



IMPROVING BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL



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WHAT DO WE MEAN BY 'GOOD'

- Children who are obedient and do as they are told?
- Children who work hard to get high academic scores?
- Children who are quiet and calm?

DOING AS YOU ARE TOLD

- Depends who is doing the telling and what they are telling children to do.
- Some children and young people are constantly controlled by others
- Control is toxic in a relationship
- Perhaps we need to give pupils agency and more opportunities to make their own decisions
- Then we help them to learn how to take responsibility

- For some children the pressure to achieve high scores is building unheard of levels of anxiety in education
- Competition might be fine for those who are able and have support but not for those who are constantly 'losers'
- Perhaps we need to support more personalized learning (as many independent schools do) so that children aim for personal bests and their strengths get acknowledged and utilized
- And perhaps more collaborative rather than competitive environments
- Then we help them learn the skills to succeed in the workplace

BEING QUIET AND CALM

- A high proportion of children are experiencing adverse childhood experiences (A.C.E.s) Violence, abuse, poverty, neglect etc
- This makes them feel badly about themselves, other people and the world around them
- They do not feel calm or positive inside and their amygdala will be triggered by any perceived threat
- Perhaps we need to increase positive relationships in schools including giving a high priority to social and emotional learning and ensuring all educators are trained in neuropsychology
- Then we will help children understand themselves and ways to cope with challenges



ASPIRE TO LEARNING BEHAVIOUR FROM THE INSIDE OUT

- Agency – giving children a voice, choice and responsibility
- Safety – so they do not fear what might happen at school
- Positivity - feeling better about themselves, identifying strengths and solutions
- Inclusion – ensuring children feel they belong and they matter
- Respect –acknowledging what children have experienced and what they feel
- Equity – making things fairer to provide more equal opportunities to thrive and succeed