

The role of values and ethics to bring about change in education

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Main Questions

- If we want values and ethics to bring about change in education
how do we instill moral values in our schools?
 - How do we transform our schools to **value-driven schools?**
- How do we change the culture of a school so that the **core values**
influence the **identity** of the school
and the **behaviour of the learners?**

How do we transform our schools into value-driven schools?

***“Values driven companies are without doubt,
the most successful companies on the planet”***

Richard Barrett author of Building a value-driven organization

Measured the values of more than 600 companies in more than 30 countries

***“Values driven schools are without doubt
the most successful schools in the world”***

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1 What does a value-driven school look like?

Core values have the **highest authority (the boss”)** in the school and the learners, teachers and leadership team are subject to it

Core values act as **the moral compass** that guides **decisions, behaviour and attitudes**

The core values are used as **criteria** to measure **the behaviour of teachers** and learners

Core values **colour the identity and the culture** of the school

The focus falls on **positively living the core values**, not on punishment for disobeying rules

Relationships are more important than **rules**

The **leaders** are **moral role models** who have internalized the core values of the school and live it

SAELA Conference on:
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Question: How do learners/ children develop commitment to
ethical values?

Children/learners develop commitment to ethical values from:

- Identifying with significant others who live by these values
- Experiencing core values in a network of relationships and interactions
- Internalizing these values from others
- Learning to love the good in themselves
- Experiencing reinforcement of behaviour demonstrating these values
- Experiencing logic consequences from adults for behaviour opposing these values
- Seeing different role models who exemplify these values
- Practicing behaviour exemplifying the core values/ Instilling positive moral habits
- Experiencing a positive moral context

Values are never a given. They have got to be developed, worked upon, and consolidated on an ongoing basis. Because if at any given time we as a society or as sections of society become complacent about them, we run the risk of losing them.

Former Deputy President Motlanthe