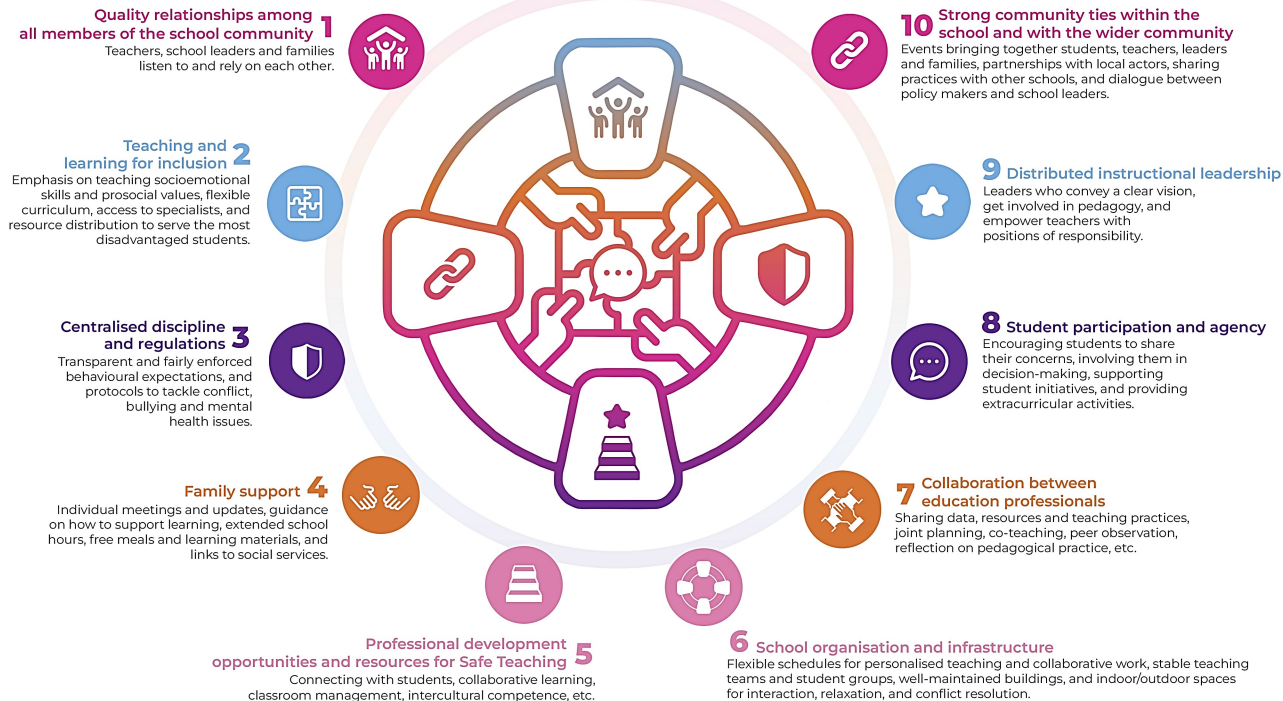# Key Ingredients of a Safe School

Safe Schools are educational institutions that foster a caring, participatory and responsive school climate that provides optimal conditions for the social, emotional and cognitive development of students. At the core of Safe Schools is fostering belonging: every member of the school community must feel respected, valued, trusted and supported.

Quality relationships among all members of the school community 1
Teachers, school leaders and families listen to and rely on each other.

Teaching and learning for inclusion 2
Emphasis on teaching socioemotional skills and prosocial values, flexible curriculum, access to specialists, and resource distribution to serve the most disadvantaged students.

Centralised discipline and regulations 3
Transparent and fairly enforced behavioural expectations, and protocols to tackle conflict, bullying and mental health issues.

Family support 4
Individual meetings and updates, guidance on how to support learning, extended school hours, free meals and learning materials, and links to social services.

Professional development opportunities and resources for Safe Teaching 5
Connecting with students, collaborative learning, classroom management, intercultural competence, etc.

6 School organisation and infrastructure
Flexible schedules for personalised teaching and collaborative work, stable teaching teams and student groups, well-maintained buildings, and indoor/outdoor spaces for interaction, relaxation, and conflict resolution.

7 Collaboration between education professionals
Sharing data, resources and teaching practices, joint planning, co-teaching, peer observation, reflection on pedagogical practice, etc.

8 Student participation and agency
Encouraging students to share their concerns, involving them in decision-making, supporting student initiatives, and providing extracurricular activities.

9 Distributed instructional leadership
Leaders who convey a clear vision, get involved in pedagogy, and empower teachers with positions of responsibility.

10 Strong community ties within the school and with the wider community
Events bringing together students, teachers, leaders and families, partnerships with local actors, sharing practices with other schools, and dialogue between policy makers and school leaders.

Find out more at www.letscareproject.eu

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