



## IMPORTANCE OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS INTERRELATIONSHIP IN ACHIEVING GOALS OF EDUCATION

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### Abstract

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*When we think about the education process, we find that there has been a radical change in the present education process. In ancient times, all the work of imparting education was on 'Gurukuls' which were located at a sufficient distance from the city and the common citizens, where according to the 'Guru Shishya Parampara', the Guru imparted knowledge to his disciples. No one interfered in his work in any way.*

*But as the civilization progressed, schools were set up in the villages to ensure that education is accessible to all the students, and they can meet the changing demands of the society. The horizons of education system kept expanding not only for students but also for teachers. Learned teachers from the local region were also involved in teaching and learning. The school buildings took the place of the 'ashrams', education was categorised in many levels such as primary, secondary, higher, technical, vocational and medical education etc. In the present modern times, this division expanded even more and new concepts came in education, due to which the systems of education also changed a lot and now the need was felt that due cooperation of everyone should be taken in education and gain its maximum benefits.*

*As education is a tripolar process in which the three poles are 1. the teacher, 2. the student and 3. the society. We cannot neglect the contribution of any one pole in the entire process of education. It is true that formal education is provided by the teachers in the school and most of the time the student depends on the teacher for the purpose of study, but it is seen that if we want the child to lead a successful life, the collaboration of the teachers with the*

parents is must. School has been considered as a miniature form of society, where the socialization of the child begins, so the stronger the relationship between the school, society, and the family, the more positive the development of the child will be.

The present paper deals with the highlighting the role of parents and teachers' collaboration for the all-round development of students and how it is necessary for education for all. It also deals with the hurdles in this way and ways to overcome these.

**Keywords:** Parent-teacher Interrelationship, Goals of education, school, and society.



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**Introduction:** When we think about the education process, we find that there has been a drastic change in the present education system. In ancient times, Gurukul were the place of imparting education, but they were situated at a sufficient distance from the populated and residential areas. In Gurukul according to the Guru Shishya tradition, the Guru used to do the work of imparting knowledge to his disciples. No one was allowed to interfere in his work in any way. The child used to stay at his guru's ashram throughout his studies and return to his home only after completing his education. At that time, the Guru was the supreme person in the education system, so it was said that,

“गुरुर ब्रह्मा गुरुर विष्णु गुरुर देवो महेश्वरा

गुरुः साक्षात्परब्रह्मा तस्मै श्री गुरुवे नमः” ।

This verse means that the Guru is the form of the real God, and the Guru is given the highest position. The Guru-disciple relationship was also like that of father-son and the disciple cared enough for the guru and the guru-shishya.

The education system changed along with the evolving civilization, and the Gurukuls were started in the form of schools in the villages, instead of a deserted place. Rather, now they were set up in the village and the local learned teachers were also involved in teaching and learning. The school buildings took the place of the ashram system, in the changing concepts of education, many levels of education were fixed such as primary education, secondary education, and higher education etc. In the present modern times, this division expanded even more and new concepts came in education, due to which the systems of education also changed a lot and now the need was felt that due cooperation of everyone should be taken in the process of education.

According to interviews conducted on parents of inner-city high school students, **Williams and Sánchez's (2012)** concluded “that the majority of parents embraced the notion that it “takes a village” to meet all students’ needs”.

**Education as a collaborative process:** As we know that education was said to be a bi-polar process, and then after realising the role of the three factors teacher, student, and society in it was considered as a tri-polar process. It is true that formal education is provided by the teachers in the school and most of the time the student depends on the teacher for the purpose of study. School has been considered as a miniature form of society, where the socialization of the child begins, so the stronger the relationship between the school society and the family, the more positive the development of the child will be, and the child will be able to lead a successful life.

I remember when I was a student of primary classes my school was far away from my residence but regardless of this factor, my teachers used to come to my house once every month and meet my parents and other guardians to talk about my progress and other activities. For a long time, I did not understand the rationale of this, but after growing up, I understood that this contact between teacher and parent is also important to shape the further life of the students through school education.

अमंत्रमक्षरं नास्ति नास्ति मूलमनौषधम् ।

अयोग्यः पुरुषो नास्ति योजकस्तत्र दुर्लभः॥

This verse is that there is no such letter in the world from which no mantra can be formed, there is no such medicine which does not cure any disease and no one person is ineligible, the need is only to find a suitable person or system which can make a fruitful connection between all the parts of the system. Similarly, to provide education to a child any plan is not a failure if we can make a healthy coordination between school and family. This coordination is a planning of this connectivity only. Similarly, during education for the child, no plan in the field of education is unsuccessful, provided that all the factors related to education are coordinated among themselves.

**Present Scenario of Education:** Now as the education has become child-centred, and all aspects of education system are being considering the child as the centre, along with educational development, social and emotional development has also become necessary in the current fierce competition. Twenty years before, the child used to get enough opportunity to decide in which field he wants to go for earning a living, because then there was not so much

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pressure in the elementary classes as it is now. Today, along with the development of civilisation, there is immense pressure on students. Education is easily accessible but there are several other problems such as,

- Parent's Expectations
- Tough Competition
- Imbalanced Economic Conditions
- Changing Social Environment
- Globalisation and Liberalisation
- Role of Information and Communication Technology
- Lack of proper counselling
- Urbanization
- Migration for Employment

On one hand with the increased facilities of technology, internet facility, availability of transport facilities the education system has progressed, and the students have achieved a lot on the academic front, but on the other hand these facilities have created many problems such as maladjustment, depression, irritation, frustration etc. In such a situation, it becomes necessary that some effective and positive measures should be taken for their proper positive progress.

**The need of connecting parents and school:** A good teacher is one who understands the individual differences of the child, knows all the aspects of his personality, and accordingly develops positive qualities in students and motivates him towards his life goal. A teacher alone cannot do this work if he does not get active support of the student's parents and family in his task. This cooperation should be two-way process, the parent should give support to the teacher and vice-versa. As told earlier that few good educational institutions used to do this work by running a house visit campaign by the teachers. In these home visits the significant role was of teachers. But at present there has been a change in this process, now the relationship between the school and the family has become easier due to the advancement in communication technology the awareness of the parents has also increased. Nowadays, parent teacher meetings are being organized in schools, due to which a good process of communication between the school and the family has developed.

Generally, we all must have heard two sentences in our lifetime, one sentence from the teacher's side and one sentence from the parent's side.

First - If you do not improve, then I will complain to your parents.

Second - If you do not obey, I will complain to your teacher in your school.

In both the above sentences, the interdependence of the teacher on the parent and that of the parent on the teacher is reflected. In this the teacher's trust on the parent and the parent's trust in the teacher is visible, the parents feel that if my child is not listening to me, then he will definitely listen to his teacher, on the other hand, the teacher feels that if my student is not listening to me, then he will definitely be afraid of his parents hence the teacher uses the name of parents to fulfil his educational objectives. The child carries almost similar relationship with both his parents and teachers.

The child is similar in his relationship with his teacher and his parents in many aspects, he shares a bond of affection, obedience, mutual trust, mutual understanding with both. These qualities are intertwined between the child, teacher, and parents, through which all those qualities are developed inside the student which make him a good person.

Therefore, cordial and mutually fulfilling relationship between parents, family, and school, can help in achieving the following educational goals

- Adequate number of enrolments
- Reduction in Wastage
- Co-operation in adjustment,
- All-round development
- Knowing the interests of the student
- Cooperation in educational inclusion

Adequate work has been done on all the above-mentioned issues at present, but educational inclusion is still a major problem on which there is a special need to do collective work. In educational inclusion, the work is done to connect all those children who are deprived of education due to any reason, be it social, economic, or family or physical or mental disability or any other reason. Everyone should have a collective role in bringing such students into the mainstream of education and strengthening them academically.

**Requirement of Parent Teacher Cooperation to achieve goals of Education:** A child must receive education in an atmosphere which is conducive to his/her development. Inclusion is not a privilege rather than a basic human right for every student. The best advocate for a student

is his/her parents. They know about their child in such a way that no one else can. They can give critical inputs for their ward's education. As inclusive education is much broader than the formal education, family collaboration is much important throughout. Only parents can give the exact and correct information about development, weakness attitude and behaviour of their child.

“Most researchers conclude, however, that parents’ direct involvement in their children’s schooling stays an important element in student achievement in secondary school”. (**Epstein & Sanders, 2002; Jeynes, 2007; 2012**)

With the help of school family and parents, the idea of achieving the goal is not new, but today the need is that this alliance should be strengthened more. Several types of experiments are being done for inclusive education.

**Expectations from parents to achieve the goals of education:** To reach the goals of education for all, the following favours are expected from a parent to make their child bloom to his/her full potential,

- They should give accurate information about their child.
- Children with special needs and children with disability must be enrolled in school and parents should play role of a helping hand.
- Children with special needs and handicapped children must be enrolled in the school and play the role of a helper in reaching the benefits of the schemes made for them to those eligible children.
- They should keep in touch with the school regularly.
- They should check whether the child is doing the work given by school or not.
- In should duly cooperate in the parent-teacher meeting organized by the school, discuss in detail about the student and while giving their suggestions, they should pay attention to the suggestions suggested by the school also. They must try to understand the expectations of the teachers from them.
- If there is any weak point of the child, they should be share it with teacher.
- Along with the normal children of the family, take care of the children with special needs in the same way and keep talking about them to the teachers at the school from time to time.

Along with academic achievement, development of social values and development of qualities necessary for personality formation can be done only with the co-operation and cooperation of school and family.

**Role of Schools in ensuring connection/cooperation of parents and teachers:**

Communication between parents and school is the key to safeguard the active contribution of parent's role towards development of students. Make sure that parents realise the importance of their part in the school life of their children the school staff can take the below mentioned measures:

- Make the parents believe that their contribution is of utmost importance, and they can participate for the betterment of their ward despite any obstacle.
- The school management require to initiate such activities that make the parents feel at home while communicating with the parents.
- All the staff of the school must be trained to have an open and welcoming attitude towards parents, and the school staff must know and realise the benefits of involvement of parents in the efforts of schools.
- The barriers in the connection of parents and teachers must be addressed and taken care of.
- Most of the schools communicate one way, there are many ways of conveying the information from schools to parents like newsletter, automatic calls and notifications, e-mails etc. but it is often seen that the means to communicate from the parent's side are limited. It is always suggested to open channels for the open communication from both the side so that the school can take the feedback of parents anytime.
- It is advisable to bridge the gap of language and time availability while communicating with the parents. The need assessment of parents should be done.
- There can be parents who can be helpful and are willing to help school with the implementation of the school policies. Survey in this regard can help both the school and parents, schools can take benefit of the parent's skills and parents will feel more connected to the schools.
- There should be an open feedback system from parents on the policies of school and teachers.
- While designing the educational curriculum of the children falling under the view of inclusive education, the experiences of their parents should also be included so that the

educational goals as per their needs and individual differences can be achieved effectively.

- Parents must feel connected to the school, and this is possible only when the school authorities make them feel that their voice is heard and their suggestions and problems matter to the school authorities.
- Parents can help the schools and teachers in several ways through their contribution these ways must be realised and used in a positive manner for betterment of students.

The collaboration between school and families is not only beneficial for the student but it also establishes a better reputation of the school in the community. Parents also master their parenting skills by collaborating with schools and knowing about their children need and attitudes in a better way.

**Conclusion:** Looking at the above-mentioned points it becomes clear that the mutual coordination of family and school is necessary for the overall development of not only special children but also for normal children. Through positive and open communication and coordination between parents and schools it becomes easier to accomplish the goals of education. Any hurdle in the way of students can easily be crossed if parents and teachers collaborate with each other to meet the goals of the education. The problem of dropouts, special needs of children can easily be met if there is two-way communication between parents and teachers. In our country we have made education accessible to all but to retain the students in schools, to meet their specific requirements, and for their overall development connecting schools to the parents and society is a must. Many studies prove that a good parent teacher cooperation not only enhances the academic achievement of the students, but also helps in the enrolment of children with special need to obtain the goal of total literacy, it is also helpful in providing education to all by bringing students from the disadvantaged sections of the society and children with special needs to the school, enrolling them according to the goal of total literacy. It is helpful in achieving the goal of making education accessible to all which is also one of the main aims of NEP 2020.

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