

# UK charity supporting the mental health and wellbeing of all education staff



The charity for everyone working in education

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## What if schools valued wellbeing more than results?

The New Zealand government puts mental health above economic stability. Our schools should do the same, says Tara Porter

By Tara Porter 16 July 2019 - 15:46



Governments throughout the world organise their budgets with the aim of economic stability and growth. The New Zealand government has become [one of the first governments in the world to turn this idea on its head](#). They have designed their budget not around monetary aims but around [wellbeing aims](#).

In the UK, David Cameron suggested back in 2006 that we should move away from an obsession with gross domestic

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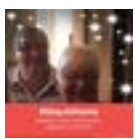
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Helen Bennett

I wish.

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### Jean Simpson

Dr Tara Porter - come and visit our school in Tenerife and you will see your speculative daydream is a possibility!

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### Geraint Roberts

Jean Simpson - which school is this that you refer to?

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### Jean Simpson

Geraint Roberts Callao Learning Centre - British School for International Pupils. we have been open since 2011 and focus on individualised lesson plans for individual pupils - find our web page on Google xx

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### Tom Burkard

There's no hope when authorities focus on the negatives. I've visited scores of happy schools--ones where it's impossible to get a job until someone retires. Many of these schools were serving disadvantaged communities (such as West Dunbartonshire), and their teachers made no concession to disadvantage: rather, they expected the same standards of behaviour, literacy and learning as you'd find in the best middle-class schools.

Perhaps the most heartening result of these visits was learning the knock-on effect this had on the communities they served. Parents with drug and drink problems found that their own lives were transformed once they saw that their children weren't doomed to lead the same crappy lives they'd endured.

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### Onda Adesso

I would love to help make this dream a reality in every country. You have voiced clearly my own hope for our world's future education system.

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### Beck Sims

All children are different and all children matter. The production line schooling model is out-dated and darn right abusive to children's mental health. We need our schools to support each child's needs and abilities in a nurturing environment and at a pace they can handle. No wonder home schooling is becoming more popular!

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### Jyoti Chopra

Yes education system needs introspection and amendment

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### Matt Prosser

This is beautiful. It's exactly what is needed. Our whole society should be based upon these ideas, especially our education system because the only way we can survive as a species is through our children.

Thank you so much, this was a fascinating read.

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### John Alloway

The day schools issue EVERY student with an appropriate dictionary and shows them how to use it, I'll believe that change is on the horizon.... When study tech. is being taught to every primary school child I'll sign up to be a course room supervisor.... Govt. is focused on teaching obedience not understanding and ability!

Like · Reply ·  2 · 36w



### Rosemary Dewan

As ever, our values determine our priorities.

The Human Values Foundation has recently launched a Personal Development and Wellbeing programme called The Big Think for ages 4 to 11 (<http://the-big-think.org>). It encourages schools and teachers to nurture children as unique individuals in a safe, supportive environment. By degrees, the children learn to think independently as compassionate, caring young global citizens and they gain attractive personal attributes, including having the courage to do and be their very best and if need be, to seek help for themselves or others they sense could do with some assistance.

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### Rosemary Dewan

Health and Happiness would shine through!

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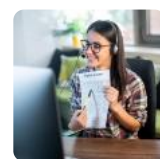
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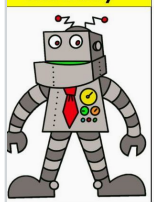
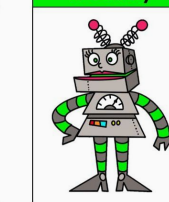


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