

# Questions to Consider When Examining Equitable School Environments

Adapted from: Ed Equity and Generation Ready

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| <p><b>Entering A School</b></p> <p><b>Viewing Common Areas</b></p> <p><b>Exterior Views</b></p> | <p>What evidence of equity is demonstrated in the school's public spaces?</p> <p>Is there evidence of inclusion?</p> <p>What leadership opportunities are available for students?</p> <p>How does the resource rooms/library demonstrate equity?</p> <p>What can you discern from "walking the walls"?</p>   |
| <p><b>Classroom Interior Views</b></p>  | <p>How is the learning environment inclusive and reflective of individual learning profiles?</p> <p>What evidence do you see in the environment that demonstrates culturally relevant and responsive teaching and learning?</p> <p>Is student work visible? Is it some students' work or all students' work?</p> <p>Is the learning environment intellectually challenging and stimulating for all learners?</p> <p>How does the learning environment help students develop awareness, understanding and acceptance of oneself and others?</p> |

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| <b>Instructional Strategies</b> | <p>Is there evidence of students' backgrounds being integrated into the lesson?</p> <p>What is the ratio of student talk to teacher talk?</p> <p>How is oral language supported?</p> <p>What teaching strategies are used to provide multiple access points to the material (e.g., cooperative learning, independent &amp; guided work)?</p> <p>What evidence is there of teachers being adept at asking higher order thinking questions and encouraging students to think and question?</p> <p>Is there evidence of rigor and high expectations for all students?</p> |
| <b>Differentiation</b>          | <p>How is <i>Learning for All</i> being implemented?</p> <p>How differentiated opportunities are provided for open-ended inquiry and higher order thinking and questioning skills?</p> <p>Are a variety of instructional strategies used to promote increased access and high levels of engagement?</p> <p>What is the evidence that regular and relevant descriptive feedback is being given to improve student learning?</p>   |