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**EDUC400:CAPSTONE PROJECT** 

# SEL INTEGRATION: BUILDING AND ASSESSING STRONG FOUNDATION IN EDUCATION.

FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIAL—
EMOTIONAL LEARNING:
NURTURING HOLISTIC GROWTH IN
EDUCATION

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### 1. Abstract

It is evident that the holistic development of students cannot be separated from academic education, especially with respect to education which touches upon their social and emotional aspects. This abstract focuses on the integration of educational policies and methods to strengthen the existence of SEL in education in terms of its building and composition as well as the method of its evaluation. The study is carried out in order to better comprehend the interplay between SEL and the child's achievement in learning, emotional intelligence, social skills and even the child's health.

The first aspect of this study encompasses the integration of SEL within the international framework of education policy. The paper considers conceptual approaches for embedding SEL into the already existing syllabus and approaches, and emphases the need to provide SEL fostering between the students at all levels. Important perspectives include the curriculum created, the in-service training of teachers, and the parental and school supportive policies that all help to build the type of foundation that supports both social and emotional development in addition to academics.

In the second dimension, the study looks at the creation and the use of appropriate tools designed to assess the effectiveness of SEL integration within its objectives. The evidence from other studies suggests that there is a concern for the evaluative component of the SEL programs, for this reason, the study looks at the adaptation of evaluation techniques which focus on the settled objectives of the SEL programs. Not only academic achievement, but also social interaction, emotional self-control, interpersonal skills and relations. The abstract focuses on both qualitative and quantitative methods for the assessment and evaluation of the effectiveness this time from the perspective of educationalists to help them understand the effectiveness of SEL implementation comprehensively.

Additionally, the research focuses on the obstacles and possible solutions regarding the integration of SEL, taking into account different educational settings and learner characteristics. Considering the relevant case studies and empirical materials, the abstract

intends to provide useful tips to educators, policymakers and researchers who are willing to facilitate the integration of SEL into their educational systems.

To sum up, this abstract presents a clear outline of the entire research concerning the SI of SEL in the education sector, focusing on how to set stronger bases as well as strengthen measures aimed at evaluating the set practices. The results discussed in this research paper are relevant to the existing conversation on the ability of SEL integration to transform education into a more integrated and learner-centered practice.

### 2. Introduction

In a positive development, there is a growth in the number of educators and other stakeholders in education who speak about Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) which is aiding the overall growth of a child mind set and body in this case students. SEL includes a wide range of skills like empathy, self-regulation and management, social skills and responsible decision making. The incorporation of educational aspects into this practice seems to be a breakaway from the old way of emphasizing more on academic grades. This introduction serves as a segway into the topic and discussion which is related to the title that reads, "SEL Integration: Building and Assessing a Strong Foundation in Education."

Conversely, the integration of SEL in education means that high success in academics of students is greatly most achieved when the students emotional and social well beginnings are taken care of. In so doing, such learning and social competencies make students be able to access the opportunities that require such skills and assist in improving the learning environment in a classroom. It is worth note that this integration of SEL has a significance as it helps to build up the base which allows students to have conflicts resolution in a sense that multiple aspects are catered.

As we explore the complexities around the embedding of SEL, the first dimension to be addressed is the embedding of SEL content into educational activities. This calls for a change within the conventional classroom organization whereby learners are trained on skills that go

beyond what is taught in the classroom. One of the most important factors in creating an environment geared towards social emotional development of learners is development of strategies on how to implement SEL within the existing curriculum and teacher education programs, as well as the development of supportive policies within the institution.

Beyond this integration aspect, the second dimension of the language revolves around the evaluation and use of appropriate instruments that measure the effectiveness of SEL programs specifically their integration in the curriculum. Accepting SEL implementation as a 'project', and working on its delivery within a finite time frame, we proceed to SEM the "implementation failure" and its effective correlates. So, this focus on the embedding and on the measurement aim to portray a more accurate picture of the continuous cause-effect relationships between the initiatives SEL and the child's development processes.

However, the task of integrating SEL effectively is fraught with problems. This introduction recognizes the differences across educational settings and groups of students, which are not one-size-fits-all. By using case studies and practical research, this research aims to find usable solutions for teachers, decision makers and scholars who wish to improve how the integration of SEL is done in their particular education systems.

To sum up, this introduction provides a basis for further powerful analyses on the integration and the measurement of SEL in education. Understanding the power of SEL to affect changes, we set out to explain how it can be used to create a strong base in education that does not only foster students' academic performance but also their social and emotional development in the context of an education system that is undergoing rapid changes.

### 2.1 Background and Context

Social and emotional learning complements students in all aspects both as people, and as employees enabling them to be self-aware, and make sound decisions. Making SEL part of the curriculum ensures that students are not only supported in their education, but also in their lives outside school. This means that these students, once they become successful scholars, will be better equipped to succeed in the broader workforce.

Before one can effectively assess the ideal state of the education system using SEL integration, one must first determine the existing atmosphere concerning the implementation of SEL concepts and directives. A fair understanding of the educational climate can be fulfilled by reviewing the existing syllabi, teaching methods, and the general social conduct in the whole district. Also, since one of the objectives of TOE is the threat of an impact regarding SEL on cognitive assessment, performance, behavior, and general well-being should be covered when determining the goals of SEL integration.

Also, goal setting which involves defining the specific objectives of SEL integration, professional development of teachers, and family and community involvement are among the basic elements of the vital groundwork for SEL integration in the education system. With enough support and the culture of change in the school, schools can redefine their mission and vision changing the way students learn and teachers teach, hence achieving the envisioned social change where students will be developed comprehensively.

### 2.2 Rationale

The rationale behind the investigation of the topic regarding Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Integration, in particular, the construction and evaluation of solid bases in education, is due to a growing concern for the social and emotional competencies of the student as a contributing factor to the overall student's wellbeing and success in schooling. This rationale is underpinned by several key considerations that underscore the significance of SEL in contemporary educational contexts.

Holistic Student Development: It is a well-established fact that most functions of a typical educational system are geared towards academic success of the child, going as far as overlooking the need to develop social and emotional skills in the student. However, there are more and more studies indicating that cognitive development is only one of the factors of students' success, and that their emotional, social, and resilience skills have a greater impact. The logic for e SEL integration is therefore based on the premise that the child's education

must be holistic and that it must go beyond just academic gains to include socio-emotional development.

Changing Educational Landscape: The expansion of education is rapid with its share of complexity. Apart from the academic pursuits, social environments and emotional stressors have contributed to the students' pursuit of education as being overly challenging. Therefore, the incorporation of SEL is a solution that addresses students' requirements to succeed to the demands posed by their environment. This emphasis on determinants of social and emotional learning cannot be construed as mere rhetoric, especially by educators, policymakers and investigators who are concerned with up-to-date educational techniques for contemporary and future students.

**Positive Learning Environments:** The integration of SEL further drives the establishment of centers that promote learning for all students. Education is important but, in most cases, it is more than the teaching of subjects and theory, it is the building up of a community where students are people who matter, who care, and are cared for. In explaining the significance of SEL integration, the hope is to help develop environments where psychological safety, respect, and collaboration exist for both staff and students' interest for in doing so the education received will be of quality.

**Measurable Impact on Student Outcomes:** The exploration of SEL integration begins with exploring the question of the presence and importance of evidence-based practice. For the sake of implementing SEL into several systems across the globe that are education based, aiming to know the effectiveness of these efforts is very important. The effect of SEL has been evaluated to justify further investments and assist the evolution of approaches that would enable the SEL programs to grow to have a meaningful impact on students.

**Equity and Inclusion:** One of the social aspect that is addressed in the integration of SEL is the issue of equity and inclusion in education. Sel in this context is also viewed as a remedy for achievement gaps within and among learners that stem from socio-economic and other factors. Considering the construction of strong foundations of the success and the effective education of children, SEL has to be viewed emphasizing inclusive nature.

In conclusion, the rationale for investigating SEL Integration: Building and Assessing a Strong Foundation in Education focuses on its ability to transform practices in education, recognize the needs of the student as a whole and further enhance the development of safe and supportive learning environments. As the education field transforms itself further, appreciating and executing the SEL perspective is increasingly becoming not just one of many approaches of teaching and learning, but a business approach in raising a strong, effective and success oriented healthy human being.

### 2.3 Significance

The significance of Interconnected principals of Social Emotional Learning has been deep comprehended by noticing the structure of education. It proposes that educators schedule the programs in such a way that students acquire various life competencies such as self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision in society.

The promotion of SEL in fostering students' achievement goes beyond academics and encompasses the students' constructions of their selves in their concrete world after school day. Furthermore, how SEL competencies are assessed gives an understanding of students' social and emotional development process, which is beneficial since it assists the teachers in determining who needs what assistance and where.

The implication of SEL has a positive effect on the students and the educator. It creates a positive and healthy atmosphere in the school and the entire community which enables the students together with the educators to operate at their best.

The importance and the significance of integrating SEL in education frameworks is extremely important since this would guarantee the success of the academic life of the students together with other aspects of their life such as professional and personal life.

### 2.4 Research Questions or Hypotheses

Having phoned our enquiries to key concepts in social emotional learning respectively, we would like to target how this engagement impacts students in terms of their academic performance. Moreover, we seek to analyze the efficacy of various SEL programs and strategies directed towards improving students' behavior and emotions. Also, we would like to investigate the teachers' roles in the enhancement of SEL competencies and in the development of social emotional literate classrooms. Lastly, we would like to investigate the potential changes among students due to the insertion of SEL for students when they go into adulthood and employment.

These research questions will allow us to focus on the different aspects of SEL incorporation in teaching and learning practices, as well as to see the effects, changing or affecting, the students or the education environment, mainly, the school.

**Research Question 1:** To what extent does the integration of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) principles contribute to a positive and inclusive learning environment within educational institutions?

**Hypothesis 1:** The study expects that schools that integrate SEL functionality within its curriculum will be rated highly and statistically significantly in the overall perception of a positive and inclusive learning friendly environment than those schools without SEL integration.

**Research Question 2:** How does the systematic integration of SEL into educational curricula impact students' academic performance, social behaviors, and emotional well-being over a specified period?

**Hypothesis 2:** In comparison to students who do not have to undergo explicit SEL integration, students who are in a structured SEL integration program will show improvement in most aspects in alignment with enhanced academic achievements and positive social childhood behaviors and emotional wellness measures.

**Research Question 3:** What are the primary challenges and barriers faced by educators in effectively implementing SEL initiatives within diverse educational contexts, and how do these challenges influence the overall success of SEL integration?

**Hypothesis 3:** It is expected that such teachers who are trained to focus on overcoming barriers with SEL integration will be more successful in implementing SEL programs than those teachers who have not been area targeted trained.

**Research Question 4:** In what ways does teacher training and professional development contribute to the successful integration of SEL principles into educational practices, and how does it impact the overall learning experience for students?

**Hypothesis 4:** It is expected that teachers who have received adequate training in SEL and its enhancers will be reporting feeling better about the progress of students' socio emotional growth including enhancement in factors such as social skills, emotional intelligence, and well beings.

**Research Question 5:** How do various assessment methodologies, including both qualitative and quantitative approaches, capture the multifaceted outcomes of SEL integration, and what insights do these assessments provide regarding the effectiveness of SEL programs in building a strong foundation in education?

**Hypothesis 5:** Integrating a focus on qualitative dimensions of SEL integration impact on learning in combination with quantitative aspects, including academic performance measures, social behavioral measures and assessments of emotional well-being, is likely to lead to a better understanding of the impact of the change on orientations towards learning.

**Research Question 6:** What role do school policies play in supporting or hindering the successful integration of SEL, and how can policy frameworks be optimized to create an environment conducive to the development of a strong educational foundation through SEL?

**Hypothesis 6:** It can be expected that educational institutions where there are policies that encourage and reward the integration of SEL into their agenda while providing support will be more successful in achieving the goal of strong foundations in education than educational institutions where the policy environment is less supportive or vague on the matter.

### 3. Literature Review

Social and Emotional Learning has been increasingly embraced as an important aspect of education. This interest in social and emotional learning has increased due to numerous studies which have shown how social and emotional learning contributes to children's development, their academic outcomes, well-being, and effectiveness in life activities (Jones et al., 2019). For instance, the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning conducted research in which it was noted that social-emotional learners improved their educational outcomes, engagement, and self-regulatory strategies. It goes to show that students who take part in social emotional programs are likely to perform well both in class and during other non-academic activities. Also, social and emotional learning means that an individual, through the development of skills, is able to effectively recognize and manage emotions, set and reach desired goals, understand other people, form and sustain positive interactions, make informed choices, and productively deal with interpersonal matters. Social emotional learning, to a larger extent, is based on a number of concepts and a CASEL Framework appears to be one of the most popular and used concepts in the area. The CASEL Framework model outlines five core areas around which Social Emotional Learning revolves which are: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. These areas are the building blocks of social emo-tion learning programs and are of tremendous importance for the holistic development of the students.

### 3.1 Overview of Social-Emotional Learning

Social-emotional learning approaches all the requirements of the student in a systematic manner. As such, it entails acquiring competencies that are directly related to awareness and control of feelings and emotions, learning to be sympathetic towards others, creating relationships with people, making sound judgements, and coping with difficult situations.

### • Definition and Components of Social-Emotional Learning

Goleman Daniel Revers states that social emotional learning can be viewed as a process that through experience and ongoing education equips the individual with the skills and abilities to be able to understand and control their emotions, create relationships and take decisions in society appropriately. These skills are organized around five broad areas, or five cores:1 (Payton et al., 2000). Self-awareness is the first component: This Includes perception of self

in the context of emotions, thoughts, strengths and limitations (Jones et al., 2019). 2. Self-management: This includes management or regulation of emotions, setting goals and achieving them, and self-control in most situations. 3. Social awareness: this involves the ability and capacity to regard and appreciate the feelings and needs and the viewpoints of other people, or the capacity for empathy or respect for people in social interaction. 4. Relationship skills: This emphasizes the ability of a person in development and in nurturing sound and good relationships through effective communication, teamwork and problem solving. 5. Responsible decision-making: This is doing what is right and what is responsible by looking at the effects that one's choices have or may have and how best to get solutions to problems.

### Theoretical Frameworks of Social-Emotional Learning

Social-emotional learning is a discipline incorporated in paradigmatic social perspectives and theoretical explanations that serve vision and functioning of the implementing organizations. One of the easily identifiable frameworks is the CASEL Framework. The CASEL Framework demonstrates how the five main ones cooperate: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making. The CASEL Framework addresses the issue of how to incorporate the educational approaches with the affective development of the students.

### > The Role of Attachment Theory

Most contemporary psychotherapeutic solutions have their underpinning in attachment theory as postulated by its founder John Bowlby. It highlights the critical role of early contact with their caregivers in emotional growth and in developing the child's capacity to love and be loved. Children who have secure attachments are also likely to develop trust and empathy, social competencies that form part of social and emotional learning.

### ➤ Influence of Social Cognitive Theory

Durlak et al. (2011) state that according to Bandura's social cognitive theory, learning is achieved via observation, imitation and reinforcement. For the case of social and emotional learning, this theory highlights the importance of modeling and learning through experience in social and emotional skill acquisition. This also shows that children will see what ought to be done and get it done as they are corrected in doing it, thus pointing out the need for good role models and encouraging social-emotional competencies.

### Contributions of Ecological Systems Theory

Ecological systems theory proposed by Urie Bronfenbrenner provides an integrated view to considering the variables which are responsible for the child's social-emotional development. Becker & Luthar (2002) claim that this hypothesis emphasizes individual and other ecological nested systems, including family, school, and community. Examples of these interventions include the mother's age, character, and family interactions, which are critical for planning effective social-emotional learning strategies that address children's contextual determinants.

Broadening the concept of social-emotional learning with the use of different theories is beneficial not only for the development of general theories of the field but also for the growth and adoption of useful interventions and programs. Attachment theory, social cognitive theory and ecological systems theory can help educators and policymakers develop better strategies to enhance children's social-emotional well-being and success.

### • Impact of Social-Emotional Learning on Academic Performance and Well-being

Numerous studies have validated that there is a correlation between social-emotional learning and better academic performance and general welfare of an individual. Students enrolled in social-emotional learning programs attain impressive performance including good grades and impressive results in any standardized tests. In addition, these students also show more appropriate behavior in class and are more willing to learn and have better rates of attendance. They also claim to be more emotionally stable, have greater self-respect and significantly better interactions with peers and adults (Durlak & Weissberg, 2011) In addition, social-emotional learning has been shown to have

additional value besides all those mentioned. Students who are exposed to socialemotional learning goes on to have greater chances of completing high school, going to college and being successful in their chosen careers. In addition, social-emotional learning has been shown to reduce negative consequences including, behavioral issues, drug and alcohol use and violence.

### 3.2 Current Practices in Social-Emotional Learning Integration

In recent years, there has been a growing focus on including social-emotional learning in various domains of educational practice. In more effective ways, schools and educators report attempting to apply SEL principles into daily routines to assist and promote students' social and emotional growth.

One of the most common ones is the integration of SEL into various content areas of the curriculum. (Vega, 2012) Teachers may assist students in social-emotional integration by embedding SEL concepts in lessons and activities such that the students get to practice the skills in real life situations. For instance, including group work as an assignment that involves effective interaction, team work, and conflict resolution skills does not only complement the curricular work but also aids the students' social and emotional development.

Moreover, several schools also choose to be proactive rather than reactive regarding the social and emotional needs of students by introducing school-wide SEL policies. Such programs are comprehensive and include all constituents like students, teachers, administrators, and parents. Such sharing of the SEL concepts creates an opportunity for strengthening the environment of the school which can further the students' health and academic achievement.

Additionally, there is a new tendency to incorporate new technology to reinforce students' social-emotional learning. (Kress & Elias, n.d) There is the use of educational platforms and resources for interactive lessons, assessments and other activities designed to promote the development of students' social-emotional skills. Apart from this, digital devices help in

tracking the progress in acquisition of core SEL competencies and skills of students and offering them assistance when required.

Furthermore, the role of professional development of teachers in the context of embedding social-emotional learning within educational practices has become more apparent. If educators are given training and materials that help them to teach SEL, they will be able to not only enhance their well-being but also have the capacities to foster a supportive climate for students to be able to grow emotionally.

To summarize, the implementation of integration of social-emotional learning in the current trends demonstrates a more integrative and universal vision as it emphasizes the link between the social, emotional and academic aspects. Through the adoption of multiple approaches, within themselves and collaboratively as a school, students' not only their academic achievement but their social and emotional dimensions are enhanced as well.

### • Existing Social-Emotional Learning Programs and Initiatives

To enhance students' social-emotional health, numerous programs have been designed and undertaken in educational institutions. Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning is one such example because it has put together a social-emotional learning program that contains five core abilities such as; self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, interpersonal relationships, and control decision-making most people are competent about and looking for. (Payton et al., 2000) Furthermore, some programs have also been proven to effectively improve the social-emotional wellbeing of children. Such programs include Second-Step which aims at instilling an understanding of empathy, emotions, and problem-solving in children; The PATHS program, which focuses on the improvement of children's social and emotional competencies using comprehensive programs that are easily integrated into existing curricula; By the same token, the RULER approach which concentrates on more aspects of emotional literacy and the overall positive emotional experience within the school. (Corcoran et al., 2018) Such programs often comprise teachable moments, organized activities, and help to students and teachers over time.

### • Challenges and Gaps in Social-Emotional Learning Approaches

Despite growing awareness and traction in educational practices, the social-emotional learning approach is still not as effective as it can be, as there are numerous barriers as well as gaps which still need to be filled.

One of the essential issues is the lack of complete assessment criteria which can evaluate any evidence of success from SEL intervention programs. There is indeed a wealth of evidence that suggests that the expectations around SEL in terms of improving academic results and overall quality of life is attainable but there are no unifying and proper criteria that can assess the emotional and social development of students in the classrooms. The effectiveness and success of SEL programs and directives depend on the existence of reliable and strong evaluation criteria that indicate the real implications of the programs.

Additionally, it is also necessary to widen the lens utilized in the implementation of SEL interventions and approaches inclusive of intersectionality. The majority of the existing SEL frameworks have evolved out of the Western developed countries; the need for incorporating indigenous approaches as well as other dimensions into SEL content is gradually becoming critical. Culturally appropriate practices of SEL will respond actively to the distinct social and emotional issues of students and will enable effective provision of quality education.

A further challenge concerns the issue of sustainability and expansion of SEL programs. Or it can be stated that while there are certain programs and initiatives which have received positive outcomes and which can be termed as exemplary case studies, there are issues with respect to consolidation of such efforts that can be mutually used in varied education systems. This requires ongoing support and resources for teachers and schools to maintain their willingness to integrate SEL and to resolve possible challenges that might come into the picture during the phase of implementation.

Furthermore, there is an additional need which exists on a greater level which is more working and integration among schools, families, and communities to foster student's social-emotional skills. Even though students learn key social-emotional skills within the four walls

of the classroom, maximizing the effect of the learnings is dependent on soliciting families and communities to provide the support outside the school.

Effective parent and community involvement should enhance and strengthen the total child approach by linking the home, school, and community in a seamless web of support for the child. To be able to fill the gaps and tackle the challenges in the field of social-emotional learning, comprehensive approaches from educators, policy practitioners, researchers as well as key opinion leaders from the community are needed. Such areas need to be tackled aggressively for social-emotional learning to stay relevant and grow and develop as a practice that is beneficial for children in whatever context they may find themselves in. (Jones & Doolittle, 2017)

### Success Stories and Best Practices in Social-Emotional Learning

While social and emotional learning integration is a growing trend, evidence of success and best approaches do exist ranging from the organization and performance of students at all levels.

One such success story comes from a school district that implemented a comprehensive SEL initiative, which impacted not only students' social and emotional competencies but also supported academic performance. The initiative involved a multi-faceted approach which included research-grade programming, teacher training, as well as full community participation. The information on community findings, continuous evaluation and data review allowed the district to ascertain the characteristics of its student population and adjust its SEL interventions to adequately address the issues that the student population faced. As a result of this approach, the school district experienced a comprehensive SEL initiative where violence rate reduced significantly, participation and behavior positively changed in the classrooms, and their school performance accentuated.

Integrating different cultural approaches in their syllabi and creating a curriculum that is all embracing, has made it possible for these schools to cater for the social as well as the emotional requirements of the students from different regions. This change not only

improves the students' feeling of acceptance, but also aids in the growth of the development of the school peace building culture.

In addition, certain reporting suggests that this also arises in the context of the concerted action between schools and parents and local organisations. Construction of effective collaboration and communication resulted in the development of the network around the children addressing children education and development from all aspects. This framework has been helpful in strengthening the SEL practice in different areas and promoting a common notion of social-emotional well-being of the students to the range of fields they explore.

To give a final thought, these triumphs and exemplary practices convey great depth about social-emotional learning not only in words but also in its fullest application. From these instances, many other educators, policymakers, and stakeholders can further improve on their integration of SEL strategies with the aim of improving the welfare and attainment of learners in different learning contexts.

Evaluation Techniques in Social-Emotional Learning: An All-Encompassing Outline Measuring the social-emotional learning competencies is both an intricate and an important aspect of enhancing the all-round development of learners. Measuring the influence of SEL on the attainment of learning outcomes is however a challenge despite the growing recognition on the need for its implementation.

### 3.3 The Complexity of Assessing SEL Competencies

Evaluating students' social-emotional competencies has its own complexities and concerns which need to be solved in order to better appreciate the development of students. This is the case because the traditional assessment of learning is dependent on marks and standardized testing while the assessment of social emotional learning sel on the other hand is more holistic as it takes into consideration the perspective of the person and the socio- cultural setting of the person. Moreover, social-emotional competence evaluation has to be on a

continuous basis as the skills are developed so as to establish the level of skills developed and what more could still be done. (Soland et al., 2019)

### **➤** Moving Beyond Traditional Measures

It was the rising concern regarding the appreciate assessment that includes more than the conventional measures' approach that brought forth the need for more advanced assessment tools. Quantitative scoring has been beneficial in helping give statistical information but qualitative assessment has contributed even more in determining case details on the placement of students in terms of his social-emotional development perspective. Further assessments in relation to these activities such as self-reporting, narrative assessments, and portfolio evaluations have provided advancement in the assessment of social emotional learning SEL competencies.

### **Culturally Responsive Assessment Practices**

As more and more people see the need for deeper cultural awareness in SEL initiatives, it becomes apparent that assessment standards and strategies should be culture-sensitive as well. Cross-cultural assessment strategies advocate for multiple cultural paradigms and practices, and the evaluation of social-emotional competencies meets the students' cultural environment. This strategy, in addition to promoting a more equal assessment of the students' tasks, also aids in better comprehending the students' social and emotional growth in the appropriate sociocultural atmosphere. (Durlak et al., 2011)

### > Addressing the Implementation Challenges

Also, the development and application of inclusive assessment strategies for SEL do not come without practical challenges and barriers to implementation. Teachers and policymakers must come up with ways of assessing social-emotional competencies, provide the teachers with training, and provide the means to do comprehensive assessment techniques. Such supportive structures would make it possible for schools and districts to implement efficient inclusive assessment strategies that would support the retention and academic achievement of students.

As a final point, the evaluation of social-emotional skills warrants a more elaborate, culturally sensitive and inclusive method that goes beyond the customary constructs. Such an understanding of the nuances combined with more inclusive assessment practices can enable the educators and the advocates to comprehend better, the socio emotional growth of the students and hence improve upon the effectiveness of the SEL programs. (Jones et al, 2019.)

### • Critique of Current Social-Emotional Learning Assessment Practices

One of the concerns regarding current social emotional learning measurement frameworks and instruments is that they depend so heavily on quantitative techniques that are time standardized. These measures are often insufficient in portraying the entire intricacies and detail of social-emotional competencies. More specifically, overemphasis on standardized assessments may even force the prioritization of some of socio emotional skills and therefore some contextual elements may be ignored, as may some individual differences.

In addition, the existing practices of assessment tend to ignore the cultural and linguistic diversity. Such an omission is dangerous as social-emotional competencies are global but have different experience and forms of expression in different cultures. Yet another concern is that the two are measuring practices and social emotional learning and gap does not seem to be closing, rather widening. The prevailing focus of many assessment measures is immediate results and fail to inform the end results, in this case scientific intelligence and overall living standard of students. (Payton et al, 2008)

### • The Importance of Measuring Long-term Impact of Social-Emotional Learning

It is important to measure the long-term effects of social-emotional learning for several reasons. It assists educators and even policy makers in evaluating the long lasting impact of the SEL programs that have been initiated for the students well-being and also for its positive effects on the students' academic performance. Grasping the long-term impact also allows for the understanding of areas which may require modification or enhancement in regards to SEL programs for them not to wear out, and remain effective throughout the years.

Furthermore, the evaluation aspect of the social-emotional learning and its impact over the years is vital as it increases the understanding of the additional domains of students' development. By monitoring the students' development in connection with the greater continuum of SEL competencies-and the latter on life after school-teachers could design interventions that truly suit students' preparation for a smooth transition from school. This assessment would, furthermore, fit well with the underlying concepts of social-emotional learning through effective teaching and acquiring the necessary life skills.

The further call for the assessment of longitudinal outcomes supports also considerations of using various culturally sensitive assessment methods. Such assessment methods consider the linguistic and cultural backgrounds of the students thus enabling the evaluation of the social-emotional competencies across different settings. Such perspectives also promote fairness in the evaluation of the long-term growth of the students' development across regions so that no geographical area is unfairly disadvantaged against the assessment practices.

Quite simply, this highlights the need to develop assessment practices that are truly focused on measuring the long-lasting benefits of social-emotional learning, rather than concentrating solely on short-term results. Such an approach has great potential for furthering the cause of social-emotional learning by creating conditions for all students to be healthy and succeed in their education and beyond. (Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and Student Benefits: Implications for the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Core Elements., 2008.)

### 4. Methodology

The methods that were employed in the project "SEL Integration: Building and Assessing Strong Foundation in Education" are explained in this section The considered approaches focused on providing one with full insight into whole-person education, primarily providing oneself at the bottom. This combines various elements of qualitative and quantitative research that offer a more in-depth understanding of how the inclusion of SEL affects education.

### 4.1 Research Design

A mixed-method design of research was engaged, as was seen in the preceding study, such that it was able to reap the expected benefits from an advantage of both qualitative and quantitative methods.

In this manner, it became possible to integrate a broader spectrum of strategies into the study of the issue such as surveys and interviews on the integration of SEL within various educational systems.

### 4.2 Participants and Sampling

The study included educators, administrators, and students from different schools throughout various regions as it collected participants from different educational backgrounds. Employing a purposive sampling strategy allowed for representation across various demographic factors, educational levels, and school types. It was aimed at understanding perspectives in a wider spectrum and thus providing richer results in the analysis of the integration of SEL in education.

### **4.3 Data Collection Methods**

**Quantitative Data Collection:** A broad range of participants were provided with the surveys because the survey questions were customized to the specific objectives set out in the research questions. The survey included factors such as, how the participants view SEL integration in their schools, effectiveness of SEL programs in the school, collaboration, and in general all factors that contribute to the creation of strong educational streams.

**Qualitative Data Collection:** From the participants who were chosen according to their roles and experience, semi structured interviews were carried out. This enabled the collection of rich data concerning the interventions on the integration of SEL and its impact while focusing on the construction and measuring of strong educational foundations.

### 4.4 Data Analysis Procedures

**Quantitative Data Analysis:** Quantitative data went through statistical analysis, using tools such as online survey platforms. Different statistics and inferential methods, including regression and

correlation analysis were used to unveil patterns and relationships in the responses from the survey related to SEL integration.

**Qualitative Data Analysis:** Thematic analysis was applied to qualitative data, systematically identifying recurring themes and patterns. Interview and focus group transcripts were coded to yield rich narratives and insights into the building up of a strong foundation with assessment criteria through SEL integration.

Integration of Quantitative and Qualitative Data: From both the qualitative and quantitative data, triangulation was used to arrive at a synthesis of findings to support the research questions. This last step allowed the combination of the two sources of data to fortify the finding with a more nuanced understanding of the impact of SEL on building up a foundation in education.

### 4.5 Ethical Considerations

According to codes of ethics, all involved participants provided their informed consent to participate, which included an informed push on their right to opt-out and honorable confidentiality. Relevant authorities granted them ethical committee permission. A commitment to managing the data appropriately, respect for privacy, and a clear statement on how conflicts of interest will be addressed throughout the research highlighted the ethical considerations in the entire research process.

### 5. Data Analysis

### **5.1 Initial Survey**

In order to provide a detailed answer to the question of what it takes to understand Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Integration in education, a well-structured Google Survey Form was made to conduct the survey for the present capstone project. The survey was directed toward teachers to provide their views and experiences on integrating SEL principles into their pedagogical practices. This section describes the general survey format and design along with various focus areas.

The survey targeted around 50 teachers from various schools in India by sending out emails and messages. This ensures that educators from different backgrounds and educational provisions

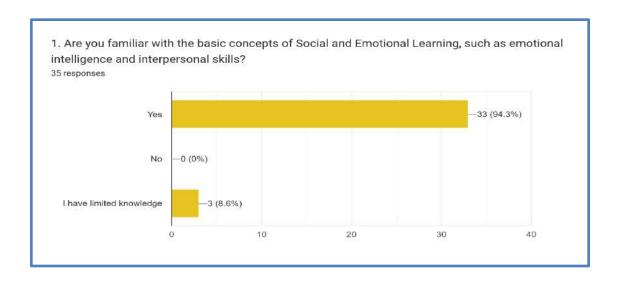
will be included in ample supply, making the analysis of integration practices of SEL rich, diverse, and nuanced.

The questions progress from basic to more in-depth levels concerning SEL throughout multiple dimensions; examples range from participant familiarity with SEL concepts, their practices of integration, perceived worth, methods of assessment, collaboration, parental support, to professional development and collaborative efforts along with age specificity.

### **Questionnaire Highlights:**

- **SEL Familiarity:** Assesses participants' familiarity with fundamental SEL concepts.
- **Integration Practices:** Explores whether educators actively incorporate SEL principles in their teaching.
- **Perceived Value:** Examines participants' beliefs regarding the value of SEL integration in the classroom.
- Assessment Methods: Investigates preferences for assessing students' social and emotional skills.
- **Collaboration:** Explores the role of collaboration among teachers for effective SEL integration.
- Parental Involvement: Inquires about perceptions of parental involvement in supporting SEL development.
- **Professional Development:** Examines beliefs about the benefits of SEL professional development and whether participants actively seek such opportunities.

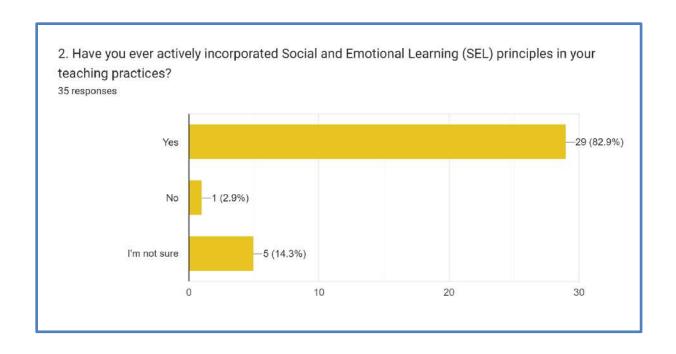
### **5.2** Analysis of the survey



The chart illustrates the results of some given question about the level of awareness of social and emotional learning in terms of emotional intelligence and transcendental disciplines, for instance, interpersonal skills.

A very high percentage of the respondents (33 out of 35, which is about 93%) know about the fundamental ideas of Social and Emotional Learning, including emotional intelligence and interpersonal skills. This shows that the group has a high level of awareness and understanding about it. No one (0%) reported not knowing about these concepts, indicating that there is at least some exposure or knowledge of these subjects among all respondents. Few respondents (3 out of 35, roughly 8%) said they had little knowledge. This indicates that although they may have heard of these concepts, they may not know much about them.

The statistics indicate that the group is very familiar with Social and Emotional Learning. With 92% of them reporting familiarity and no one reporting complete lack of awareness, it indicates a strong foundation in knowledge. But there is a very small percentage (8%) that may need additional education or information to gain more depth of knowledge. This understanding can assist in scheduling any required training or information sessions so that all parties have a good understanding of these key concepts.

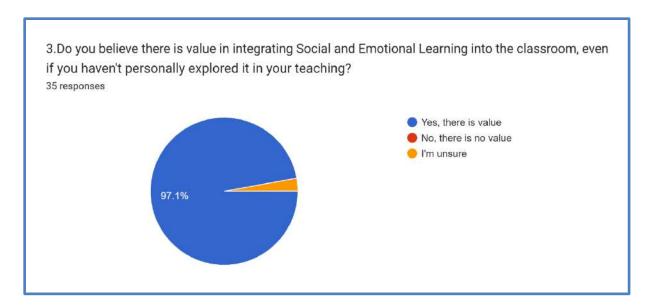


The findings for this question give light on using Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) principles in educational practices:

Most of them (29 of 35, about 83%) actively embrace SEL principles as part of teaching. This can be said to be a considerable rate of adherence and actual utilization of SEL into their pedagogy.

None of the 1 respondent (or approximately 3%) does not include SEL principles in their instruction. This implies that there is little resistance or disengagement with SEL principles within the group.

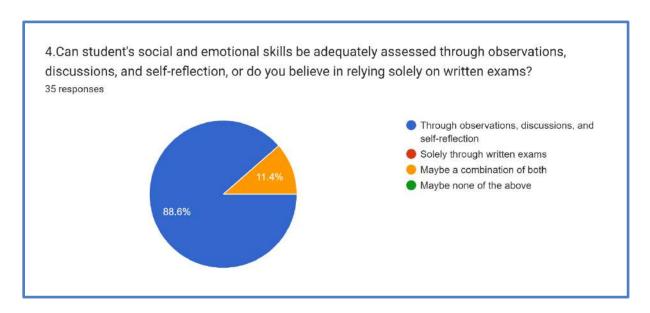
A significant percentage of the respondents (5 out of 35, approximately 14%) have limited understanding of how to integrate SEL principles. This means that there may be a consideration of SEL concepts and inclusion, yet they might be less sure of how well or in what ways the same should be practically used while teaching. The statistics paint the general picture of respondents leaning toward inclusivity with SEL consideration in the teaching practice, with 83% of the group engaged in practicing inclusion while still managing a mere 3% of non-inclusion, a small number, assurance of the positive disposition toward SEL. Despite this, the 14% who reported minimal knowledge calls for an area that requires more training or support. Offering more resources and counseling could make these teachers more confident and capable to include SEL principles in their teaching.



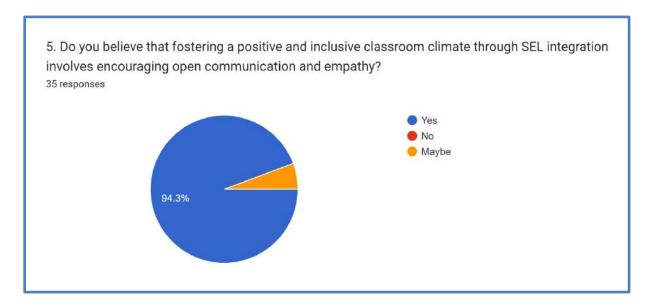
The above statistics reveal the overwhelming majority of participants (34 out of 35, roughly 97%) are of the opinion that there is merit in implementing SEL in the classroom. This reflects a broad acknowledgment of the value and worth of SEL, even from individuals who might not have experienced it firsthand in their own practice.

Only 1 of the respondents (approximately 3%) is uncertain about the worth of incorporating SEL. This indicates that although nearly everyone recognizes the worth, perhaps additional information or clarification is needed to enable this person to completely grasp the worth of SEL.

No participants (0%) think that there is no value



The above graph indicates that most (31 out of 35, about 89%) agree that students' social and emotional skills can be well evaluated through observation, discussion, and self-assessment. This indicates a strong preference



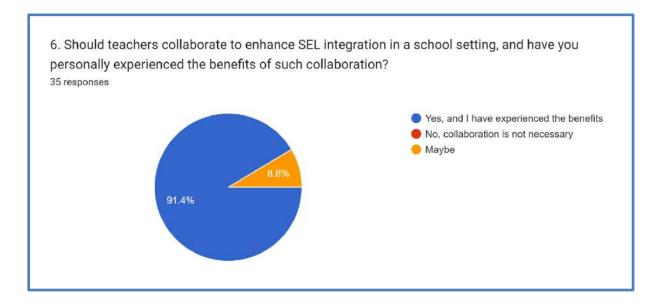
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In the previous reading 33 out of 35 or roughly 94% of respondents are of the view that ensuring a positive and supportive classroom environment through SEL implementation includes promoting open communication and empathy. This reveals an overwhelming consensus that these are crucial aspects of SEL and go a long way towards creating a positive classroom atmosphere.

A few of the respondents (2 out of 35, or 6%) are unsure, suggesting that although they may appreciate some value in promoting open communication and empathy, they may require more information or are weighing other issues that could also be important in developing a good and inclusive classroom atmosphere.

No one (0%) agrees that promoting a healthy and inclusive classroom environment by integrating SEL is not about promoting open communication and empathy. In the priority of these principles is very positive. This suggests that everyone agrees that these principles are helpful or necessary for SEL. The results show widespread agreement that SEL integration's attempts to establish a friendly and inclusive learning environment must include fostering empathy and open communication. The 94% agreement and lack of disagreement make it evident that these elements are generally accepted as essential to establishing a

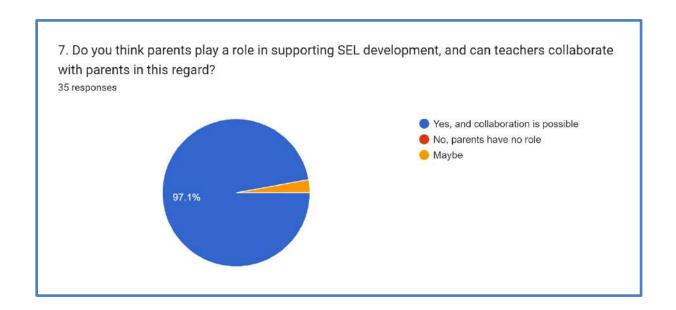
friendly and inclusive learning environment. There is considerable support for the significance of these concepts, despite the low degree of ambiguity (6%) suggesting that more debate or clarification may be required.



As can be seen from the above chart, the majority of respondents (32 out of 35, or almost 91%) concur that instructors need to collaborate in order to enhance SEL integration and have firsthand experience with the benefits of doing so. This implies a clear understanding of the beneficial impact that teacher cooperation can have on SEL integration in a classroom setting.

Only a small portion of respondents (3 out of 35, or about 9%) are unclear (Maybe) on the necessity or value of collaboration. This suggests that even if they see the need of teamwork, they may not have personally benefited from it or may require additional data or proof to be fully convinced. Even if not all respondents have firsthand experience with the advantages of collaboration, the fact that none of them think it is unnecessary shows that everyone agrees that it may be advantageous.

According to the statistics, there is broad agreement (91%) that teacher collaboration improves SEL integration, and many respondents have firsthand experience with these advantages. The absence of any negative remarks suggests that collaboration is widely accepted. To further highlight the benefits, more successful collaboration experiences should be shared or additional help may be needed, as shown by the fact that just 9% of respondents are unsure. All things considered, the results show how crucial teachers think cooperation and teamwork are to promoting effective SEL practices in the classroom.

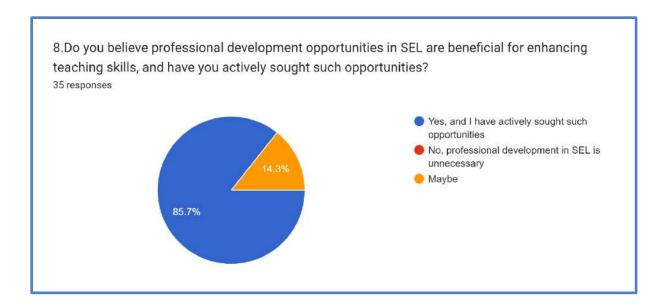


According to the above figure, the vast majority of respondents (34 out of 35, or almost 97%) think that parents can help SEL development and that teachers and parents can work together. This suggests a general understanding of the value of including parents in the SEL development process and a conviction that such cooperation is possible.

Just one responder, or roughly 3%, expressed uncertainty (Maybe) regarding the role of parents and the potential for cooperation. This shows that there may be some hesitancy or a need for further information regarding the potential effectiveness or usefulness of this partnership.

There is broad consensus that parents do have a role to play in fostering SEL development, as evidenced by the fact that none of the respondents (0%) think that parents have no role to play.

According to the statistics, almost everyone believes that parents have a significant role in SEL development and that instructors may work with them to improve this process. Parent participation in SEL programs is strongly supported, with 97% of respondents agreeing and no one objecting. The low level of uncertainty (3%) indicates that almost all respondents think parental cooperation and involvement are beneficial. This indicates a shared awareness of the vital role parents play in helping kids develop their social and emotional abilities as well as a readiness to cooperate in order to support these initiatives.



The majority of the respondents (30 out of 35, or nearly 86%) have pursued professional development in SEL as they believe this will make them better teachers, as indicated above in the given chart. This shows a self-initiated response to enhancing their SEL-related pedagogy and a strong sense of the imperative of SEL-related professional development.

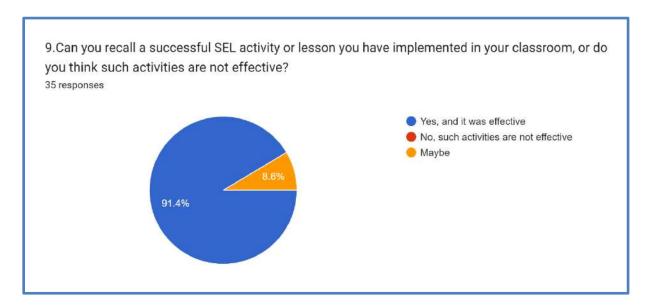
Fewer respondents (5 out of 35, or about 14%) are uncertain (Maybe) regarding the benefits or value of professional development in SEL. This suggests that while people may recognize potential benefits, they might not have witnessed them firsthand or may require more information or encouragement to pursue such opportunities actively.

Broad consensus exists about the possible importance of SEL training to teachers, illustrated by the presence that none of the participants (0%) believes SEL professional development is not important.

The results indicate that most of the participants (86%) were of the opinion that professional development in SEL is helpful in improving teaching competencies, and a good number of them actually pursue such opportunities.

The lack of negative comments indicates the general acceptability of SEL professional development. A minority of 14% of respondents expressing uncertainty increases the likelihood that additional data will be necessary to identify the exact benefits and positive outcomes of of social-emotional learning professional development. Overall, the results lend support to the conclusion that respondents had favorable attitudes toward improving SEL practice and lifelong learning.

The majority of participants (86%) are sure that SEL professional development helps develop the teaching skills, and most of them advocate for such professional development by themselves. The absence of negative feedback can generally be interpreted to mean that the attending participants accepted that SEL sought professional development. That 14% of participants indicated that they were not sure does point to the possibility that there was a need for more information to assess more specifically how SEL professional development was perceived as yielding benefits and better outcomes. There was an overall positive attitude toward bettering SEL practice and pursuing lifelong learning from respondents.

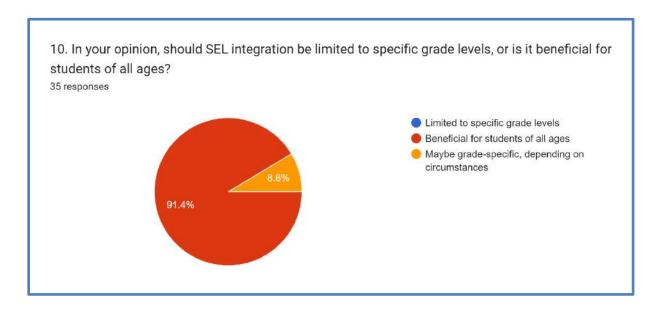


While a small percentage of respondents (3 out of 35, about 9%) do not support the effectiveness of SEL activities, this indicates that these respondents have not yet defined their commitment one way or the other. Their responses imply a degree of caution in making an overall assessment. That the majority could accept, at the very least, SEL activities as effective was shared more convincingly amongst respondents.

The case against the respondents is strong on behalf of SEL activities, with 91% stating they remembered a successful SEL activity or lesson in their classroom. Since there were no negative responses, it can be said that the respondents generally agree on SEL activities being effective, although the opinions of the respondents seem to differ among themselves.

These three respondents, out of 35, making about 9%, showed that they were not in favor of the effectiveness of SEL activities. This means that, with these respondents, the question on SEL effectiveness does not seem very clear. This also indicates that though these respondents do not really deny that SEL activities could be effective, in their own case they may not have an explicit experience or observation to substantiate this. More evidence or a lot more would be needed for them to reach a firm conclusion.

A majority of 91% of the respondents believed that SEL activities were effective in their classrooms. Nonetheless, none of the respondents expressed unfavorable opinions of the effectiveness of SEL activities. It could be argued that about 9% of respondents are sitting on the fence, so their evidence must be connected to the good practice of SEL and the merits that they will witness therefrom. Yet, even so, the data reflects an exceptional opportunity for positive reception.



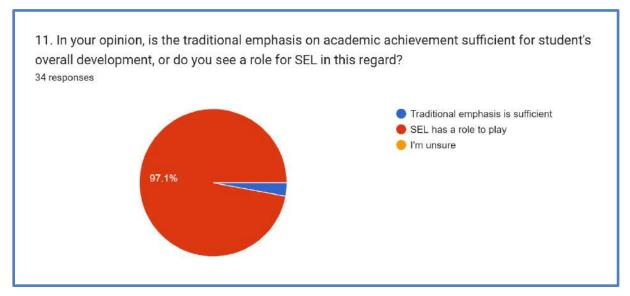
The above chart shows that a great majority of the respondents (32 out of 35, or about 91%) think that the integration of social and emotional learning (SEL) promotes benefits for students of all ages. This shows a strong tendency towards supporting the idea that SEL should be universally part of education rather than just for specific age groups as it strengthens the belief that development and learning are greatly embraced at every contact of education.

There are no respondents (0%) who think that SEL needs to be confined within certain grade levels. Thus, there does not seem to be support for the notion that SEL is appropriate or effective only during a few stages of growing, so it only serves to further sink its ease of application and effectiveness.

A minute percentage (9%) of respondents, or 3 out of 35, think SEL integration could also be grade-specific depending on the circumstances. This means that in their opinion, while they are ready to acknowledge that SEL is valuable, it is equally important for them to recognize that its properly being implemented might depend on age-specific contexts and the developmental needs of different age groups.

These findings show an overwhelming approval (91%) of the idea that the integration of social and emotional learning would be beneficial for kids across grade levels as no one wanted social and emotional

learning confined within certain age brackets. Hence, there is a consensus that social and emotional learning is crucial and effective throughout all phases of schooling. The other 9% of respondents would suggest that they could be particular to some grades based on the situation. This indicates that, while there are some proponents of SEL, they also feel that the particular kind of SEL might depend on developmental needs and age-specific contexts. To sum up, the findings reflect a strong endorsement for SEL as an important part of education in every grade.



The responses imply that there is a major consensus among respondents (33 out of 34, around 97%) that SEL has a big role in students' general development. There exists a very broad acknowledgment that educational evaluations must take social and emotional learning into consideration and not just academic prowess.

Only 3% of respondents mentioned that academic achievement should be the only consideration. These terms suggest that almost all the respondents admitted that academic-only focus and approaches towards the education were limited, and that SEL is an integral part of the endeavor to educate in other aspects of student development.

There is not a single respondent (0%) who is undecided about SEL. This indicates a clear unanimous agreement from the respondents that SEL is vital and should be integrated into educational practices.

Collectively, these data seem to show a strong consensus (97%) among the respondents that practice of social and emotional learning becomes central to students' overall development beyond emphasis on academic achievements. Thus, the results show a strong argument against maintaining a singularly narrow focus on academic achievement. Such a narrow focus is fundamentally incomplete in that it does not view

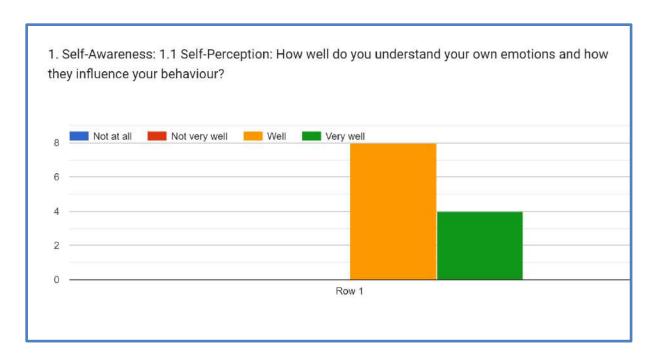
the development of students in other broad contexts that are essential. Amidst that consensus, clear agreement also emerged that SEL is an important construct towards helping realize such multiconstructed emphasis for student development.



None of the respondents indicated that they would not be willing to engage in professional development training in SEL. This merely illustrates an adamant consensus among the respondent of the importance and value of further education and training in SEL.

Results indicate strong agreement by respondents for the support these programs need if they are to happen. In other words, there is a huge interest in professional development connected to SEL, an acknowledgment of parental connections, and a belief that SEL can be applied across the board to all grades. A commitment has been articulated to provide professional development options in SEL along with a united belief in its importance in promoting student growth beyond academics and in well-being.

Survey results show unanimous support from all respondents for the importance and efficacy of such endeavors that combine Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) with other forms of teaching practice. There is considerable interest in professional development in SEL, and the role of the parents is recognized, with agreement that SEL should find prevalence in all grades. This data showcases the commitment to developing SEL skills in various ways and a shared acceptance of the key aspect SEL plays toward fostering whole student development.



The data show a big level of self-awareness among the respondents in terms of understanding their own emotions and how these emotions affect their behavior. Here's an in-depth interpretation:

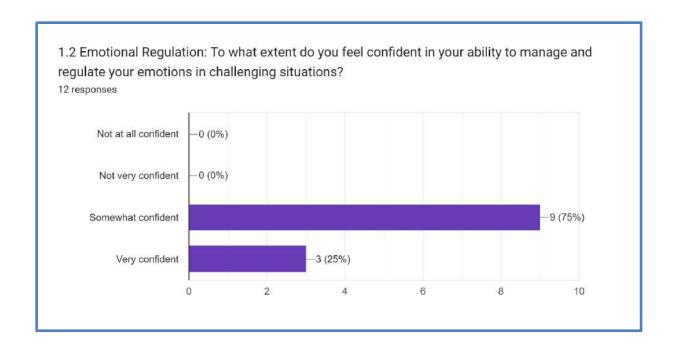
0 respondents (0%) said "Not at all": Meaning, all the members of the group have at least some levels of self-awareness and can identify their emotions and how those emotions affect their behaviors.

0 respondents (0%) said "Not very well": This is further indicative that members of the group generally see themselves as confident in their self-awareness.

8 respondents (67%) said "Well": A majority of the group perceives that they understand their emotions affecting behaviors rather well. This indicates a fair amount of self-awareness, suggesting they can identify and manage emotional expressions in varying situations.

4 respondents (33%) said "Very well": A significant proportion of the group is of the opinion that they are very self-aware. Hence, it can be postulated that these members have a high understanding of their emotional state and can modulate their behaviors during such situations.

Generally, it is a good opportunity for self-awareness that the data shows among the members of this group where every participant attested to recognizably and understandably being in control of their emotions. This further suggests a conducive environment for emotional intelligence among the group.



The above data mostly reflects confidence among the respondents in managing and regulating their emotions in tough situations. The following is an interpreted detail:

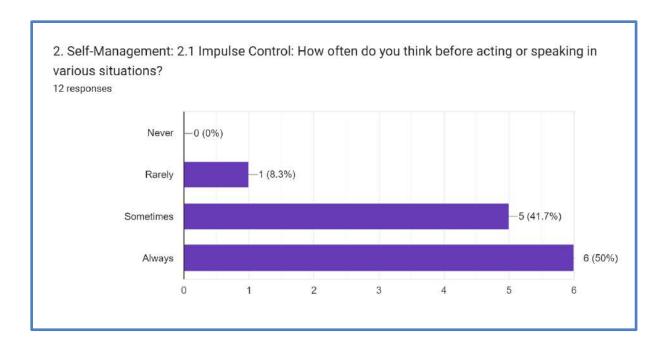
0 respondents (0%) of the group said "Not at all confident": This means that nobody feels wholly incapable of managing his or her emotions in tough situations.

0 respondents (0%) said "Not very confident": In a similar reflection, no respondents feel lowly confident in their ability to regulate his or her emotional state, thus showing there is still a certain amount of confidence exhibited across the group.

9 respondents (75%) said "Somewhat confident": The majority are somewhat confident that they would be able to manage and regulate their emotions. Approximately 25% (3 respondents) said, "Very confident." A quarter of the respondents stated that they felt very confident in their self-regulation. Some such respondents would mean that they have developed a capacity to handle their emotions effectively, even when faced with major challenges.

The overall result indicates a general optimism in the emotional regulation; confident or at least somewhat confident, emotional regulation is reported for all of the entire group.

The majority feel to a moderate level of confidence, backed up by a considerable minority that feel very confident-a good sign for emotional regulation skills in the group.



Alternately, prompted by the emphasis on impulse control and self-management, these responses indicate such a positive trend that respondents consciously make an effort to think before acting or speaking in several situations. This is the interpretation:

0 respondents (0%) said "Never": This means that none of the respondents reported never thinking before acting or speaking. This is a great sign, as it points out that each one in this group recognizes that impulse control is important.

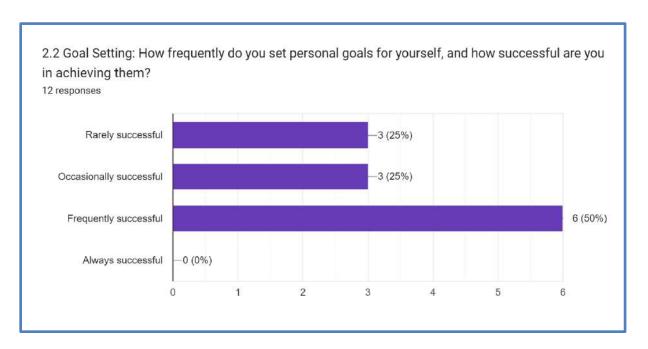
1 respondent (8%) said "Rarely": Only one person in the group reported that they rarely think before acting or speaking. This could bring this person to a state of improvement in self-control regarding any impulse.

5 respondents (42%) said "Sometimes": This shows that a reasonably good portion of the group stated they sometimes think before acting or speaking. This means they know about the need of impulse control, though they might not be applying it consistently to all situations.

6 respondents (50%) said "Always": The bulk, which is half of the respondents that make up the group, stated they always think before acting or speaking. This is a strong indicator of impulse control and self-management skills exhibited by those individuals.

The data suggest that some need to be schooled about bettering their impulse control, but, generally or most significantly, the trend is that respondents make a conscious effort to think before doing or saying

something. This thereby demonstrates a positive attitude towards self-management and control of impulses.



Goal-setting data and the success of respondents shed light on their approach to setting and achieving goals. A broad interpretation of this data includes:

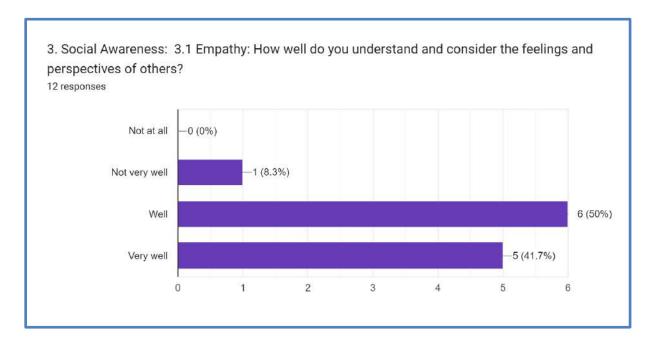
3 respondents (25%) "Rarely successful": This refers to the group where personal goals are set but hardly if ever achieved. This could mean that they experience some difficulties in planning, motivation, or follow-through.

3 respondents (25%) "Somewhat successful": All the same, these are respondents who have intermittent successes although they will fully encounter difficulty in achieving their personal goals.

6 respondents (50%) "Frequently Successful": Here is the bulk group, which suggests that half of the respondents are good at setting and achieving their goals quite often. This shows good planning, motivation, and follow-through which quite evidently measure to success.

0 respondents (0%) "Always successful": No respondent ever thought that they were successfully always completing their personal goals. This implies that these are persons who will often experience successes reconciling with the fact that they, occasionally, do not attain their goals.

Overall, a variety of experiences are reflected in the responses concerning goal setting and achievement. While a very sizable portion of respondents tend to frequently meet their goals, there are also others who meet challenges related to consistent goal attainment. This could lay the stage for further studies into effective goal setting and overcoming obstacles to achieve goals.



Results on empathy and social awareness show a favorable outlook of the respondents regarding the understanding and consideration of the feelings and perspectives of their peers. Below is the interpretation:

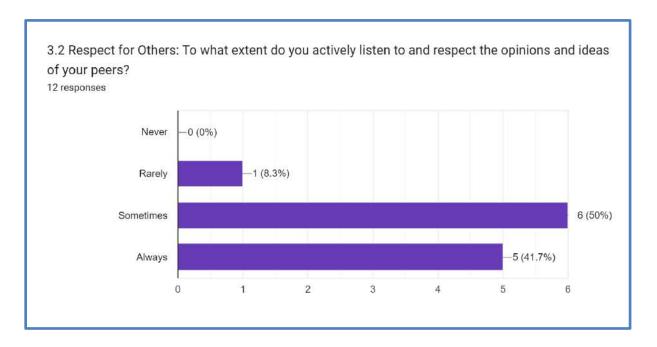
None of the respondents (0%) chose "Not at all": No one that answered this question feels completely unable to understand or consider the feelings and perspectives of others. This is excellent news, as it presents a baseline case of least some empathy in that group.

1 respondent (8%) chose "Not very well": Only one of the groups mentioned that they do not understand or consider the feelings and perspectives of others particularly well. This potentially increases awareness of the need for growth in empathy skills for this person.

6 of the respondents (50%) said "Well": A large number within the group have a substantial degree of sensation and clear consideration for the feelings and perspective of others. This reflects an admirable level of empathy surrounding these individuals, for they have the capability of empathizing with the experiences and emotions of others.

5 respondents (42%) said "Very well": A big segment of the group feels they have great consideration and understanding of others' feelings and perspectives. It is these individuals that tend to exhibit very strong abilities to empathize, being able to delve deeply into the experiences and perspectives of others.

The data reflect the overall upward progression of empathy and social awareness of the respondents, whereby most assert that they very well understand and consider the feeling and perspectives of others. This gives an indication of positive grounding on the scale of engaged empathy within relations and interactions in the group.



The results indicate that, in general, people value the process of listening to and respecting the opinions and ideas of their peers. Here is the analysis:

0 respondents (0%) answered "Never": This signifies that none of the respondents indicated that they never listened to or respected the opinions or ideas of the peers. It is, therefore, a present plus; everybody appears to be recognizing the need to respect the perspective of others.

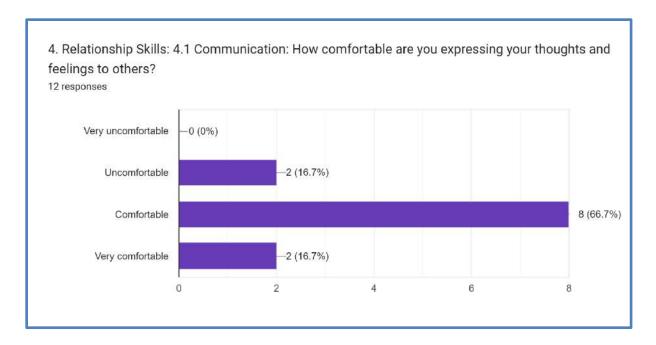
1 respondent (8%) answered "Rarely": Only one person out of the total group claimed that they rarely listen to or respect the ideas of their peers. Most probably, this indicates an area of improvement for this individual in better communication terms and in collaboration with other parties.

Six respondents, 50%, marked "Sometimes": This accounts for a sizeable number of members from the group mentioning that, sometimes, they certainly did practice active listening to the opinions and ideas of

their peers. Therefore, there are various opportunities to enhance consistency in these areas of respectful communication.

Five respondents, 42%, always answered: This almost half of the responding group-propounded members indicated that they always applied themselves to the active listening and respect for their peers' opinions and ideas. This could indicate, with an almost courageous temperament, that it is a group of respectful and collaborative members.

Overall, given the data, while specific individuals could improve their consistency in regard to respect for other individuals' opinions and ideas, the greater disposition of perceived respect and active listening exists for their peers. This clearly represents an environment supportive of inclusiveness valued according to the variety of viewpoints within that community.



Like the other subject areas, this one showed generally positive trends among the respondents in relation to relationship skills: Specifically, the ease of feeling comfortable about communication with others in terms of thought and feelings. The interpretation follows:

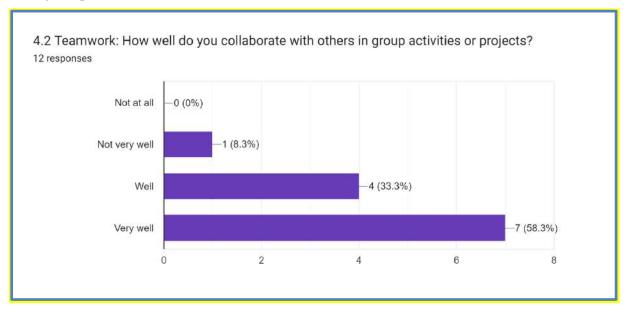
None of the respondents said, "Crossed" (0%). This means that the respondents reported feeling anything but very uncomfortable about expressing their thoughts and feelings. This provides evidence for a positive aspect in which everybody seems to have had some form of comfort in regard to their communication style.

Two respondents, or 17%, replied, "Uncomfortable": A small portion of the group mentioned that they feel uncomfortable expressing their thoughts and feelings. This could indicate some hesitation or difficulty in open and effective communication.

The overwhelming majority, or eight respondents, equal to 67%, said they were "Comfortable": Most of the group feels comfortable expressing their thoughts and feelings to others. This indicates adequate confidence levels in communicating and self-expression skills.

Two respondents (17%) said they were "Very comfortable": Another small portion of the group reported to feel very comfortable in expressing thoughts and feelings. Those individuals can be considered very confident in communication and at ease with it, which would definitely help in their relationships and interactions.

In all cases, this trend being positive towards communication comfort, where most of the respondents feel comfortable or very comfortable when expressing their thoughts and feelings to others, does indicate a large portion of the group is quite supportive of and conducive to having an open communication environment, which is very much essential in sustaining the basic needs of relating to one another and turning in a productive teamwork.



The data on teamwork and collaboration skills in group activities or projects provide an optimistic outlook for all respondents. In brief:

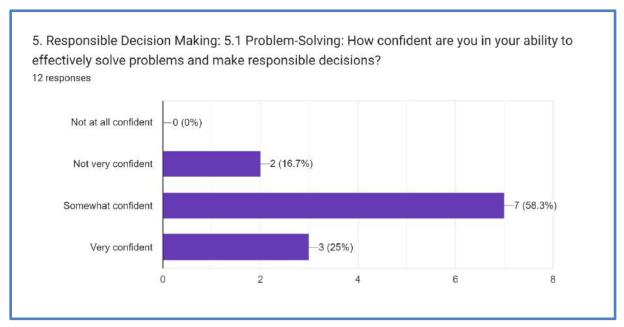
0 respondents (0%): This indicates that none of the respondents said they could not work with others during any group activities or projects. This is a good sign that all group respondents recognize the significance of teamwork, thus making certain efforts to work very well together.

1 respondent (8%) said "Not very well": It has been mentioned by only one member of the group that they do not collaborate very well. This could indicate that this individual is not well-skilled in teamwork, thus an opportunity to improve.

4 respondents (33%) said, "Well": A considerable proportion of the group seems to believe they collaborate well with others, a good indicator of their competence in teamwork while working among peers in group settings.

respondents (58%): "Very well": This is a lot of the group-that is to say, when group activities or projects are considered, they very well collaborate with each other. Probably most of the time, these individuals possessed sufficient teamwork skills in communication, cooperation, and conflict resolution.

Overall, the data indicate that there is, indeed, a positive trend in teamwork and collaboration skills of the respondents. The majority considers themselves to collaborate well or very well, a solid base for effective group work and an overall success in the group. Furthermore, this indicates a positive, collaborative environment, and collaborative efforts are valued and taken seriously.



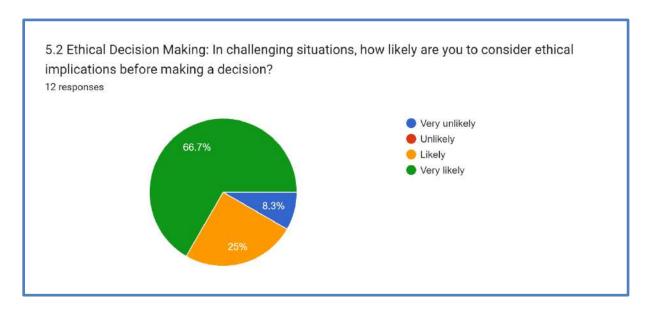
In the severity to which respondents express levels of confidence in assuring their selves in problemsolving and decision-making, the interpretation goes as follows: "Not at all confident": 0 respondents or 0% indicated. In being so, none of the respondents would feel totally unable to solve problems and make responsible decisions, which simply means that it's a good sign; it also means that every member of the group has at least some degree of confidence in their problem-solving abilities.

"Not very confident": 2 respondents or about 17% indicated that somewhat feels of real either unconfident of their solving problems responsible decision-making skills. This might furnish them with a chance for improvement and development in their problem-solving ability with increased confidence.

"Somewhat confident": 7 respondents (58%) indicated. Thus, in the preceding function, the bulk says they feel somewhat confident about their problem-solving abilities. This implies that they likely believe in their problem-solving ability to some extent and the decision-making process, though they may still find it hard to confidently step in a pinch.

"Very confident": 3 respondents (25%) depict the feeling of very confident regarding the problem-solving and running responsible decisions. Mostly, they could be persons so skilled with built-up decision-making policies, and that tends to raise the overall confidence of a person.

Overall, the data represents a reasonably good trend that denotes the respondents feel generally confident with problem-solving and decision-making, while the overwhelming majority feel at least somewhat confident. While a small section of the group feels unconfident, most of the respondents demonstrate a fair amount of assurance in their ability to tackle problems and take responsible decisions. This indicates a firm foundation for further skill development and confidence-building in group settings.



The patterns from ethical decision-making data show overall positive tendencies on behalf of respondents, who regard ethical implications before making decisions in challenging situations. Here is the interpretation of those data:

1 respondent (8%) said "Very unlikely": Very low in proportion to other members of the group, it shows that this minority does not typically take ethical implications into account in making decisions. This may suggest a potential area for enhancing ethical awareness and decision-making of this individual.

0 respondents (0%) said "Unlikely": None of the respondents reported that they are unlikely to consider ethical implications. This is very positive, showing that a majority of those on the group would be upon hearing the importance of ethics in making decisions.

3 respondents (25%) said "Likely": 1/4 of the group expressed that they are likely to think of ethical implications. This is indicative of reasonable ethical awareness that aligns with their usual standards of decision-making.

8 respondents (67%) said "Very likely": They acknowledge the case that most members of the group feel very likely to consider ethical implications before making decisions. This is very supportive of strong dedication in making ethical decisions among respective members.

Looking at the whole data, it shows positive developments of respondents' ethical decision-making. Most respondents are very likely to consider ethical implications, thus indicating their strong ethical awareness and commitment to making responsible decisions. Also, the respondents less likely to consider ethics imply an area for improvement; yet, in general, such improvements reflect a strong grounding on ethical decision-making.

## **5.3 Conclusion of the Survey**

In conclusion, the survey findings shed light on to the current landscape of SEL integration practices among educators. The diverse responses gathered contribute significantly to the comprehensive analysis and recommendations presented in subsequent sections of the project.

## 5.4 Semi Structured Interview

To carry out this research, I interviewed seven educators at my current workplace who participated in an SEL implementation workshop organized by the school management. A few

months after the workshop, I approached colleagues who teach students aged 6 to 14 to explore how Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) is perceived, integrated, and assessed in classrooms. The purpose was to understand the strategies and approaches people apply to integrate SEL learning into their practice and the benefits along with greatest challenges of such integration.

## **Interview Transcript:**

## **Introductory Questions:**

**Interviewer:** Would you please tell us where you come from and provide some background on your experience working with 6–14-year-old kids?

**Teacher 1:** 'I have been teaching for 12 years, most that time in elementary and middle school. I teach kids from 8 up to 13 years of age, with experience in special as well as general classrooms."

**Teacher 2:** "8 Years now, children between the ages of 6 and 12 are my students, but I mostly deal with kids in different clusters in a regular setting"

**Interviewer:** Are you familiar with the word 'Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)': please elaborate your knowledge of it?

**Educator 3:** For the past three years I have practiced employing SEL. I started using it after I attended a workshop on implementing several strategies in the classroom with SEL in it.

**Educator 4:** I have not had the opportunity to learn about SEL before but now that I have, I have started understanding its relevance as well as the use of better classroom engagement and student discipline.

## Theme 1: Understanding and importance of SEL

**Interviewer:** In what terms would you state SEL and its significance particularly towards children aged between 6 to 14 in your opinion. Why do you support this view?

**Educator 5:** "Working with the students' emotions, that is SEL, implies assisting them in comprehending their feelings and developing self-control, socialization skills, and competency in the realization of a majority of responsible actions."

For this age group, it is critical as they are going through emotional and social changes."

**Educator 6** | "I believe SEL fosters a classroom culture whereby students feel respected and safe. This is key when students feel that their emotions are supported because then they can learn."

**Interviewer:** In your opinion, what are the of SEL components that should be given attention to during this age?

**Educator 2:** "This age, empathy and self-regulation come into play. It is essential that students be enabled to recognize their emotions and put them across in a proper manner."

**Educator 3:** "Self-awareness and social skills are important to this age. They must be taught how to collaborate and engage in conflict resolution."

**Interviewer:** How would you describe the place of SEL in relation to the academic performance and development of students?

**Educator 4:** "I have observed that students who are able to express their emotions properly tend to be more academically inclined. I also believe that, it helps to create a sense of self-esteem as well which affects their performance."

**Educator 7**: "There is an improvement in students' performance, especially those who take part in SEL programs because they have better emotional control which enhances their concentration and productivity."

## Theme 2: SEL Integration in the Classroom

**Interviewer:** Can you share with us how you combine SEL into your daily teaching routine?

• Educator 5: "We begin each day with a short emotional check-in activity, where students can share how they feel. This helps them recognize and label their emotions before the learning starts." Educator 6: "I also use morning meetings to set a positive tone, using SEL-based icebreakers and activities that promote group bonding."

Interviewer: Do you use any specific SEL programs or frameworks in your classroom?

- **Educator 2:** "Yes, I use CASEL's framework as a guide. It helps me structure lessons around five core competencies."
- Educator 1: "I also follow a mindfulness program to help with emotional regulation and self-awareness."

**Interviewer:** How do you balance SEL with the academic curriculum? Are there challenges in doing this?

- Educator 3: "Sometimes it feels like there's not enough time for both, but I try to weave SEL into academic lessons. For example, group discussions help with both social skills and learning content."
- Educator 4: "I do find it challenging to balance both, especially with limited time, but I integrate SEL practices within subjects like reading and writing to make it more seamless."

## **Theme 3: Student Engagement and Response**

**Interviewer:** How do students typically respond to SEL activities or lessons?

- Educator 7: "Generally, students respond well to SEL activities. They are more engaged when they feel like their emotions are being acknowledged and addressed."
- **Educator 6:** "At first, some students were hesitant, but once they understood the benefits of SEL, they started participating more actively."

**Interviewer:** Can you share any examples where you observed positive changes in student behavior or relationships as a result of SEL activities?

- Educator 2: "After a few months of regular SEL activities, I noticed a significant reduction in conflicts during group work. Students were more patient and willing to listen to each other."
- **Educator 1:** "One of my students, who used to act out frequently, began to take deep breaths and ask for help when he felt upset, which was a huge improvement."

**Interviewer:** Have you encountered any resistance or challenges from students when implementing SEL? How do you address them?

- **Educator 5:** "Some students don't take SEL seriously at first. I explain to them how it will help them in real-life situations, and gradually, they start seeing the value."
- **Educator 4:** "I've had students who were not interested in participating. I find that incorporating games and hands-on activities gets them more engaged."

## Theme 4: Assessment of SEL Integration

**Interviewer:** How do you assess whether SEL is effectively integrated into your classroom?

- **Educator 7:** "I use informal observations, checking how students handle emotions during classroom activities. I also ask them reflective questions during class discussions."
- **Educator 6:** "I observe student interactions during group work. If they are using respectful language and showing empathy, I know the SEL practices are working."

**Interviewer:** Do you observe any measurable outcomes from your SEL efforts (e.g., improvement in student behavior, emotional regulation, academic performance)?

- Educator 1: "Yes, there's been a noticeable improvement in how students regulate their emotions. This has had a positive impact on their focus and participation in class."
- Educator 2: "I've seen that students with strong SEL skills tend to perform better academically. Their ability to manage stress helps them with test-taking and problem-solving."

**Interviewer:** What tools or methods do you use to evaluate students' social and emotional growth?

• Educator 3: "I use self-assessments where students rate their emotions and behaviors. I also rely on peer feedback during group activities."

• Educator 5: "I also use a rubric to track students' progress in key SEL competencies like self-regulation, social awareness, and communication."

## **Theme 5: Challenges and Professional Needs**

**Interviewer:** What are the biggest challenges you face when integrating SEL into your teaching?

• Educator 4: "Time constraints are the biggest challenge. There's not enough time to fully implement SEL activities in addition to academic lessons."

• Educator 7: "Another challenge is dealing with students who come from difficult home environments. SEL doesn't always resonate with them right away."

**Interviewer:** How do you address or overcome these challenges?

• Educator 6: "I try to integrate SEL into regular lessons whenever possible. For example, discussing emotions during a reading lesson helps connect SEL to academic content."

• Educator 1: "When I notice students struggling, I refer them to our school counselor for additional support, which helps reinforce SEL outside the classroom."

## Theme 6: Future of SEL in Education

**Interviewer:** How do you see SEL evolving in the future, and what role do you think it will play in education?

• Educator 3: "I think SEL will become even more integrated into the curriculum. As social media and technology grow, students will need even more support in emotional regulation and social skills."

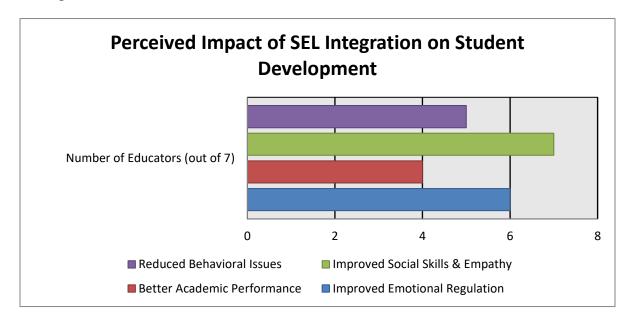
• **Educator 5:** "SEL will likely become a core component of all education, and more research will help us understand its long-term impact on students."

**Interviewer:** What advice would you give to other educators who are looking to integrate SEL into their classrooms?

- **Educator 2:** "Start small, with brief activities like check-ins or journaling. Gradually build SEL e same level of support, so understanding their needs is key."
- Visual Data into your routine, and stay consistent."
- Educator 7: "Make sure to personalize SEL activities for your students. Not all students need th

## **Representation:**

A bar graph representing how educators perceive the impact of SEL integration on student development, based on their interviews:



# 5.5 Analysis of the Semi-Structured Interview

According to the teachers' experiences as the integration of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in students, aged 6-14, classrooms, this essay brings interesting findings. The authors stress SEL's role in students' emotional, social as well as academic growth. So for the educators, SEL is vital for the students to be able to develop their emotions and succeed in their studies.

In this case educators implement SEL through emotional check-ins, mindfulness and practicing some SEL related programs for example CASEL. These practices have gained wide acceptance; however, the integration of SEL with academic content is a big challenge because the approaches have to be trained and a lot of time is needed apart from a range of more resources.

Notwithstanding this, teachers seem to adjust by adopting an interdisciplinary approach towards SEL embedding it within other subjects.

Most of the educators SERINESE, positive behavior of students, regulation of emotions and relations with others for students who concern interactions with mind. In this respect there are few students who are receptive, majority of students are resistant particularly when emotions are concerned. The teachers deal with this problem or issues using various supports and personalized activities proving that the country believes in the effectiveness of SEL.

Informal observations, self-assessments and growth that can be attributed to the performance in the classroom are the core constituents which determine the influence of SEL on students. This method is effective but teachers stress that instead of the current systems there is a clear demand for more developed systems for assessing students with SEL within a structured framework.

Shortages of time and resources indicate a need to emphasize on more opportunities for professional development. Educators require workshops and materials for the improvement of SEL practices. In the future, educators expect SEL to be integrated in the curriculum alongside other core subjects. They also expect better instruments to assess the effectiveness of SEL which makes it relevant in the future of the child's success.

## 5.6 Conclusion of the Semi-Structured Interview

The Focus Group interview sheds light regarding the position of Social and Emotional Learning, in classrooms today, both concerning its resources and its challenges. There is overwhelming concurrence with the fact that students' social, emotional and academic competencies stand to improve with the inclusion of SEL. They observe that it equips students with skills such as emotion regulation, empathy, collaboration, and conflict resolution, which are important artifacts of academic performance as well as general health.

However, several challenges hinder full SEL integration. There are issues of priorities, which arise in limiting rehearsal time and attempts to incorporate SEL within the content of various subjects where learning is taking place within specified periods. The absence of planned aids and lack of training for SEL, makes this even more difficult as most teachers feel unqualified.

Although some frameworks such as CASEL or mindfulness based interventions assist, educators require more solutions as well as middle level implementation activities to help develop SEL better. Inspite of the above challenges, though there seems to be enormous enthusiasm from teachers about practicing SEL, they are non-stop attempting to integrate it into their academic lessons and sub lessons even during the course of the day, e.g. for developing social skills, children are encouraged to engage in Group work while at the beginning of the day, there are emotional check-ins.

Envisioning the future, educators advocate that SEL must be the pillar of education and amalgamated with the curriculum. They desire for more organized support, assessment means, and training opportunities to monitor and enhance their students' social and emotional development the aimed approach.

All in all, it can be stated that even though the efforts are put into the attempts on the SEL integration of the framework, the need for more resources and training is apparent. Educators have a hope for the future of Yale and that singularly ought to be for education for every child's sake and consistency within the latter.

## 5.7 Academic Performance Data: Impact of SEL Program Participation

The dataset below illustrates the academic performance of 15 students, aged between 6 and 14 years and recommended by their teachers for the implementation of the Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) program. The data were gathered cumulatively in a span of 6 months from various classrooms. Teachers provided information on students' studies and other parameters including tests conducted before and after the SEL, attendance, homework and grades. The purpose was to assess the degree to which social-emotional learning program participation could potentially affect students in terms of their academic work. The dataset contains both SEL

subjects and non subjects thus making it possible to assess the performance of subjects before and after the participation in the programme. 50 students surveyed received Support for Learning in classes for students with disabilities while 37 – in general classes. The Support for Learning Programs introduced SEL, in order to promote positive engagement with learning. In this case, SEL offered a framework for interventions designed to build both effective learning and effective teaching. Consequently, working actively with specific strategies and techniques designed to promote SEL engagement across classrooms was implemented.

Student	SEL	Pre-	Post-	Attendance	Homework	Final
ID	Participation	SEL	SEL	(%)	Completion	Grade
	(1=Yes, 0=No)	Test	Test		(%)	(%)
		Score	Score			
		(%)	(%)			
S001	1	72	85	95	90	88
S002	1	65	80	90	85	80
S003	0	80	80	98	92	83
S004	1	78	91	93	88	85
S005	0	55	60	88	75	65
S006	1	70	83	92	86	86
S007	1	85	91	96	94	92
S008	0	75	75	99	80	78
S009	1	60	74	85	78	72
S010	0	68	68	87	79	70
S011	1	90	94	91	96	95
S012	0	66	66	89	80	72
S013	1	55	72	92	80	77
S014	0	62	62	84	70	68
S015	1	76	89	94	88	90

## **Summary:**

- Social Emotional Learning Program Participation: the sample comprised of 8 Sel participants and 7 Sel non participants.
- **Pre- and Post- SEL Test Scores:** The comparison of the results shows that the scores at the endline tests were much higher for those students who took the SEL program and lower for their counterparts who never took the SEL program.
- Contribution to Class Assignments and Attendance: Completion and attendance of assigned homework are quite good for all learners with no major differences at all. However, significant disparities are seen in the overall final grades received, especially amongst the SEL and Non-Sel clusters.
- **Final Grades:** It has been observed that there is a relationship between high final grades and participation in SEL intervention this assertion would in fact imply that the other variable is dependent on the first.

## 5.8 Analysis Considerations

- **Correlation:** There is a good chance that those who can perform well in academics, SEL, parents' support of the child... (and this is not limited to testing, but also the grade obtained for the semester too) tend to show a positive correlation.
- **Regression:** A regression analysis may be used to view final grade prediction given participation in numerous activities such as: SEL, attendance, completed homework, and pre-test scores. This will help us appreciate the relative importance of SEL programs with respect to the improvement of students' performance.

This data provides a framework for the relationship between student participation in SEL and their academic performance in the context of social emotional learning being of relevance to pedagogic interventions.

## 6. Recommendations

Recommendations Among the most significant contributors to achieving effective educational results would be the introduction of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) principles into the educational ecosystem. With the attention to importance of constructing and evaluating strong baseline in education that was mentioned earlier, this capstone project pursues a thorough understanding of SEL Integration.

While achieving a solid understanding of what SEL is, it is equally important to consider how to develop the model further, targeting specific and realistic recommendations. The guidelines which are to follow are, therefore, devised to inform teachers, managers, as well as the whole institution, how to incorporate SEL principles. Each set of this recommendation is intricately crafted intending to incorporate tight SEL implementation strategies to create an educational environment that promotes students achievement not only in academics but also in social and emotional aspects of the students.

Most of these suggestions, based on empirical and experiential knowledge, are constructed as a guide for people who would like to focus on strengthening the base in education by using Social and Emotional Learning concepts in an effective and strategic manner.

## • Curriculum Integration:

**Recommendation:** Plan documents or templates outlining all relevant stakeholders with each activity suitable for the recognized age group to be integrated into the existing curricula consistent with all standards.

**Rationale:** Integration at the delocalization level emphasizes the need for social-emotional skills and provides a smooth learning journey for students.

## • Professional Development:

**Recommendation:** Set up a lifelong formation of the members of the educational institution's faculty, via workshops, seminars as well as mentoring for educators on advanced SEL teaching techniques.

**Rationale:** Professional development on a regular and special basis contributes to a community of professional educators who are skilled in the intricate details of how SEL principles are to be implemented in the setting.

#### Assessment Tools:

**Recommendation:** Work together with teachers, psychologists and specialists in the design of assessments to create tools that assess comprehensively, a wide range of social and emotional skills.

**Rationale:** Specially developed assessment tools enable the detailed evaluation of the progression of students in SEL engaging them at all levels which inturn has the effect of designing the right solutions for fixes and enhancement of practice.

## • Collaborative Practices:

**Recommendation:** Commence discussing best practices and SEL integration strategies for the modules with both intra and inter departmental meetings on a regular basis.

**Rationale:** Learners who practice this way are bound to be enthusiastic in creating a conducive environment that fosters for proper application of social emotions learning.

#### • Parental Involvement:

**Recommendation:** Create a parent-aiding system structure of communication and arrange activities to bridge the gap of parents still engaging them to reinforcing SEL outsides classroom.

**Rationale:** This ensures there is a wide-ranging support base which strengthens SEL for its implementation effectiveness by making it easier to reach out in the classroom.

## • Integration of Technology:

**Recommendation:** In line with different stakeholders such as teachers, parents, and students, make available interactive and research based digital technologies resources that will foster SEL learning experiences."

**Rationale:** Planned application of technology integration enlarges the scope of SEL practices and makes them relevant to education in the current context.

## • Assessment Frequency:

**Recommendation:** Make use of a rolling assessment plan which incorporates both formative and summative assessments so that there is a ratio of five to one to eight five of teaching to learning time so that learning SEL is made possible to all students."

**Rationale:** With frequent assessments, teachers are able to capture critical situations that would have otherwise been remedied at a much later date and thus hasten the process of addressing the problem.

#### • Inclusive Practices

**Recommendation:** Develop and implement SEL pedagogical approaches which cater for the needs of all students within the classroom in order to create SEL belonging and equity for all children in schools."

**Rationale:** Appropriate understanding of individual differences and other needs helps that aspect of all levels of games in SEL by encouraging all students in the classes making the classrooms more friendly.

## • Community Engagement:

**Recommendation:** Partner with local organizations work with stakeholders and convene awareness activities to build SEL community networks.

**Rationale:** Consequently, there exists a chance for students to grow in different facets of their development outside the school, as the school does not everything, considering the influence of SEL and the outreach with the community.

## • Continuous Improvement:

**Recommendation:** Understanding the need for change, it should be ensured that there is a construct such that the evaluation processes are pervasive incorporating elements such as self-appraisal and discussions among the teacher so that over a period of time the integration of SEL can be done as required.

**Rationale:** Due to not only the continuous improvement approach being followed but also the SEL approach of the students in the light of the feedback and environment which could change had to be followed as close to the needs of the students as possible as well as the changes in the education systems.

The generalizations bias in the practitioners and educators looking to implement a general incorporation of drowning of the SEL principles throughout the curriculum and the day-to-day activities of the school, using it as an ideal basis of promoting Social and Emotional Learning, could be avoided by these more narrow recommendations.

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# 8. Appendices

8.1 SEL Integration: Building and assessing strong foundation in education – Google form

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1J-

Gq\_Ii5HNAXAzwF7fpEB4JOC\_cX7k6aAZJdK2fw7iw/edit#settings

# 8.2 Perceptions of Teachers Regarding Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) – Semi-Structured Interview

Dear Educators,

The purpose of this interview falls within my research interest related to the best teaching practices but more directed at Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in the classroom. My goal in the present case is to comprehend what you think is beneficial regarding the use of SEL in classrooms and what its impact can be on the enhancement of the students' development.

#### Introduction

Q1: Please tell us a little bit about yourself and the experience you have with children aged
between 6-14 in terms of teaching?

Q2: Are you familiar with the word 'Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)' please elaborate your knowledge of it?

Theme 1: Understanding and Importance of SEL
Q1: How would you describe SEL and its importance, especially for children aged 6 to 14? What makes you believe in its significance?
Q2: Which specific aspects of SEL do you think are especially important for this age group?
Q3: What role do you think SEL plays in students' academic development?

# Theme 2: SEL Integration in the Classroom

Q1:	How do you integrate SEL into your daily teaching routine?
_	
_	
Q2:	Do you use any specific SEL programs or frameworks in your teaching?
_	
Q3:	How do you balance SEL with the academic curriculum? Do you face any challenges?
The	me 3: Student Engagement and Response
Q1:	How do students typically respond to SEL activities?
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Q2: Can you share any examples where you've seen positive changes in students as a result o SEL activities?	f
Q3: Have you faced any resistance from students when implementing SEL? How do you hand it?	lle
Theme 4: Assessment of SEL Integration	
Q1: How do you assess the effectiveness of SEL in your classroom?	

Q2: Have you noticed any measurable outcomes from your SEL efforts, like changes in behavior or academic performance?

Q3:	What tools or methods do you use to track students' social and emotional development?
	Theme 5: Challenges and Professional Needs
Q1:	What are the main challenges you face when integrating SEL?
Q2:	How do you address these challenges?

**Theme 6: Future of SEL in Education** 

: How do you see SEL evolving in the future?		
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<del>-</del>		
Q2: What advice would you give to other educators who are looking to integrate SEL in classrooms?	nto their	

Thank you so much for sharing your thoughts and experiences about integrating SEL in the classroom. Your perspective is incredibly helpful in understanding how SEL impacts both student growth and academic achievement. Your input will play a crucial role in shaping the future of SEL practices in education.

If you have any more insights or additional feedback, please don't hesitate to reach out. We truly value your contribution.

Once again, thank you for taking part in this important research!