

Empowering Your Child's Future: Navigating the Journey of Choosing the Right School

KAZIBA Stephen

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- Choosing a school for our children is more than just preparing them for exams or jobs. In Uganda, some parents face a dilemma: do we want our kids to memorize facts or learn with depth and wisdom? Surprisingly, some parents like schools that make kids stressed and fearful, focusing more on finishing lots of lessons than on quality learning.
 - Today, let's talk about what makes a school 'good.' Should it only focus on passing exams, or should it help our kids truly understand and be ready for life? It's time to rethink how we choose schools, aiming for an education that nurtures our children's understanding, skills, and a successful lifelong journey.

Misconceptions about Education or Common Misbeliefs Regarding Education.

1. Education is Defined by Impressive School Buildings.
2. High Passing Rates Equate to True Quality of Education.
3. Time table with maximum back to back academic periods
4. Large amounts of copy work
5. Admissions and Enrolled Students' Status Determine School Effectiveness.
6. Grades Alone Indicate a Comprehensive Educational Experience.
7. Blindly Following School Traditions Aligns with Evolving Education.
8. Long-Standing School Traditions Always Hold the Same Significance.

Cont

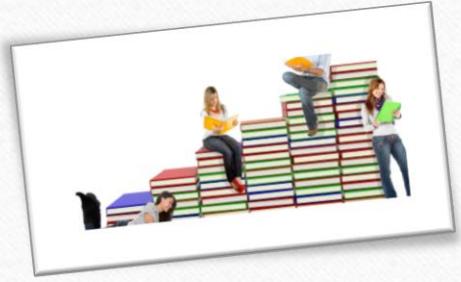
9. Expensive Private/Government Schools Always Provide Better Education. More Money Means it is a Better School
10. A Highly Structured Learning Environment Guarantees Academic Success.
11. Standardized Tests Are the Sole Measure of a Student's Intelligence.
12. Teachers Are the Most Important Influence on a Child's Education
13. Specialized Schools Catering to Specific Subjects Are Always Superior.
14. Learning Stops Outside the Classroom is Insignificant

Cont

15. Only High-Profile Universities Ensure a Successful Career.
16. More Homework Always Leads to Better Academic Performance/More Learning.
17. All Students Learn Best in the Same Way.
18. Only STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Education Is Valuable.
19. Online Education Is Less Effective Than Traditional Classroom Learning.
20. Intelligence Is Solely Determined by Genetic Factors.
21. Creative Arts Education Is Not as Important as Academic Subjects.
22. Education is a Destination, Not a Lifelong Journey.

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- 23. Class Size Does Not Matter/ Small Classes Would Produce Big Improvements
 - 24. Money Doesn't Matter
 - 25. Increased Pay for Teachers Improves Student Performance
 - 26. Private schools offer the best education
 - 28. Most Teachers Don't Care

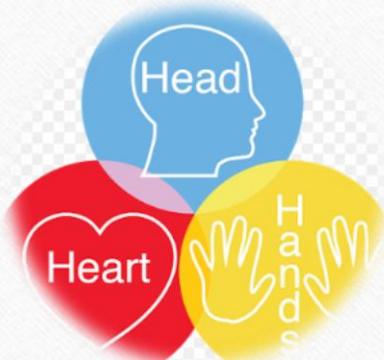
What is Education



- Education is not simply going to school or university and coming out with a degree
- Education is the process of acquiring knowledge ,attitudes ,physical skills and being able to use them to solve problems and bring about personal and national developments
- Education is preparing a child to face day to day life

Education involves development of the three parts

- Head (Knowledge and Intellectual skills)
- Heart (Emotions /Attitudes)
- Hands (Physical fitness/Performance)



INDICATORS THAT
THE SCHOOL OFFERS
TRUE EDUCATION

Head (Knowledge and Intellectual skills)

- Offers a diverse and engaging curriculum.
 - S.1 check whether they are offering CBC
 - Class sitting arrangement
 - Number of children per class
 - Class Size and Student-Teacher Ratio
 - Employs qualified and experienced teachers.

Cont

- Integrates technology for enhanced learning.
 - - Computer Laboratory
 - - Internet in school
 - - eLibrary
 - - Website
 - - School email/Phones
 - - Banking
- Provides opportunities for academic competitions and extracurricular activities.
- Activities happening after 3:00pm
- Employable activities/Hands on activities

Heart (Emotions / Attitudes)

- Prioritizes social-emotional learning programs.
- Emphasizes character education and values.
- Offers counseling services for emotional well-being.
- Fosters an inclusive and diverse environment.
- Life skills program/PSHE
- Mental Health talks

Hands (Physical Fitness/Performance):

- Features robust sports programs for various interests.
- Incorporates a comprehensive physical education curriculum.
- Promotes health and wellness initiatives for students.
- Sports facilities e.g Field, swimming pool , basketball court
- School
- Gym
- Sick bay

QUESTION

- Do You understand Your Child
 - Potential/Strength they possess
 - Career path
 - Interests
 - Values they hold
 - ETC

Common Pitfalls in Parental School Selection

- Storied buildings and visually appealing infrastructure.
- Attractive and colorful school buses.
- Good uniform
- They allow children to have hair on them
- Influence from neighbors or friends whose children attend the school.
- Consideration of the school owner's religious affiliation.
- They Eat well /Good meals

Common Pitfalls cont

- Flexible visitation policies allowing parents to visit their children anytime.
- No corporal punishment (no caning policy).
- Proximity to home or workplace
- They pay little money
- I want her/him to associate with rich kids
- My girl/Daughter will get a rich boyfriend/rich friends
- No stress at school- The school doesn't stress kids

Choosing the Right School: Key Considerations

- Does the school's mission and values align with what I am teaching at home?
- Is the curriculum and approach in sync with the values and principles I want my child to uphold?
- Will I have opportunities to collaborate with the school in shaping my child's education?
- How does the school encourage and facilitate communication between parents and educators?
- Is the school community inclusive and diverse?
- Will my child have the opportunity to form positive connections with peers that contribute to their growth?
- What is the school's reputation within the community and the education sector?

Key Considerations cont

- How have past students fared academically and personally after graduating from this school?
- Can I afford the tuition fees and additional costs associated with the school?
- Are there any financial aid or scholarship opportunities available?
- How does the school approach character education and values development?
- Does the school actively contribute to building responsible, empathetic, and ethical citizens?



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING