

**Teachers' Orientations
to children and their teaching and learning**
(Watkins, 2001)

Rate the strength of your views about children, their learning and their teaching.

Please use the following five point scale and circle your rating for each item below.

A view not strongly held 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 *A view very strongly held*

Statements	Rating
1. Personal effort by students is the most significant factor in their literacy success	1__2__3__4__5
2. Students find their greatest satisfaction in doing better than others	1__2__3__4__5
3. Teachers should be judged on 'value added' rather than absolute measures of student literacy performance	1__2__3__4__5
4. Strong competition amongst students improves performance	1__2__3__4__5
5. Teachers should concentrate on helping students achieve 'personal bests'	1__2__3__4__5
6. Teachers should constantly compare students' literacy performance	1__2__3__4__5
7. Individual learning tasks always enhance literacy achievement	1__2__3__4__5
8. Ability is the most significant factor in student success	1__2__3__4__5
9. Normative standards measuring student literacy performance are essential	1__2__3__4__5
10. Most student satisfaction is found in small gains	1__2__3__4__5

Having completed your individual rating, meet as a group to attain a sum of your scores for each statement. Go now to the second sheet which shows each of the statements against two orientations to teaching and learning. Transfer your group's collective score for each item to that sheet and TOTAL them for each orientation.

A Learning Orientation:

- 1. Personal effort by students is the most significant factor in their literacy success
- 3. Teachers should be judged on 'value added' rather than absolute measures of student literacy performance
- 5. Teachers should concentrate on helping students achieve 'personal bests'
- 7. Individual leaning tasks always enhance literacy achievement
- 10. Most student satisfaction is found in small gains

GROUP TOTAL _____

A Performance Orientation:

- 8. Ability is the most significant factor in student success
- 6. Teachers should constantly compare students' literacy performance
- 9. Normative standards measuring student literacy performance are essential
- 4. Strong competition amongst students improves performance
- 2. Students find their greatest satisfaction in doing better than others

GROUP TOTAL _____

Discuss the findings as a group and make a general statement about your school.
The general view in the findings on our staff's present orientation to student learning and teaching suggests or shows:
