What is a Good School? 
A companion for teachers and students

A good school is everyone's right!
Many people are now asking what kinds of schools do we have?

Are they serving our children? Are they places that open our children’s minds or close them?

Are you thinking about these questions?

Is your school a Good School?
A good school has:
a) Good and motivated teachers
b) A good learning environment
c) A transparent and Accountable Administration

It is where everyone takes responsibility for influencing what happens at their school.

Even students are given opportunities to contribute their ideas!

Where everyone is proud of their school!

Where teachers don’t just teach but educate!
A Good School doesn’t happen by chance. It is created by people who care and are committed to improve everyone’s experience of education.

What is a Good School?
A school that has...

- A good learning environment
- Respect for all
- Parents must get involved
- We must uphold high standards
- Children must have a voice

A Good School creates an environment where individuals can dream big dreams and learn the skills to make them real.

Think about this...

How would your life be different if you had been lucky enough to go to a Good School?

It is a place I will remember long after I am finished with school!
What is a good teacher?

They show more care and never use the cane!

They help their students learn thinking skills.

Good teachers are creative. They see things in a different way.

They role-model ethical behaviour and teach values to students.
What is a Good Teacher?

A good teacher opens my mind and helps me dream big dreams!

A good teacher invests in the long-term development of the child rather than just short-term obedience.

Think about this...

Would your experience of school be different if you were lucky enough to have had a good teacher?
Can anyone become a good teacher?

What can a good school do to help their teachers become good teachers?

Good teachers don’t fall from Good Schools by providing skills and guiding them with their learning.

If our school doesn’t value our teachers, how will our teachers value us?

Even teachers need guidelines and an environment at school that shows them what is acceptable behaviour.

Give respect, get respect!

And appreciation for a hard job, done well!
What GoodSchool.indd   9
3/5/2009   3:59:40 PM

The sky! They are created by them with support, building their clear ethical guidelines.

School has good teachers!

- We use positive discipline!
- We take pride in our school!
- We care about our students!

School have good teachers?

A Good School invests in supporting and developing the capabilities of its teachers.

Think about this...

Imagine what your school would be like if all the teachers felt respected and valued.

My teacher is my guide to our school.
What is a good learning environment?

Where the school compound is kept clean and orderly.

Where classrooms have colours and are not falling apart.

Where the latrines are clean and there is access to water.

Don't forget trees and a fence!

Where there is an open field where students can play!
A good learning environment is when everyone feels that their physical space has order and respects their dignity.

Think about this...

Do you think your physical environment affects how you feel and learn?

If my school doesn’t look good, clean and orderly, how will I learn to value these things?

A Good School shows its values in its environment.
What else is part of the school?

What about the psychological environment at your school?

It means children are not humiliated but nurtured and encouraged to grow.

Where everyone feels safe enough to be creative and explore ideas.

Where the school encourages everyone to become active participants.

A Good School is your school!

We have a voice!

And where everyone feels their views and ideas matter to the school.
A Good School creates an environment where all its members can realize their potential.
What is an accountable and transparent administration?

Sets high standards and expects everyone to honour them.

It means the school has a clear vision of what it wants to achieve.

Encourages all stakeholders to participate in making decisions about the school!

It has fair policies that are written down and consistently enforced.
Think about this...

How would our country be different if we all learned how to be accountable and transparent at our school?

A Good School is an accountable and transparent administration.

An administration that...

- Encourages all stakeholders to participate
- Develops clear vision and mission
- Encourages all stakeholders to participate
- Encourages students to participate
- Celebrates achievements
- Monitors progress and celebrates achievements!

This means the administration is willing to explain and justify to all the stakeholders how the school is run.

Everyone understands what is expected from them, what they can expect from the school and why!
A school that has:

- Good and motivated teachers.
- A good physical and psychological environment.
- An accountable and transparent administration.

Is a **GOOD SCHOOL**

Is your school a good school?
How can you make your school a Good School?

- Talk about these ideas.
- Discuss with colleagues if your school is a Good School.
- Develop a school-wide process to learn more about these ideas.
- Learn how the Good School Toolkit can help you create a Good School.
- Make an Action Plan to create a Good School.

Good luck!