

Sample Activity: Conditions for Learning

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Take a set of positive adjectives from the schools mission and values statement. Construct a list with their opposites as set out below and administer the instrument with all members of staff. Score by circling a number on the 1 to 5 continua.

Practise this by completing this instrument (simulating your response for a fictitious school) individually. Then as a group appoint a data processor to collect all scores to produce the mean for each on a master sheet.

This school is:

Safe	1	2	3	4	5	Unsafe
Parent-friendly	1	2	3	4	5	Parent-unfriendly
Orderly	1	2	3	4	5	Disorderly
Competitive	1	2	3	4	5	Cooperative
Backward-looking	1	2	3	4	5	Forward looking
Tense	1	2	3	4	5	Relaxed
Reactive	1	2	3	4	5	Proactive
Teacher-friendly	1	2	3	4	5	Teacher-unfriendly
Attractive	1	2	3	4	5	Unattractive
Welcoming	1	2	3	4	5	Unwelcoming
Inclusive	1	2	3	4	5	Divisive
Student-friendly	1	2	3	4	5	Student-unfriendly

Now, use the three 'disciplined dialogue' questions with the aggregated data from the staff to hold a short discussion.

1. What are we seeing here?
2. Why are we seeing what we are?
3. What if anything should we be doing about it?