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## **Positive Education Programme: A Whole School Approach to Supporting Children's Wellbeing**

**Background** – The Positive Education Programme (PEP) is a whole school approach to supporting children's wellbeing and creating a positive school climate. PEP adopts a competence skill enhancement approach with a focus on developing children's positive emotional skills and strengths.

**Intervention** – PEP is implemented in 13 primary and secondary schools (regular and special needs education) in the Netherlands. PEP consists of study days around observing and acting on the process indicators 'wellbeing' and 'engagement'. Furthermore teachers formulate life rules based on their shared values. During monthly PEP-talks, teachers are stimulated to execute PEP in their curricula, in the physical school environment, in the contact with parents and in the contact with their colleagues.

**Findings** –The results include the impact of PEP on children's wellbeing, engagement, emotional and behavioral problems, bullying behaviour, school climate and academic achievement. Implementation findings including fidelity, quality of implementation and the view of key stakeholders will be discussed in the context of programme outcomes.

**Originality** – A whole school approach aimed at creating a positive school climate and promoting student wellbeing has not been carried out in the Netherlands to date. The results from this study provide a unique insight into the implementation and effectiveness of this approach. Implications for future research and practice in the context of adopting a whole school approach to supporting children's wellbeing will be discussed.

**Way of presentation** – We would like to share the principles of PEP in the form of an exercise, by letting the participants experience the screening of engagement (via video's made in Dutch primary schools). Also we would like to display the impact of PEP and the experiences of teachers on a poster.

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