



**TRANSFORMING EDUCATION SUMMIT CONVENED  
BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL**

**UNIVERSAL STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT**

In the framework of the Transforming Education Summit 2022 convened by the United Nations Secretary-General, we propose a Universal Statement of Commitment that outlines a bold vision and concrete actions for the transformation of education to drive progress towards the SDGs and better prepare learners for the future.

We seek to reflect a whole-of society vision of the transformation of education systems and key levers of change that can bring about this vision.

## **1 GIVING OUR BEST**

The first and most important element in child education is the parents' self-education. As such, whatever a parent sees askew in his child should arouse him to begin a process of self-education and soul searching, because the child is the mirror of the parent.

Education means giving. A parent must give his child anything he wants to teach that child. For example, a parent cannot teach generosity and good manners if the parent is stingy and bad-mannered. The rule of thumb in education our children and passing values on to them is: If we live it, we can give it.

## **2 PERSONAL EXAMPLE**

In this way, guidance is passed along naturally from the personal example that children see in their parents, minus lengthy sermons from parent to child. Parents with good character traits who conduct themselves respectably create an instructive platform.

## **3 MARITAL HARMONY**

Raising a happy and well-adjusted child depends on marital harmony, since a child must experience parents who are educated in refinement. A refined parent is one who speaks with respect, honors his/her spouse, always has a good word, is encouraging, is patient in times of pressure, giving, benevolent, a good listener and more. This is the profile of a refined person who is educated to display positive character traits.

## **4 GRATITUDE AND JOY**

Gratitude and joy are vital elements in parental role-modeling for children. A necessary component in child rearing is simple happiness. Parents must strive to instill in the child the feeling of joy and thanksgiving for every aspect of their life. If the parents don't serve the Creator with joy and gratitude, then they certainly can't teach their children to do so.

## **5 FOCUS ON THE GOOD**

An important principle in child education is to focus on the good, rather than struggle with the seemingly bad. Most parents regard education as the process of eradicating a child's bad habits. They therefore waste endless time and energy arguing with, yelling at, and threatening their children.

## **6 FIRST PRIORITY**

Every parent must realize the formidable responsibility of educating a child. This must be first priority in our lives before personal advancement, before career success, and even before our own faith-based wisdom study and services of the Creator. If educating our children comes before our study and services of the Creator, it clearly takes priority over mundane and much less important endeavors.

## **7 THE POWER OF LOVE**

Every educator needs to know how to create a connection of love between himself and his students. A student will only be able to accept an educator's teachings in an environment of love and safety. A lot of thought and effort must be exerted in order to think of ways and ideas to create such a realm for educators and students, as well as for parents and children.

## **8 NO PRESSURE**

Raising children with patience and love is good for both children and parents. In particular, it spares children from excess emotional pain, anger and suffering. For example, mothers should not regard child-rearing as a punishment. Sure, the task is demanding, both in time and effort, but it is also a lofty one. With their own hands, a mother holds the future of the next generation.

## **9 THE WAY TO THE HEART**

An important way for parents to develop patience and prevent terrible mistakes in child rearing is to realize that a child is a child! Raising a child to adulthood must come slowly, and with patience.

## **10 TO LIVE AND GIVE LIFE**

Another very important element in child education is to know how to function event during times of adversity, when the Evil Inclination seems insurmountable. Both parents and children must learn that life doesn't always go according to the way we would like.

## **11 TASK OF THE TEACHER**

Child education must be devoid of anger. The minute that an educator gets angry with his pupil, he loses the power to educate. Losing self-control results in losing control over the child: our Sages said that an impatient person cannot educate. A person who suffers from anger cannot teach, because his students will not be able to learn from him.

## **12 CLIMBING THE FENCES**

Education with love means also functioning within a social framework; order and healthy living.

