FACTS FOR TEACHERS

Teachers can have a **positive influence** on children and youth to help them grow happy and resilient.

Even in very difficult circumstances, **children who are in school** and feel a sense of belonging are **less vulnerable to risky behaviours**.

**Effects of low school connectedness**

- poorer school completion rates at year 12
- poorer academic achievement at grade 10
- more regular smoking
- more marijuana use
- more depressive symptoms
- poorer entrance scores to next level education

**as compared to high school connectedness**

Association of low school connectedness at grade 8 compared to those with high school connectedness.
LISTEN FIRST

The first step towards a strong bond between children and teachers is listening with empathy and care.

Support the development of the personal and social skills of children through a curriculum of interactive activities.

Create a positive school culture that supports the active participation of students.

Prevention programmes based on life skills and social influences delivered in schools can prevent one quarter of the drug use occurring year after the intervention.

\[-\frac{1}{4}\text{ drug use}\]
Provide **non-judgemental counselling** to the children and youth that need it.

**Do everything possible to keep children in school.**

**Good quality early childhood education**

Prevention project offering intensive good quality early childhood education to children from impoverished communities improved educational attainment, and the effects lasted up to adulthood.

![Graph showing the impact of early childhood education](image)

- **Used marijuana in past month:**
  - Intervention in pre-school: 18, 39, 45
  - Control group: 26, 45, 36

- **Teenage parent (<20):**
  - Intervention in pre-school: 14
  - Control group: 26

- **Enrolled in college / university:**
  - Intervention in pre-school: 30, 36
  - Control group: 20, 36

**SOUNDS DIFFICULT?**

Participating in **science-based prevention programmes** have helped thousands of schools world-wide.

**Teachers become better teachers. Children behave better and do better in school.**
Support evidence-based prevention programmes:

www.unodc.org/listenfirst

Get informed
Ask your community leaders and policy makers to support evidence-based prevention programmes.

ALREADY INVOLVED
Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Chile, China, CICAD, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, EMCDDA, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Lithuania, Mentor International, Mexico, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Peru, the Philippines, the Pompidou Group, Portugal, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, UNODC, Uzbekistan, WHO.