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Professional Development Program

ICT in Education

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Introduction to ICT in Education

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) has become an integral part of education in the 21st century. ICT has been used to facilitate teaching, learning, and assessment in different educational settings.

ICT has been used to enhance instruction, provide access to educational resources, and facilitate collaboration between teachers and students. It has also been used to improve student engagement and motivation, and to provide personalized learning experiences.



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The Importance of ICT in Education

Today we do not need to go any further than our own home or even room, to see some form of ICT in our lives. Whether it be a computer, plasma TV, or mobile phone, we all have them in some part of our lives. In today's society, people as consumers of ICT, all strive for the one dream – the dream of a connected life.

This makes ICT a lifestyle choice for much of the population. In addition, this lifestyle choice is changing the way we communicate, increasing the rate of consumerism, and changing how we interact and gather information.

ICT has invaded and transformed many aspects of our lives to the extent that we live in an environment that is dominated by technology which itself is consumer-driven.

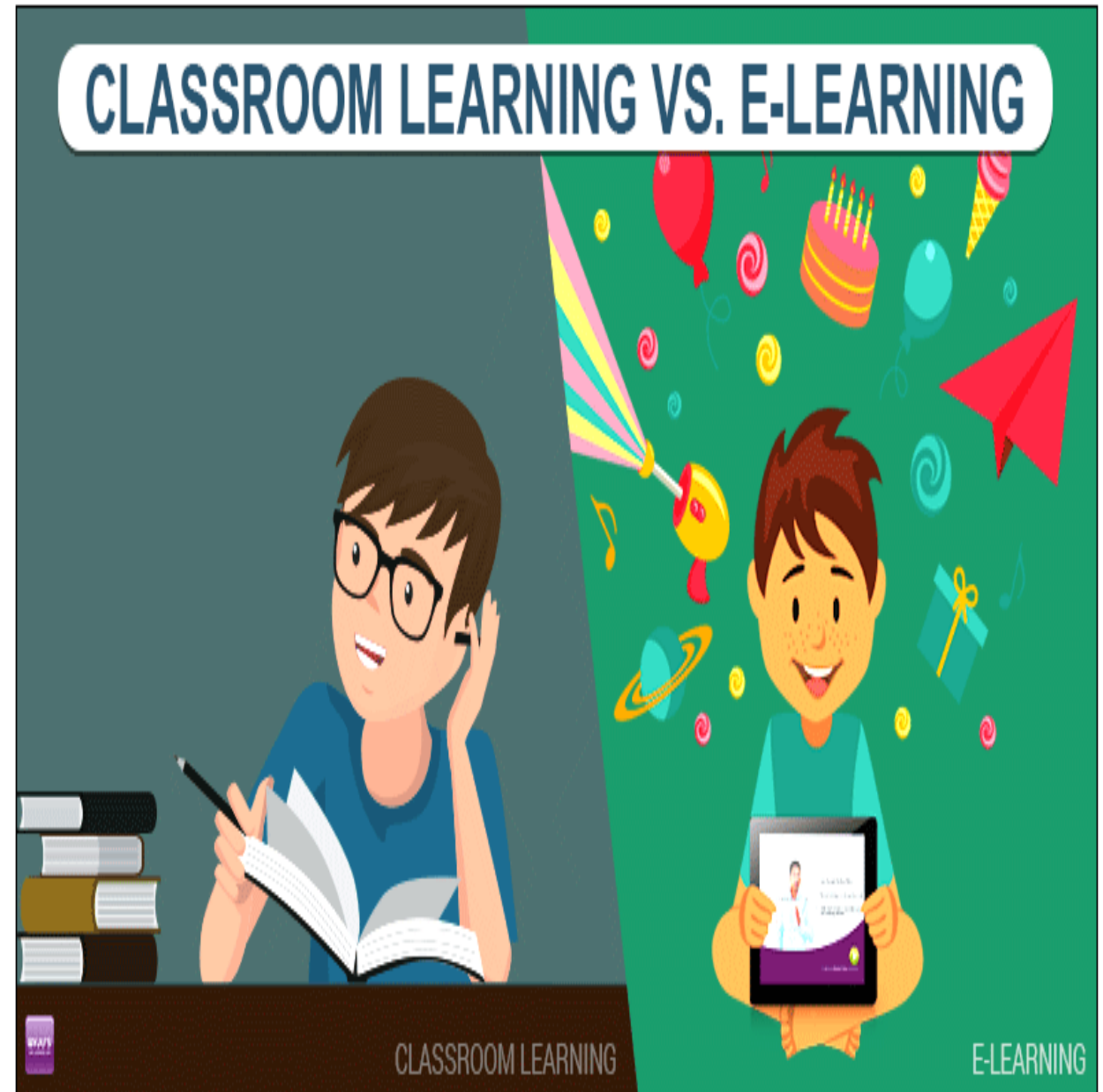
No matter how we perceive its presence, there is no denying that it is an important part of our lives and that it is here to stay.



Key issues to remember in relation to the importance of ICT in Education are that:

1. **learning or Online Learning:** The presence of ICT in education allows for new ways of learning for students and teachers. E-learning or online learning is becoming increasingly popular and with various unprecedented events taking place in our lives, this does not only open opportunities for schools to ensure that students have access to curriculum materials whilst in the classroom but also allows them to ensure students outside the classroom such as at home or even in hospitals can learn.
2. **ICT brings inclusion:** The benefits of ICT in education is of such that students in the classroom can all learn from the curriculum material. Students with special needs are no longer at a disadvantage as they have access to essential material and special ICT tools can be used by students to make use of ICT for their own educational needs. Despite this, it opens up new issues related to the 'digital divide' and providing access to ICT tools and resources for those who are less fortunate.

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3. ICT promotes higher-order thinking skills:

One of the key skills for the 21st century which includes evaluating, planning, monitoring, and reflecting to name a few. The effective use of ICT in education demands skills such as explaining and justifying the use of ICT in producing solutions to problems. Students need to discuss, test, and conjecture the various strategies that they will use.

4. ICT enhances subject learning: It is well known these days that the use of ICT in education adds a lot of value to key learning areas like [literacy](#) and numeracy.

5. ICT use [develops ICT literacy and ICT Capability](#):

Both are 21st-century skills that are best developed whilst ICT remains transparent in the background of subject learning. The best way to develop ICT capability is to provide them with meaningful activities, embedded in purposeful subject-related contexts.

6. ICT use encourages collaboration: You just have to put a laptop, iPad or computer in the classroom to understand how this works. ICT naturally brings children together where they can talk and discuss what they are doing for their work and this in turn, opens up avenues for communication thus leading to language development.



7.ICT use motivates learning: Society's demands for new technology has not left out children and their needs. Children are fascinated with technology and it encourages and motivates them to learn in the classroom.

8.ICT in education improves engagement and knowledge retention: When ICT is integrated into lessons, students become more engaged in their work. This is because technology provides different opportunities to make it more fun and enjoyable in terms of teaching the same things in different ways. As a consequence of this increased engagement, it is said that they will be able to retain knowledge more effectively and efficiently.

9.ICT use allows for effective Differentiation Instruction with technology: We all learn differently at different rates and styles and technology provide opportunities for this to occur.

10.ICT integration is a key part of the national curriculum: The integration of digital technologies or ICT is a significant part of the Australian Curriculum for example, and this is a trend that many global governments are taking up as they begin to see the significance of ICT in education.

11.We live in a “knowledge economy”: This is an economy where it is vital to have the ability to produce and use information effectively. It is a time when ICT is pervasive and permeates throughout all industries in the economy whether it may be health, education, environment or manufacturing . The significance of ICT in the Australian economy was emphasised in the recent article by Alan Patterson, CEO of the Australian Computer Society, in his statement that the “ICT industry now rivals mining in terms of the contribution to the economy”.



It is important for students to engage with ICT so that they:

1. **Learn 21st-century skills and develop their ICT capability and ICT literacy.**
2. **Improves their attainment levels.**
3. **Prepares them for an integrated society dominated by ICT developments.**
4. **They learn the notion of using ICT as a tool for lifelong learning.**



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Future of ICT in Education

The use of ICT in education is expected to continue to grow in the future. Technology is becoming increasingly important in education, and ICT is expected to become even more integrated into teaching and learning.

As technology advances, ICT is expected to become even more widely used in education. This includes the use of virtual reality, artificial intelligence, and augmented reality in the classroom.



Conclusion

ICT has become an essential part of education in the 21st century. ICT has been used to improve teaching, learning, and assessment, and to provide access to educational resources. It has also been used to create a more engaging learning environment and to provide personalized learning experiences.

As technology continues to advance, ICT is expected to become even more integrated into education. This will have a positive impact on teaching, learning, and assessment, and will provide students with access to more educational resources.





تطبيقات إدارة الصف



تطبيقات دعم المناهج الدراسية



تطبيقات أدوات التدريس



تطبيقات التنظيم الشخصي

