



The Peace School

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www.thepeaceschool.com

The Peace School's Call for Promoting Humanistic Education

We, as a group of experts in the field of child education and advisors at The Peace School, invite all educational institutions to join us in promoting democracy, peacebuilding, and humanism.

The Peace School in Canada warmly invites all educational centers, professionals, organizations, and individuals who are passionate about fostering a culture of peace to engage in meaningful collaboration.

Though we are an independent school based in Ontario, Canada, we do not define ourselves by the walls of a building or the limited number of students in a remote corner of the world. The Peace School has officially introduced itself as a school rooted in humanistic psychology and an alternative, human-centred approach to education and committed to providing equitable and inclusive learning opportunities for all students, without discrimination.

Humanistic education is a pedagogical approach founded on respect for human dignity and the diverse individual, social, cultural, and group differences of all learners. It emphasizes the holistic development of each student within their closer and wider communities, while fostering empathy, freedom, and a sense of meaning in the learning journey. This approach views the child not merely as a recipient of knowledge but as a full and active human being. A child who needs to be seen, heard, and given space to thrive. In a humanistic system, students have the right to choose and participate in planning and shaping the content of their learning alongside educators, families, and their local communities.

We are a democratic, peace-oriented, rights-based and humanistic school.

Yet we believe that being democratic alone does not guarantee peace, and peace-centred systems are not always inherently democratic. That's why we emphasize the importance of uniting three guiding principles: democracy, peacebuilding, and humanism. Together, they can lead us to a better world.

The Peace School's Board of Directors and its international Board of Advisors (comprised of some of the most respected experts in the field) believe that our vision and programs should not be confined to our school alone, but need to actively engage and collaborate with like-minded institutions and organizations.



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Our educational philosophy is open to all schools and learning institutions.

We do not see our work as being in competition with any educational organization. Rather, we genuinely invite all institutions, professionals, and educational leaders worldwide to join us in promoting schools that are peaceful, humanistic, and democratic.

What Can Humanistic Schools Offer?

- We want to prepare the world to be a better place for everyone.
- We empower students to practice empathy, compassion, cooperation, and love for humanity.
- We go beyond memorization, helping students engage with learning that is shaped by life.
- We respect individual needs while prioritizing collective well-being.
- We empower students to ask questions, think critically, create boldly, and seek just solutions to real-life challenges.
- We practice equity and fairness with all students, in both content and relationships.
- We free students from the stress of competition, comparison, grading, and the obsession with individual success at any cost.
- We give students the chance to speak, express opinions, pursue dreams, and take part in shaping their own educational journey.
- We invite families to be active participants in shaping content, organizing curriculum, and co-building progressive education.
- We prepare learners to lead lives based on nonviolence, sustainability, and respect for all international human rights and peace treaties.

We believe this vision can lead us to a future where policymakers and global leaders put human dignity and collective well-being at the heart of every plan and policy.

We deeply believe in the transformative power of education to build a peaceful future.

And to reach that future, we must begin today, together.



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Join Us

We invite you to be a part of this movement.

Contact us.

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Share your skills, your expertise, your passion.

Together, we can build the schools and the future, the future the world truly needs.

Names of Experts, Alphabetically Arranged:

- Clements, Je'anna, Author and expert on peace and democracy education. South Africa
- Dowling, Georga, Professional in Early Childhood Education. Ireland
- Dunn, Theresa, Peace Professional & Community. Canada
- Dr. Firth, Rhiannon, Professor of Sociology of Education, England
- Fisher, Hannah, an international film programmer. Canada
- Fransham, Richard, Lead Education Specialist and Director of Uniting for Children and Youth. Canada
- Groiss, Gabriel, Lead Specialist in Democratic Education. Germany
- Graner, Henning, Lead Specialist in Democratic Education. Germany
- Heidari, Vida, Children's art specialist. Canada
- Ibrahim, Iman, Author, Expert in Life Coaching, Leadership and Conflict Resolution, Canada
- Jacobsen, Scott Douglas, Author, editor-in-chief and publisher. Canada
- Jelenic, Shalie, practitioner of yoga philosophy. Canada
- Dr. Mansouri, Arash, entrepreneur and technology leader. Canada
- Dr. Moreno-Romero, Charlie, Lead Specialist in Democratic Education, Estonia
- Dr. Müller, Frank J., Professor of Inclusive Education. Germany
- Parcher, Simon, President, Humanist Perspectives Magazine. Canada
- Dr. Robertson, Lloyd Hawkeye, Lead Professor of Counselling Psychology. Canada
- Uesugi, Yuko, Global and Bilingual Education Expert. Japan
- Yousefi, Baran, Health Policy and Management Specialist. Canada
- Dr. Yousefi, Nasser, Specialist in Humanistic education. Canada

Note: This statement draws upon the theoretical perspectives of prominent psychologists and humanistic education scholars, including Carol Rogers, Abraham Maslow, Paulo Freire, and Loris Malaguzzi.

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