

## School Membership

### *Definition*

School membership can be defined as the extent to which students feel accepted, respected, included, and supported at school (Goodenow, 1993). Having a sense of school membership is related to a higher level of school engagement which, in turn, results in positive social and emotional development and higher academic achievement (Hagborg, 1994).

### *Special Note*

Items 3, 6, 9, 12, and 16 are reverse coded and scored. These items are bolded.

### *Related Indicators*

- School Climate
- Attitudes Toward School
- School Engagement
- Academic Self-Efficacy

### *Psychological Sense of School Membership*

Read each statement and then use the scale below to select the scale point that best reflects your personal degree of trueness using the following scale from:

1 = Not at all true to 5 = Completely True.

*Note:* **Bolded** items are reverse coded.

1.	I feel like a part of my school.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5
2.	People at my school notice when I am good at something.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5
<b>3.</b>	<b>It is hard for people like me to be accepted at my school.</b>	<b>Not At All True 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Completely True 5</b>
4.	Other students in my school take my opinions seriously.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5
5.	Most teachers at my school are interested in me.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5
<b>6.</b>	<b>Sometimes I feel as if I don't belong in my school.</b>	<b>Not At All True 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Completely True 5</b>
7.	There is at least one teacher or adult I can talk to in my school if I have a problem.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5
8.	People at my school are friendly to me.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5
<b>9.</b>	<b>Teachers here are not interested in people like me.</b>	<b>Not At All True 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Completely True 5</b>
10.	I am included in lots of activities at my school.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5
11.	I am treated with as much respect as other students in my school.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5
<b>12.</b>	<b>I feel very different from most other students at my school.</b>	<b>Not At All True 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Completely True 5</b>
13.	I can really be myself at my school.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5

14.	Teachers at my school respect me.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5
15.	People at my school know that I can do good work.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5
<b>16.</b>	<b>I wish I were in a different school.</b>	<b>Not At All True 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Completely True 5</b>
17.	I feel proud to belong to my school.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5
18.	Other students at my school like me the way that I am.	Not At All True 1	2	3	4	Completely True 5

Source: Goodenow, 1993.