



THE INDEPENDENT THINKING ALTERNATIVE GOOD SCHOOL CHECKLIST

YOUR SCORE OUT OF FIVE

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1: Do children enjoy going there? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2: Do teachers enjoy going there? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3: Are all children challenged by the work? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4: Do the children develop competencies as well as grades? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5: Do the children learn skills as well as facts? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6: Are values discussed and modelled daily by all members of the school community? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7: Is there an inclusive atmosphere where all children are valued for who they are and what they bring? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8: Are key issues like bullying and other social and emotional aspects of school life discussed and addressed in a positive, open way? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9: Is the ability to think for themselves encouraged and developed in all children? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10: Does the school have a sense of fun? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11: Are aspects like wonder, curiosity, adventure, bravery, resilience and resistance actively encouraged and celebrated? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12: Are the teachers open to new ideas and keen to do things <i>with</i> – and not <i>to</i> – the learners? | <input type="checkbox"/> |



THE INDEPENDENT THINKING
ALTERNATIVE GOOD SCHOOL CHECKLIST
CONT...

13: Does the school keep up to date with new advances in learning and technology? ☐

14: Are high expectations of the children matched by high expectations of the staff? ☐

15: Does the head stay in the room for an INSET day? ☐

16: Are children taught that being their best doesn't have to involve being better than others? ☐

17: Is the unexpected welcomed? ☐

18: Do children get to think about, interact with and seek to change life outside of the school walls? ☐

19: Is the school aware that learning is something that children can do at any time, anywhere and only part of it needs to be within the school walls? ☐

20: Does the school community extend beyond the school? ☐

21: Do the lessons incorporate a variety of learning opportunities and possibilities? ☐

22: Do the children have the opportunity to be responsible for something and take decisions that make a difference? ☐

23 :Are the results sufficient enough to allow all children to go to the next stage of their life, whatever that may be? ☐

24: Does the person on reception smile at visitors? ☐



YOUR SCORE



100-120

You're clearly doing so much good work with children at the heart of it all. Be brave and keep stretching yourselves.

60-100

Hopefully you're moving in the right direction but there's still some way to go. Trust your instincts and put children and young people at the centre of your work

Less than 60

We suspect you might not be enjoying life at your school and that somewhere, deep down, you know there's another way. There is.

If you'd like to discuss your score and how we can help you – whatever number you came up with – then please call us on +44(0)1267 211432 for a free, no-obligation chat.

www.independentthinking.com