lord their God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength  
Love their neighbor as themselves  
Live an active life of faith in the context of family, church, and local community

### FREEDOM

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Recognize that freedom requires discipline and use their freedom responsibly  
Be well-informed and engaged citizens equipped for self-governance  
Be able and willing to engage in constructive and respectful civil discourse  
Understand the relationship between rights and duties  
Understand the difference between liberty, freedom, and license  
Understand the difference between authority and power

### CHARACTER

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Embody the four cardinal virtues: prudence, justice, courage, and temperance  
Embody the three theological virtues: faith, hope, and love  
Exhibit the fruit of the Spirit  
Pursue the Good, the True, and the Beautiful  
Develop and cherish deep friendships  
Lead and serve those around them in word and deed

### LEARNING

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Be lifelong lovers of learning  
Approach the world with a sense of wonder and curiosity  
Demonstrate intellectual humility and teachability  
Be equipped to discern truth from error  
Have a storehouse of memorized Scripture, poetry, speeches, and drama  
Have mature reading, thinking, writing, and speaking skills