

Principal & Head of Departments Emotional Intelligence (EI) Self-Assessment Tool

Purpose:

This self-assessment helps school heads and principals reflect on how their emotions, responses, and relationships impact leadership effectiveness. It is designed for reflection and development, not judgment.

Instructions:

Read each statement carefully and rate yourself honestly based on how true it is for you most of the time in your school leadership role.

Rating Scale:

- 1-Strongly Disagree
- 2-Disagree
- 3 Sometimes True
- 4 Agree
- 5-Strongly Agree

SECTION A: SELF-AWARENESS

Understanding your emotions, triggers, and impact

- 1. I am aware of the emotions I bring into school each day.
- 2. I can identify situations that trigger my anger, anxiety, or frustration.
- 3. I recognize how my mood affects staff, students, and the school environment.
- 4. I reflect on my emotional responses after difficult situations.
- 5. I accept feedback about my leadership without becoming defensive.

Subtotal (A): _	/25
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SECTION B: SELF-REGULATION

Managing emotions and reactions under pressure

- 6. I remain calm when challenged by staff, parents, or students.
- 7. I avoid correcting staff publicly when I am emotionally charged.
- 8. I pause before responding to upsetting emails, messages, or complaints.
- 9. I model respectful communication even during conflict.

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10. Trecover	rguickly af	ter emotional	ly c	lraining situations
Subtotal (B)	/25			

SECTION C: MOTIVATION

Leading with purpose, resilience, and integrity

- 11. I stay focused on the school's mission even during difficult seasons.
- 12. I encourage staff even when resources or results are limited.
- 13. I manage my discouragement without transferring it to others.
- 14. I find meaning in my leadership role beyond salary or position.
- 15. I demonstrate consistency in values, not mood-based leadership.

Subtotal (C): ____/25

SECTION D: EMPATHY

Understanding and responding to others' emotions

- 16. I seek to understand the reason behind staff behaviour before disciplining.
- 17. I listen attentively without interrupting or rushing to solutions.
- 18. I consider personal, cultural, or family pressures affecting staff or students.
- 19. I balance compassion with clear expectations and accountability.
- 20. Staff feel emotionally safe approaching me with concerns.

Subtotal (D): ____/25

SECTION E: SOCIAL SKILLS

Relationship management, communication, and conflict resolution

- 21. I handle disagreements without escalating tension.
- 22. I communicate decisions clearly and respectfully.
- 23. I address conflicts promptly rather than avoiding them.

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- 24. I build trust across different personalities, roles, and backgrounds.
- 25. I intentionally work to maintain positive staff relationships.

Subtotal (E): /25

TOTAL EI SCORE

Add all subtotals: A + B + C + D + E = /125

SCORE INTERPRETATION

100 – 125: Emotionally Intelligent Leader

You demonstrate strong emotional awareness and regulation. Continue refining your skills and mentoring others.

75 – 99: Developing El Strength

You show solid El capacity with identifiable growth areas. Target 1–2 domains for intentional improvement this term.

50 - 74: EI Growth Required

Your leadership effectiveness may be limited by emotional blind spots. Structured reflection and coaching are recommended.

Below 50: High Emotional Risk Zone

Your leadership may unintentionally create fear, disengagement, or burnout. Immediate El development is strongly advised.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS (FOR JOURNALING)

- Which EI domain scored lowest for me?
- 2. How does this show up in my daily leadership?
- 3. Which relationship in my school is most affected by this?
- 4. What is one practical change I will make next term?

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