

## *2. The place of love in my classroom and school*

If I teach and explain everything well to my students, *but don't love*, I am nothing but the creaking of a rusty gate.

If I am fluent with the latest best practice in contemporary education, *but don't have love*, I am nothing-my efforts are in vain.

If I have all the latest teaching technology to hand, *but don't love*, I've gotten nowhere.

So no matter what I may say, and what I do, I am quite bankrupt without love.

*Love is* patient when needing to explain again and again to students who just don't get it.

*Love is* merciful when others find fault with me.

*Love doesn't* envy when colleagues get recognition and I don't.

*Love isn't* proud, and doesn't boast about my achievements.

*Love is* flexible and allows me to change my plans to meet the needs of others.

*Love doesn't* shout at students or talk at them.

*Love isn't* me and my needs first in my classroom.

*Love doesn't* gossip the failures of students and colleagues.

*Love looks for the best* in all students and staff members.

*Love never dies*

All curriculum, textbooks and methods of pedagogy will pass away, but only *love* will remain forever.

1 Corinthians 13:1 *If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres. 8 Love never fails.* NIV

