10. THE END OF EDUCATION IS CHARACTER

NOTES

Education needs to do more than just develop curiosity and satisfy enquiring minds. It must cultivate a commitment to self-improvement and promote constant learning.

A formalised education system provided by institutions sees teachers and lecturers organising the learning experience for students, who are subdivided into classes or lecture groups.

"An educated person is not necessarily one who has an abundance of general or specialised knowledge. An educated person is one who has developed the facilities of their mind so that they may acquire anything that they want without violating the rights of others."

Napoleon Hill

The majority of the world is still working to a modified version of the educational system, which is based on the third education revolution dating back to the 17th century. Yet the world has changed so drastically since then – in particular, during the 21st century – that the education system is about to enter into the 4th education revolution.



The power of technology, the rise of new ways of learning and the internet imparts powerful new opportunities for us to become our own teachers.

Much of the debate in Britain today over the role of character formation in schools revolves around the purpose of education.

Shaping character is a necessary and vital aspect of education.

NOTES

I vividly recall a great quote from Gardner, an author at Harvard: "Do not ask how intelligent a child is, ask how is a child intelligent."

The definition of intelligence is changing and in the fourth educational revolution, which is already on our doorstep, we will all be required as educators to ask a very important question: Will artificial intelligence liberate or infantilise humanity? Recently, Sir Anthony Seldon, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Buckingham, published a book on this topic. It makes a compelling read.



Therefore, a fully educated person has a thirst for knowledge and a curiosity that will last until their final breath on earth.

Napoleon Hill, the American author who influenced millions of people in education in respect of human potential and human evolution, expressed his beliefs eloquently:

"An educated person is not necessarily one who has an abundance of general or specialised knowledge. An educated person is one who has developed the facilities of their mind so that they may acquire anything that they want without violating the rights of others."

We have a responsibility to give consideration to new ways of educating children across the world. Winston Churchill, who certainly knew a lot about responsibility said, "Responsibility is the price of greatness." Having confidence

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will free you to go where your heart leads you, to do what you must do. The good you will then find in others will be a reflection of the good that is in yourself.