



Letter to all School Governing Bodies

The Responsibility of a Governing Body

By adopting Thinking Tools, you are positioning your school to achieve higher standards and setting your learners on a trajectory for lifelong success. Only teachers can make this true and therefore they are a school's main asset. Their mindsets and quality of teaching defines the school. From a Governing body's point of view the question is question is not 'can we afford to train them' to "*Can we afford not to invest in their training and development?*"

What is Thinking Tools about?

Currently teachers are well equipped in using a variety of teaching methods. Thinking Tools change the setting to brain-based learning techniques. The success of Thinking Tools is based on activating the brain's inborn Thinking Tools. This enables learners to analyze, synthesize, evaluate content, further resulting in developing organising, classifying and creative skills both needed for exams and in real life.

What Are the Benefits?

For Teachers

- **Efficacy Over Effort:** Thinking Tools equips educators with strategies to teach smarter, not harder. This results in a teaching staff with high moral who can see the real impact of their work which are measurable improvements of learners' achievements.
- **Pro-active versus reactive:** This results in remediation before the exams and not after the exam when it is water under the bridge.

For Learners

- **Thinking skills development:** Learners develop skills to obtain deeper insights, learn faster, and become critical thinking problem-solvers. Most importantly, they achieve better marks, develop motivation, resilience and Emotional Intelligence. In this way they become lifelong learners equipped for future challenges.
- **Neural pathway development:** Each learning engagement results in a next layer of neural pathways in the brain that links with previous learning and serve as the basis for future learning. We call this 'Myelination of neural pathways'. Myelination plays a crucial role in neuroplasticity which is the brain's ability to reorganise and adapt to new learning experiences. This results in upward spirals of learning that equips learners with problem-solving skills, strategic thinking and creativity.
- These upward spirals occur instead of repetitive horizontal layers of memorised information.

For the School

- **Return on Investment (ROI):** Branding the school as a centre of excellence.
- **Leadership with the school community:** Develop a reputation of embracing innovation and prepares learners for a rapidly evolving world.

To further shape the success of your school developed the "*Thinking Tools school*" concept aimed at involving parents, as partners in education to tap into the wealth of experience of the Thinking Tools Specialist Teacher Team. Over the past 2 years we offered Thinking Tools courses for learners from Grades 4 to 12 which includes four maths Thinking Tools figure-out classes per month, which are recorded for future use. There is a minimum of 40 x 1-hour Thinking Tools available per grade valued at R12 000 plus the same number of classes for the previous grade resulting in R24 000 which is offered at a subscription of only R180 per month.

When this is combined with the option of a free internship for maths teachers under the guidance of the Specialist maths teachers the is no stop in becoming world class Centre of Excellence. This offer is also available to teachers in other subjects.

Kind regards

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