

INTRODUCING THE FLOURISH PROJECT



The roots of difference and the path to compassion



A rapidly changing world

Across the world we are seeing the call for more caring, compassionate and sustainable societies that put people first...



"The time has passed when a few influential people could gather in a room to decide what a city will be. Instead, a city's future is determined by hundreds of actions taken daily by thousands of people based on what they believe about a city's future and their role in it."

CAROL COLETTA, THE KRESGE FOUNDATION



World facing a global compassion deficit - 2019 CIVICUS report

Civil society organisations providing humanitarian assistance to migrants and refugees are being targeted as the world faces a crisis of global compassion. This alarming trend is one of the findings of the State of Civil Society Report 2019, an annual report by global civil society alliance CIVICUS, which looks at events and trends that impacted on civil society in the past year. In one cited example, the Italian government prevented a boat operated by international medical NGO Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) from docking in Italy, leaving it stranded at sea for a week with more than 700 passengers, including unaccompanied minors. In the USA, organisations were prevented from leaving life-saving water supplies for people making the hazardous journey across the desert from Mexico.

"Civil society, acting on humanitarian impulses, confronts a rising tide of global mean-spiritedness, challenging humanitarian values in a way unparalleled since the Second World War," said Lysa John, CIVICUS Secretary General. "We need a new campaign, at both global and domestic levels, to reinforce humanitarian values and the rights of progressive civil society groups to act," added John.

Together with the acknowledgement that we need to find 'Whole System' solutions



A vision for the transition to a sustainable society is needed. It calls for the reconception of entire lifestyles that are human scale, place-based but globally connected in their exchange of technology, information and culture. It calls for communities to be in a symbiotic relationship with their ecosystem.

**Vision for
Transition**

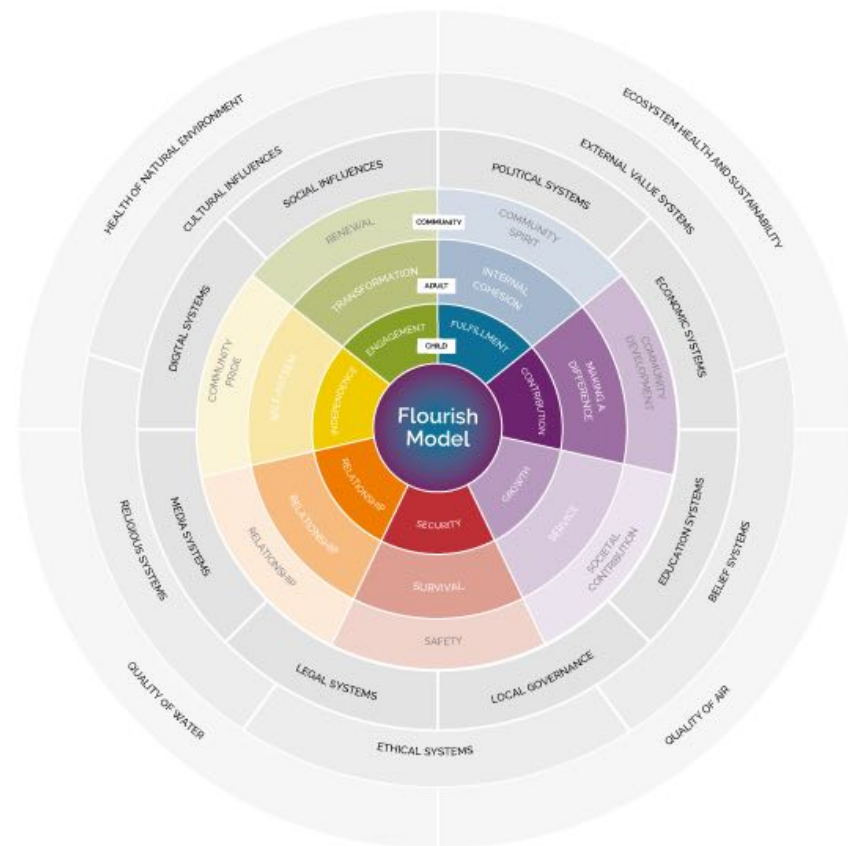
A Whole Systems Framework

The Flourish Model is a new ecological wellbeing framework that is based upon the common developmental needs that we all share as human beings

This includes the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual aspects of what makes good and meaningful lives

It shows that the lives of children and families are embedded within larger cultural, political and environmental systems

And that their values and wellbeing are profoundly influenced by that of others and the planet as a whole



It's all about relationship

The Ecological Self



THE NATURAL WORLD

The health and influencing wellbeing of other living systems on the planet and beyond

OTHERS

The cultural norms and influencing values and wellbeing of family, community, society and political governance systems

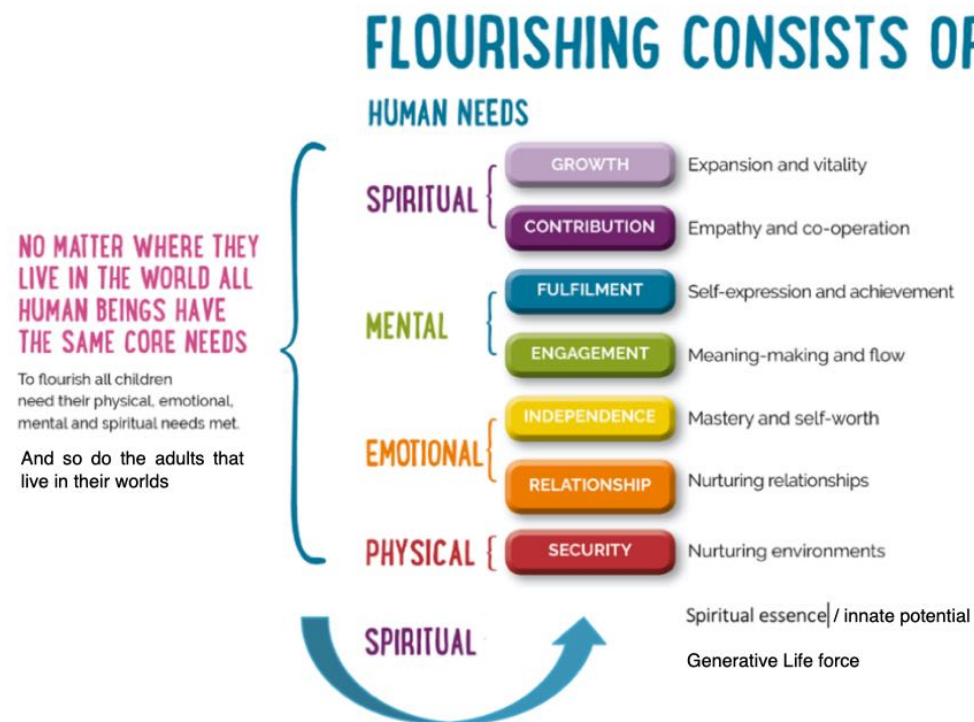
SELF

Seven core wellbeing needs

Deepening connections to ourselves, others and the natural world

No matter where they are born in the world, all human beings share the same core wellbeing needs. Whether or not these are met then shapes the values, beliefs and behaviors that we see in the world. All human beings have free will and can, therefore, choose to change what was predictable into new patterns of thinking and behavior

It is based upon the needs we all share as one humanity



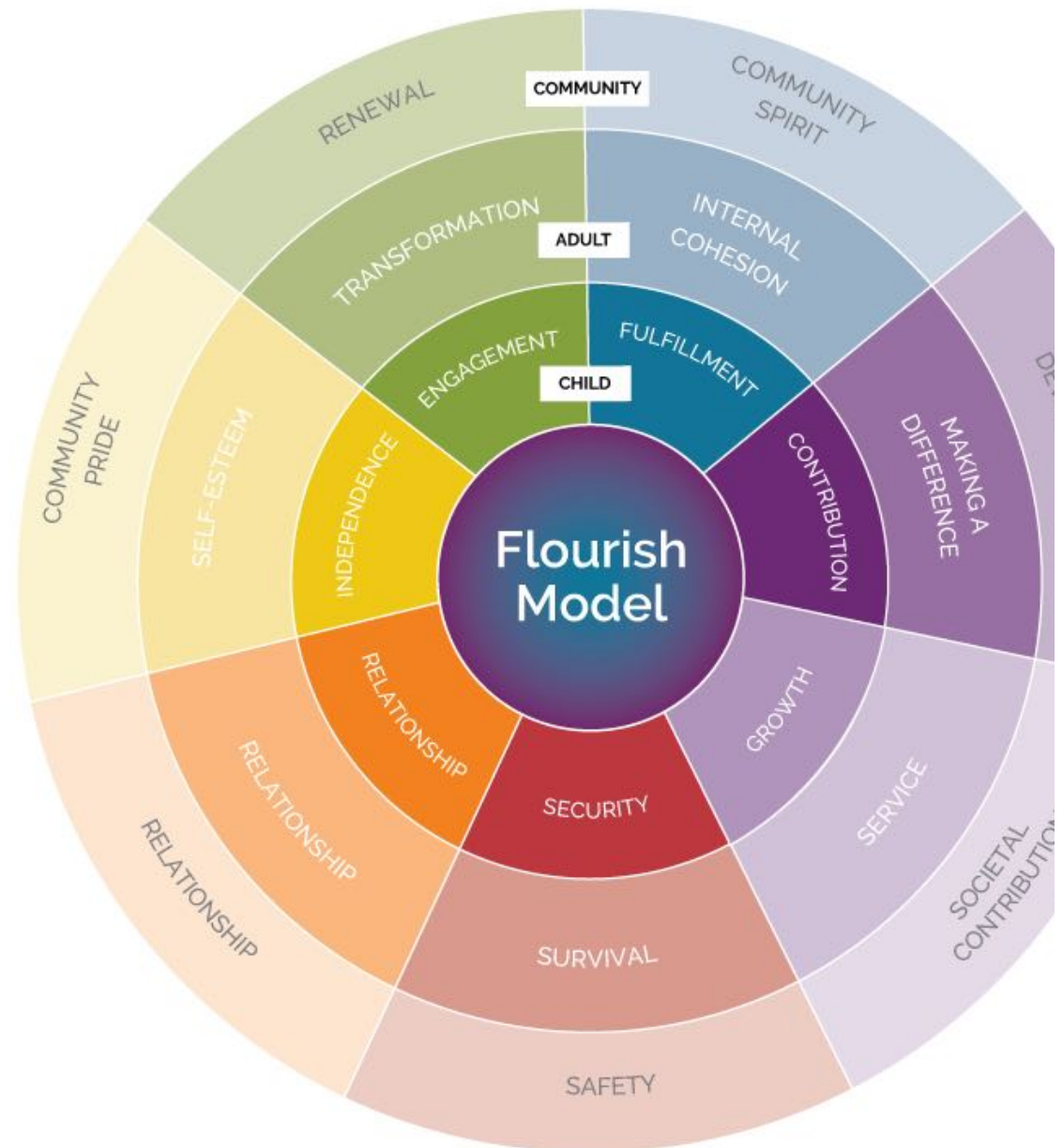
Putting the child at the heart

Underpinned by the Science of Early Human Development, it puts the wellbeing of children firmly at the centre of the system

It shows the huge importance optimising potential in the earliest years of life

and acknowledges the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual aspects necessary to promote healthy human development

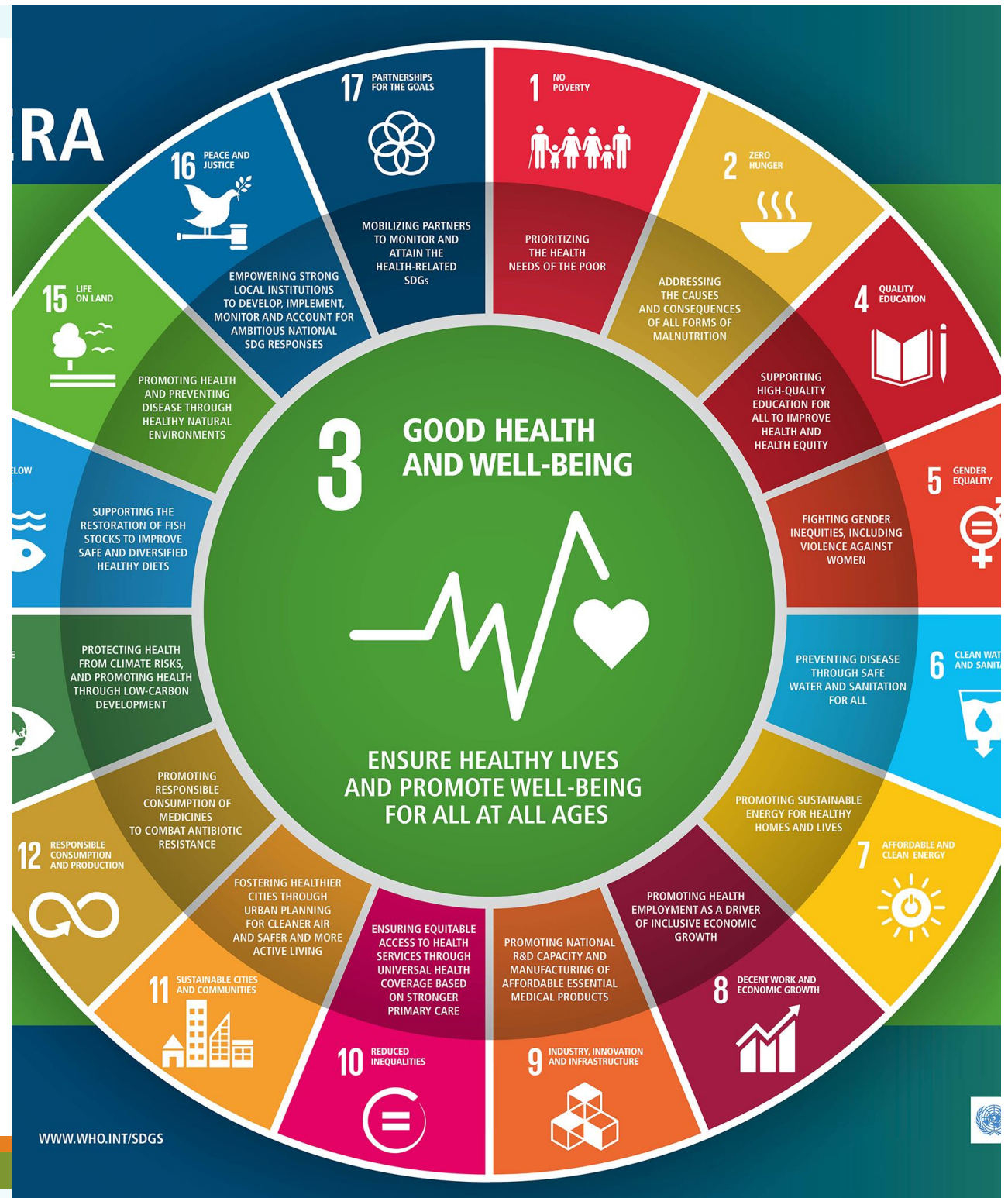
Flourish Model



Sustainable Development Goals

It provides an ecological underpinning to the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals

and explores how they relate to the lives of children and the wellbeing of future generations



SDGs FOR KIDS

HOW THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs) ARE SHAPING THE LIVES AND FUTURE WELLBEING OF CHILDREN



Flourish Project
The Ecology of Wellbeing



QUALITY EDUCATION

Specific asks:

- Make sure everyone understands that learning is a lifelong path
- Ensure that all children have access to quality education
- Ensure that children understand success as about who they are, as well as what they achieve
- Ensure that children understand risk and failure as an essential part of the process
- Ensure that teachers are valued and respected as hugely important people



Flourish Level: 3.4.5 | Headline Goal: Learning as a lifelong process



NO POVERTY

Specific asks:

- Understand how economic poverty compromises the foundations of wellbeing
- Understand how time poverty compromises early human relationships
- Understand how and why poverty is linked to ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences)
- Demand tax systems that support the health of children and families
- Demand an economic system that serves both people and planet



Flourish Level: 1 | Headline Goal: Let's end poverty



ZERO HUNGER

Specific asks:

- Ensure all children have access to healthy, balanced diets
- Help children to learn how we farm, fish and make our food
- Help children to understand the importance of buying local
- Help children to understand what healthy bodies need
- Help children to understand the supply and demand of food in different countries



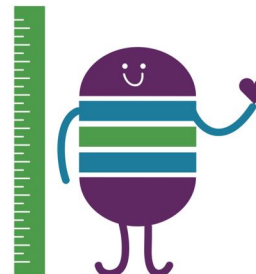
Flourish Level: 1 | Headline Goal: No child to go hungry



GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Specific asks:

- Ensure all children feel safe in their local environments
- Ensure that all children have the time and space to play and have adequate exercise
- Ensure that all children can maximise their innate skills and capacities
- Ensure that all children have access to beauty and the arts
- Ensure that we focus on the wellbeing of the Whole Child (i.e. physical, mental, emotional and spiritual)



Flourish Level: 12.3.4.5.6.7 | Headline Goal: Prioritise the whole child

Values and Mindsets

It explores the conditions that nurture the development of the foundational structures, values and mindsets **necessary to maximize later states of wellbeing**

and helps to identify and tighten up the gaps between students' real needs and the resources that are available to support them



It helps ensure that we
measure what matters

The ecological nature of the
framework helps schools to better
identify and monitor more
meaningful outcomes

It provides ways to more easily
identify gaps and measure progress
over time

and ensures a human rights and
wellbeing perspective is built-in to
assessment and evaluation
techniques

**"The time is ripe for our
measurement system
to shift emphasis from
measuring economic
production to measuring
people's well-being."**

The Stiglitz Report



It promotes empathy
and understanding

The framework helps students to
understand that every person has a
unique background and context

and that although individual
differences exist in the ways
that we understand and view
the world

we all share a common humanity



The three forms of compassion

Compassion for Self

Understanding why we are the way we are and the value of self kindness
Recognising suffering within ourselves and others
Responding to difficult and conflicting feelings and emotions

Compassion for the other

Understanding that other people see the world differently from ourselves
Understanding that values, beliefs and behaviours are a reflection of genes, cultures and lived experiences
Recognising the universality of human suffering

Compassion for the natural world and the planet

Understanding that everything is interconnected and that we share responsibility for creating a world fit for children
Being motivated to act to prevent damage, alleviate suffering and protect future generations



Measuring Values

The framework comes with a set of proven cultural diagnostics and values assessment instruments that have been developed by one of its core partners.

As part of the process everyone involved will be given the tools to explore their own needs and values

and will be invited to explore whether their current values and mindsets are fully supporting their wellbeing



Dale - Personal Values Assessment

2: Selfless service
3: Making a positive difference in the world
4: Finding meaning in existence
5: Letting go of fears
6: Reaching to develop and grow
7: Finding a sense of self-worth
8: Finding protection and trust
9: Validating our physical and mental needs

Area	
being liked (L)	2
commitment	5
creativity	5
family	2
financial stability	1
friendship	2
perseverance	4
teamwork	4
trust	4

From the values you selected it is clear that:

- You are a person for whom meaning is important. You have a strong set of moral standards which are important in how you treat others and how you wish to be treated.
- Having close relationships and connections with others is important to you. You need to feel a sense of love and belonging. If these needs are threatened or not met you will experience anxiety about not being accepted or not being loved enough.

Your values show:

- Having meaningful close relationships with others is important in your life and is central in the decisions you make.
- You are able to think imaginatively and use your skills to work cooperatively with others to accomplish common goals.
- You demonstrate dedication in all that you do.
- Remaining in control of your finances and ensuring that you are not over-stretched provide you with comfort.
- Demonstrating determination and resolution to follow through ensure that you are able to fulfil your aims.
- Building confidence in others and wanting others to feel they can rely on you are key factors in your interactions.
- You seek holistic balance by striving to maintain harmony in all aspects of your life.

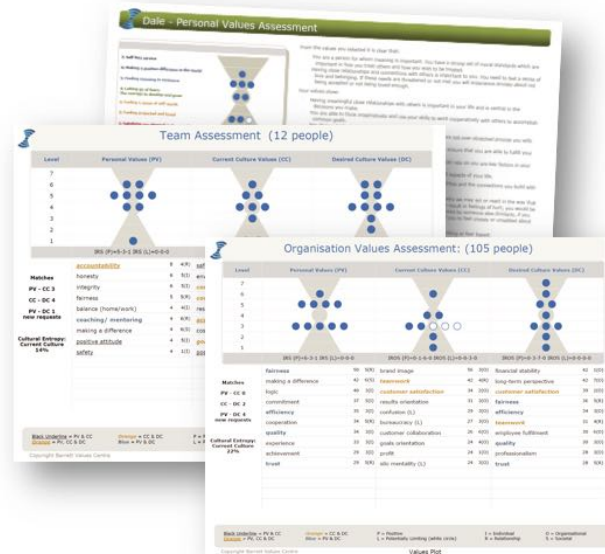
The type of values you selected indicates that your individual capabilities and the connections you build with others are both important to you.

Understanding our values helps us better understand ourselves and why we may act or react in the way that we do. For example, if someone undermines one of your values it can result in feelings of hurt; you would be likely to feel upset if your value of "commitment" was not being honored by someone else. Similarly, if you make a decision which goes against one of your values this may lead you to feel uneasy or unsettled about the decision, because you are not being true to yourself.

You have selected one value which might be classed as potentially limiting or fear based:

Being liked! Feeling a need to be liked by others can lead to situations where you compromise your values to please someone else. It may result in a lack of openness and honesty with others.

To what extent do you think that this affects the decisions you make and how others see you?



Starting conversations

The framework helps everyone to have a think about where their own values and beliefs come from – and how these might be different to the values and beliefs of others

It shows how external influences impact how we feel about ourselves and the decisions that we then make

and suggest ways that we can all help to create the conditions for a more caring, compassion and sustainable world



I know nothing of hatred,
intolerance, racism, sexism,
bigotry, indoctrination,
homophobia, and prejudice.

I don't yet understand things
like love, compassion,
Integrity, tolerance, human
decency and truth.

For the first, most important
formative years of my life,
all I will know
IS WHAT YOU TEACH ME.

Choose well.

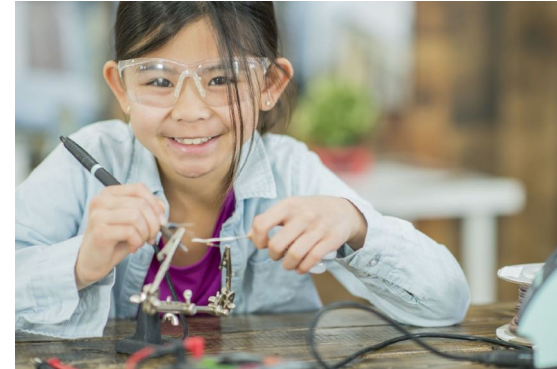
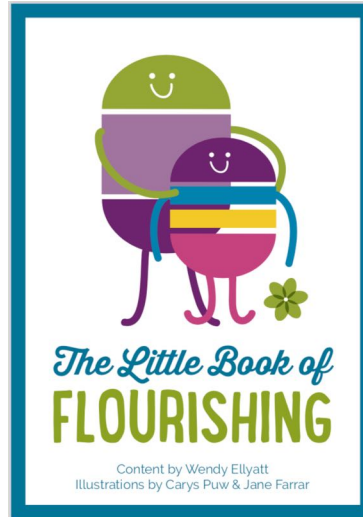


Learning about sustainable community

Through easy-to-understand online courses and resources, the project helps everyone to understand what underpins happy, healthy and sustainable communities.

the huge importance of positive relationships and role models

and the fact that, no matter what our external circumstances, we can always choose who we want to be



Building a Flourishing World

By exploring the triple nature of wellbeing (Self, Others and the Natural World) and the importance of right relationship, the project helps everyone to gain a deeper understanding of natural systems and personal success

It shows that everyone has a part to play

and that we can all become creators and guardians of the future.



A unique Collaboration



www.flourishproject.net



www.valuescentre.com



<https://hvc-world.org>

Uniting the work of leading organizations that are committed to positive cultural transformation and the creation of a more caring and compassionate world.



www.valuesbasededucation.com



www.thoughtboxededucation.com



Want to know more?

We love talking to people who share our passion for the creation of a better world.

Get in touch!

contact@flourishproject.net
www.flourishproject.net



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Creating compassionate communities where the human spirit can flourish

"We will never be able to create truly flourishing societies until we address the problem of young children inheriting the limiting values and beliefs of those that have gone before."

Wendy Ellyatt
Flourish Project