

# The Role of Government, Teachers and Parents in the Education of their Wards.

Lecture Delivered at Hill-Top Model School Speech and Prize Giving Day on the 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2017.

## Introduction

The National Policy on Education (NPE) 4<sup>th</sup> edition (2004) stipulates that, Education in Nigeria is an instrument "par excellence" for effecting national development. The NPE guides the philosophy and objectives of every level of our education system. Governments at every level (federal, states and local governments) provides education that will benefit all its citizens. The country's educational goals shall be clearly set out in terms of their relevance to the needs of the individual and those of the society in consonance with the realities of our environment and the modern world.

The first National Curriculum Conference, a seminar of experts drawn from a wide range of interest groups within Nigeria was convened in 1969 which had voluntary agencies and external bodies deliberated on what a national policy on education for an independent and sovereign Nigeria should be. The outcome of the seminar was a draft document which; after due comments were received from the states and other interest groups, led to the final document, the **National Policy on Education**, first published in 1977. Since the publication of the first edition in 1977, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> editions were published in 1981 and 1998 respectively in keeping with the dynamics of social change and the demands on education. This 4<sup>th</sup> edition was necessitated by some policy innovations and changes, and the need to update the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (1998) accordingly.

Education is the most important change instrument, if there would change in social, economic, political system then intellectual change is



the most pivotal instrument. The following are some functions/roles of government in Education:

1. Providing a national policy that provides the framework for actualizing the overall goal and objectives of education at all levels of education
2. Allocation of funds for infrastructural development such as; classrooms, laboratory, instructional Aids/materials etc
3. Evaluation of school programmes and individual for purposes of certification
4. Design, development, implementation, evaluation and regulations of schools' curricular Programmes.
5. Recruitment and payment of emoluments (salary) of teachers and auxiliary personnel required for the schools.

Teachers Roles in Education/What are the roles of teachers?

Teachers role is more than standing in front of the classroom, he wears multiple caps in ensuring the school runs smoothly whether they are assigned roles formally or informally while students achieve quality education:

1. They have the role of been a surrogate parents
2. Curriculum specialist: They are required in planning processes i.e. the strategies for effective teaching
3. Instructional specialist: They also design lesson plans taking into cognizance interest and needs of the learner
4. Learning facilitator: Lead in interaction with students and setting positive examples
5. School Leader: They monitor in all school activities and are also fund raisers for sport events, fieldtrips etc
6. Classroom supporter: Teachers also play the role of interior designer by making sure their classrooms are set up to support learning



7. Meet with parents to discuss their children problems
8. Mentor; Classroom teacher should be disciplinarian, counselor, book keeper etc and also look for signs of trouble.
9. Resource person and a learner: he must be open not while been a sole source of students learning experience
10. A catalyst of change: visionary and never content with the status quo rather always looking for better ways.

Parents Roles in Education: the family of a child in the major source of socialization. There are lots of things you can do at home which can help your child to do better at school and to have a positive impact:

1. Be a role model for learning: Model the behaviour you would like to see in your child.
2. Show support for a child's education and set achievable expectations for your child.
3. Talk to the children regularly about school and the value of learning at the same time trying to understand their weaknesses and problem.
4. Tune into how your child learns by encouraging positive attitudes and respect for school and teachers.
5. Helping with homework: Read out loud to your child and listen to your child read out loud to you.
6. Pay attention to your child's love: Talk and ask about what they are learning.
7. Ask what was and was not fun at school.
8. Help them to develop strong work habits.
9. Making the home a conducive place for grooming their children learning
10. Parents should give more time and attention to their children
11. Visit the teacher of our child at school regularly (open days)

In conclusion, it is very important we understand that, the roles listed above are only complementary and not exhaustive. School administrators must understand that, the realization of the goals of education is a function of openness, acceptance of criticism, avoidance of dogmatism and willingness to embrace challenges.

Thank you all.

Long Live Hill Top Model school.

Long Live Niger State.

God bless you all for listening.