

**Word:** Precept

**Class:** Noun

**Definition:** a general rule intended to regulate behaviour or thought.

Mr. Browne had written on the chalkboard in big block letters:

**P-R-E-C-E-P-T!**

"Okay, everybody write this down at the very top of the very first page in your English notebook."

As we did what he told us to do, he said: "Okay, so who can tell me what a precept is? Does anyone know?"

No one raised their hands.

Mr. Browne smiled, nodded, and turned around to write on the chalkboard again:

**PRECEPTS = RULES ABOUT REALLY IMPORTANT THINGS!**

"Like a motto?" someone called out.

"Like a motto!" said Mr. Browne, nodding as he continued writing on the board. "Like a famous quote. Like a line from a fortune cookie. Any saying or ground rule that can motivate you. Basically, a precept is anything that helps guide us when making decisions about really important things."

## **Task**

So far in the book, we have heard two of Mr Browne's precepts.

**When given the choice between being right or being kind,**

**Choose kind**

and

**Your deeds are your monuments**

Today I would like you to consider precepts that you feel are important to you (a bit of internet research may be necessary). You may wish to link them into our work on diversity and equality this week or you may find something else that feels particularly relevant to you.

**Top Tip – the word 'precept' is an American term. When researching, try using the word 'quote' instead.**

Then, like Auggie did, I would like you to write to me and explain which precept/quote you have chosen, what it means and why you chose it.