

## CHARACTERISTICS OF CORNELIA CONNELLY'S EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

1. Primacy of the Spiritual  
"Have we represented Him in our conduct to them (the pupils)?...Have we led them to that union of prayer which must secure their virtuous and pious resolutions?"
2. Respect for the individual  
"The pupils must be watched over and spoken to with great sweetness and charity..." CC 37:87  
"...they will constantly strive to see Jesus in each of the children whom they have to train."  
"She did not seek to subdue but to direct, not to break but to develop." (French Life of CC)
3. Development of gifts  
"Be yourself, but make that self just what Our Lord wants it to be." D73:174  
"We must seek for hidden talent."  
"We never know what we can do until we try D76:44
4. Love, the relationship of teacher to pupil  
"Gain the hearts to the love and imitation of Jesus by humility, sweetness, gentleness, love."  
"Lead by love rather than fear." CC 37:80  
"Stiffness and rigour will not bring forth love." these are not the Spirit of the Holy Child CC 8:76
5. Happiness  
"Knowledge is power and there is no use in going to sleep when active energy would make us all the more useful and happy."  
"...it was of great consequence to make people happy and...they would always succeed the better for being happy."
6. Realism  
"Do not make milksops of your children, labour strengthens the body and study, the mind."  
"Though we so well know that great things are achieved only by untiring labour and suffering, we sometimes forget that in training and teaching children it is absolutely necessary to walk step by step, to teach line by line, to practice virtue little by little..."

7. Trust

"Trust the children and never let your confidence in them be easily shaken. Confidence begets confidence. Let them show themselves in their true colours and then we shall see the highlights and what needs toning down." D74:324-325

"There was no spying on the part of the nuns, but we were greatly trusted and trained to a high sense of honor—a method that completely achieved its end.

"There was a sense of freedom and broadmindedness about the school that was delightful."  
pupil of St. Leonards