

**Equality of
opportunity within
education**

**‘Treat someone as he is and he will
stay as he is. Treat someone as he
could be and he becomes who he
can be.’**

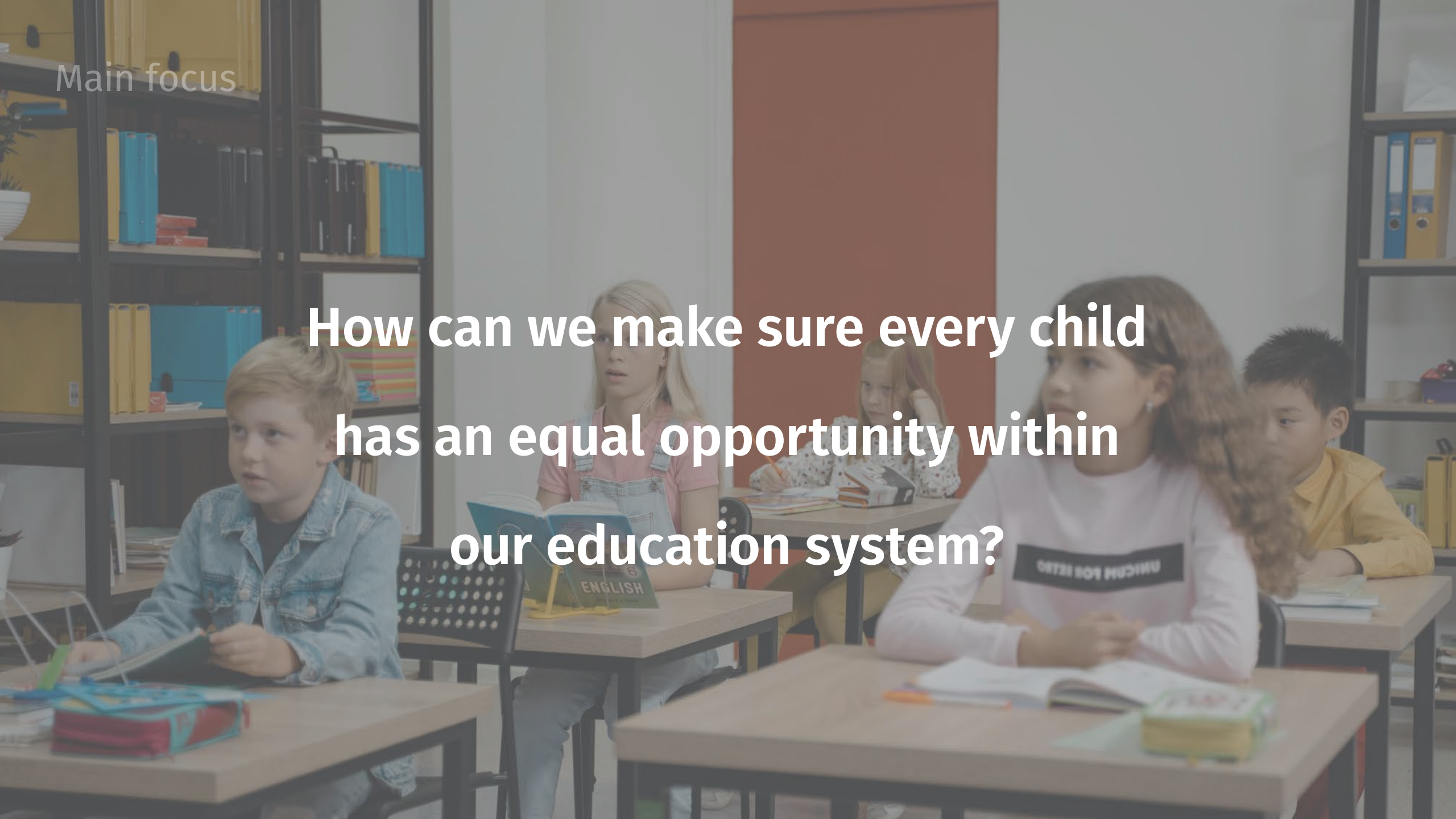
(Goethe)

INTRODUCTION TO THE
DESIGN CASE.

- **We as IDE4S** would like to use our skills to address problems within our society. One major problem that is currently being amplified by the current Corona situation is the (growing) inequality within education. Therefore, we would like to invite you to join us in thinking about solutions to this problem.
- **Using the information of various experts**, you will be briefed on this topic so you get acquainted with it.
- **Through social design** you can have a positive impact on our society and participate in designing our future

Main focus

**How can we make sure every child
has an equal opportunity within
our education system?**

A classroom scene with several children sitting at desks. In the foreground, a young boy in a denim jacket is looking to the left. Behind him, a girl in overalls is looking forward. To the right, a girl with long brown hair is looking to the right, and a boy in a yellow shirt is looking towards the camera. The background shows bookshelves filled with books and a red door.

Sub focus of
the case

How can we inspire kids to reach their full potential?

And thus help children discover their own unique qualities and make them believe in their own abilities.

CURRENT SITUATION

- **'The Netherlands** has become an international leader in level differences between schools. As a result, much talent is lost. That was the conclusion of the Education Inspectorate in 2017. We are a few years further on. The PISA report from 2019 shows that the situation continues to worsen: the difference between students of low and high educated parents continues to increase. The CPB confirmed the large gap in opportunities in its report at the end of 2020. And meanwhile, the Inspectorate warns of increasing inequality of opportunity due to the school closures caused by Corona. Report after report is sounding the alarm, millions of children are bearing the brunt of this, what are we waiting for?' - *Stichting leerkracht, 2021*

**What are the reasons for the
growing inequality of opportunity
within the current education
system?**

Problem analysis

Because inequality within education is a very complex problem and involves many different parties, we have already listed some information in this briefing. Different parties are involved with their view on the problem.



PROBLEMS INDICATED BY
STICHTING MOVE

- **The teacher shortage:** this causes the quality of education to deteriorate and the children whose parents do have the money to pay for extra (further) education have an advantage over children from poorer families (Stichting Move, 2021).
- **As society becomes horizontally segregated** and people of different levels of education hardly meet each other anymore, the functional social network of the lowest strata of the population is weakened. They never make the connections with influential people to get higher up (Stichting Move, 2021).
- **Social status** is increasingly determined by one's merits. As a result, we increasingly assume that a person's social status is their own merit, yet research shows that children with low-educated parents have fewer opportunities than those with highly educated parents (Stichting Move, 2021).

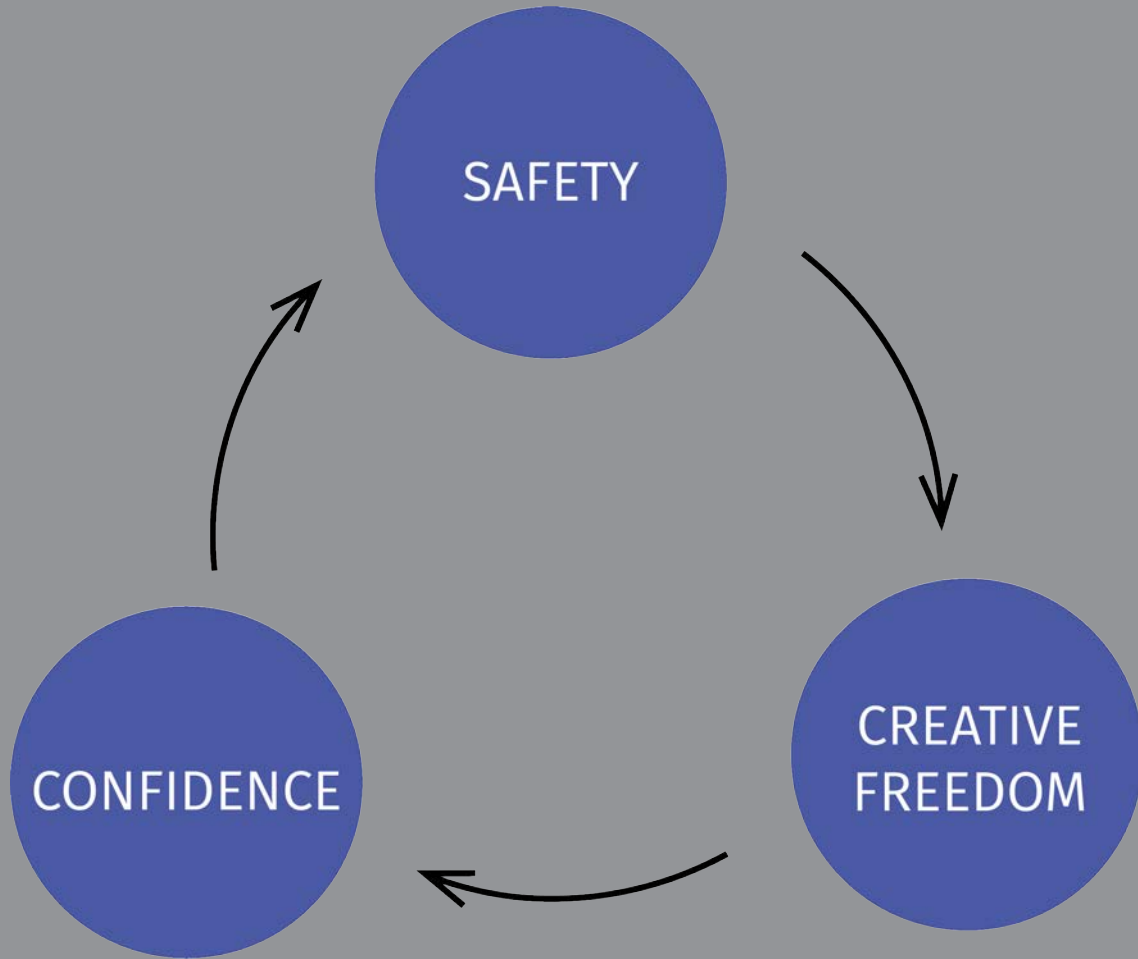
Problem definition
stichting MOVE

**How do you connect children
from different layers of society to
increase equality?**

PROBLEMS INDICATED
BY A PRIMARY SCHOOL
TEACHER AT THE FREE
SCHOOL AND TEACHER OF
ILLITERATE CHILDREN

- **The way** I see it is that education focuses on a certain type of skills, such as maths and language. I see this more as a tool for progressing. In the end, a child will need very different skills in the future, such as creativity and solution-oriented thinking.
- **I think** that by stimulating creativity in education, you can create equality, because this does not require a certain level of development or background. Pupils who are not very good at language and maths can then suddenly excel at this. When you are creative, everything you do is good, and that gives a pupil self-confidence.
- **Good teaching** starts with good teachers. To keep children's attention, you need an element of surprise in lessons. Teaching methods are good, but if you ask children to be creative, you as a teacher must also be creative with the material. Perhaps it would be a funny idea to give the teacher a kind of thinking guide, so that he or she feels more free to be creative with it. What also helps is asking children how they want to learn something. In this way, you also teach them other skills.

Primary school teacher's
view on the topic.



Creativity requires safety for the children. A child feels safe when he feels seen or heard. By being creative, a child can feel more seen or heard and gets more self-confidence, which also makes him feel safer. Actually, you want to stir up this circle in a way.

Problem definition

primary school teacher

**How can you creativity in education among
both children and teachers in order to
create more equality?**

