



## 6 Enviably Qualities that Make Great Teachers in the 21st Century

Great teachers help mould young minds into fine, upstanding citizens of a nation, and of the world. But great teachers aren't born. They possess qualities developed through self-training, observation and effort, which have an extraordinary impact on students, building their character and confidence. Here are 6 qualities that make great teachers in this day and age:



### 1. They are empathetic

In order to help students grow, teachers need to understand how their world works, while listening to their problems. This helps them connect and build a great learning relationship. While showing empathy, great teachers are also firm about their expectations from students. It's this balance that makes them stand out amongst the rest.

### 2. They are always updated

Great teachers are knowledgeable, and always in touch with what's changing in today's fast-paced world, especially in the subject of their vocation. Students build a healthy respect for teachers with a deeper knowledge, and the effect rubs off later on in life.

### 3. They are great mentors

An approachable teacher is often one who becomes a natural mentor. A great mentor is not only a guide beyond class work, but also an inspiration. Mentoring takes enormous patience, but yields tremendous rewards for both teacher and student. While the student builds character, self-esteem and a positive attitude, the teacher grows in understanding young minds, by leaps.

### 4. They are always aware

Physiological and psychological changes are natural in school students. Most teachers do not often understand the cause of a student's change in behaviour, attitude and even appearance, which tends to happen almost overnight. This knowledge is essential. Teachers also need deep self-awareness, of their own strengths and weaknesses. This awareness leads to a positive balance in their work lives.

### 5. They represent a sense of values

Great teachers often stand for all that is good in society. They demonstrate essential values such as integrity, fairness and owning up to one's own actions, engendering in students the ability to know right from wrong, just from unjust. Values are at the core of the human experience, and live forever in the student, enabling him/her to thrive anywhere and succeed.

The more such teachers a school has, the greater the wealth of the society we live in.

### 6. They always evolve

A great teacher is always growing, expanding his/her skills and traits, replacing old ways with new. These include the ability to understand and use the latest in technology, especially when the student generation takes it for granted. They embrace modern methods and tools, making teaching look easy.

