Teachers at the heart of decision making:  
A Manifesto for Teachers

Our purpose of convening teachers from around the world is to assist them in answering the key question as to how the teaching profession should and will evolve in a post Covid-19 world.

Rather than have policy experts, Ministers and other stakeholders frame the discussion, T4 provides a platform to teachers who want to exchange ideas and knowledge on what happens next.

Teachers for Teachers.

Here are the top takeaways from T4 by teachers, for teachers on how to navigate the 'new normal'.

**Involve the local community and learn how to form partnerships**

The experience we are currently going through shows that we need to learn how to do more with those outside of our classrooms, and this includes the local community. The pandemic clearly shows that we have to build relationships and partnerships with our local communities and services. Collaborate with those who you don’t do so with already. NGO’s, the private sector, universities, technology businesses are all willing to join hands.

**Get involved with teacher organisations**

We have an opportunity to influence decision making, negotiate what works best for us, and advocate for things that matter to us when we come together and speak collectively. Look for such opportunities with local or national organisations and the unions in our countries. Passionate and professional practitioners taking the lead is what we require, especially in the uncertain times we are entering.

**Take charge of your own development**

If there is one thing we have learnt through this pandemic is that we need to put aside time for our own professional development. We need to use the strength of our teacher networks
to design and own our professional development which should include teaching practice and technology:

- **Learn to design the learning experience**
  
  Understanding how to design the blended learning experience with technology embedded, especially in a way that embraces the intuitive skills of children and engages them is the new norm that we need to invest our time and resources into.

- **Every teacher needs to untap the potential of technology**
  
  Deciding whether we are going to use technology is no longer an option. It’s here to stay. No longer is it the responsibility of one or two colleagues in our school, as the pandemic has shown, we all need to be conversant on how to use it to help our students achieve their potential.

**Look after yourself - it really matters**

The well-being of students, parents and our communities is directly related to teacher well-being. We need to teach with the values of educating the whole child, which includes, physical education, mental health, social-emotional, the fine arts and music being treated as equal to literacy and numeracy.

___________________________

Signed

NAME:________________________________________

SIGNATURE: ____________________________ DATE: _____________________