

# DEVELOPMENTAL RESPONSIVENESS

High-performing schools with middle grades are sensitive to the unique developmental challenges of early adolescence.

Focus Area	Level of Development: 1	Level of Development: 2	Level of Development: 3	Level of Development: 4	Evidence
<i>School Environment</i>	The school has not yet created a personalized environment that supports each student's intellectual, ethical, social, and physical development. The school does not group adults and students in small learning communities characterized by stable, close, and mutually respectful relationships. The school does not focus on meaningful, positive rewards	The school creates a personalized environment that supports some of students' intellectual, ethical, social, and physical development. The school groups adults and students in some small learning communities characterized by stable, close, and mutually respectful relationships. The school has discussed using meaningful, positive rewards.	For the most part, the school creates a personalized environment that supports the majority of students' intellectual, ethical, social, and physical development. The school groups adults and students in small learning communities characterized by stable, close, and mutually respectful relationships. The school has established a focus on meaningful, positive rewards.	The school creates a personalized environment that supports each student's intellectual, ethical, social, and physical development. The school groups adults and students in small learning communities characterized by stable, close, and mutually respectful relationships. The school focuses on meaningful, positive rewards.	
<i>Student Services</i>	The school does not provide adequate access to comprehensive services to foster healthy physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development.	The school provides minimal access to comprehensive services to foster healthy physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development.	The school provides partial access to several comprehensive services to foster healthy physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development.	The school provides access to comprehensive services to foster healthy physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development.	
<i>Instructional Variation</i>	Few teachers use a wide variety of instructional strategies to foster curiosity, exploration, creativity, and the development of social skills.	Some teachers use a wide variety of instructional strategies to foster curiosity, exploration, creativity, and the development of social skills.	Most teachers use a wide variety of instructional strategies to foster curiosity, exploration, creativity, and the development of social skills.	Teachers use a wide variety of instructional strategies to foster curiosity, exploration, creativity, and the development of social skills.	