

Training Learning Practices in New Generation Schools - A Study in Mangalore

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ABSTRACT

This paper is about the much growing technology “SMART CLASS and E-LEARNING”. The usage of smart teaching techniques is now more prevalent in school as well as other colleges and institutes. It was generated back in 1980s and is growing since then. This new technology helps the students with the benefit of learning with a different experience. The methods of e-learning make the classroom more interactive and interesting. It has also created a greater impact on our society as well as on education system. The government has also started implementing this idea of e-learning in the schools. There are several examples available in the market that encourage the idea and work for its betterment. The smart classes have their own merits and demerits but this new technology is welcomed by the society in a great manner.

Keywords : Smart Class, E-Learning, RTIVC, Education System, Students

I. Introduction :

Learning is not how much one can cram up. It's rather the knowledge that remains after one forgets what he/she learned in schools. Thus we emphasize on learning the concepts with the help visuals and activities. To keep such view the smart learning was introduced.

To make education more interactive and learning a fun experience, many schools are opting for Information and Communication Technology-enabled smart classes where digital black boards, audio-visual rooms and interactive sessions have replaced traditional blackboards and textbooks. The tech-savvy students not only enjoy their studies through these methodologies but keenly participate in the learning process. Audio-visual rooms, e-boards and knowledge centres are adding a new dimension to the teaching style. Continuity gives us roots; re-invention helps us create the future. The year was 2003.

New Generation schools along with the pursuit of academic excellence, their thrust is on education based on values. New Generation schools is founded on the belief that education is about fun-filled learning, enjoyable and relevant to today's world, teaching methods are innovative and experimental, which in all humility, make the learning process an enlightening one, igniting the child's intellectual curiosity. It is believed that this prepares the child to face not only the challenges in academics, but also in all other spheres of life.

"Smart classes have changed the process of learning. These days it is happening more through screens -- be it television, laptop or films. Students are very quick in learning new technologies and if they are used to impart education, it enhances the understanding of the concepts. Also, students do not want to hear teacher all the time. There has to be a bit extra to keep them hook. Technology helps in that,"

The Real-Time Interactive Virtual Classroom (RTIVC) also plays an indispensable role in distance learning, where teachers and students located in different places can take part in the class synchronously through certain multimedia communication systems and obtain real-time interactions.

Objectives of the Study:

- The study focuses on Teaching learning practices adopted in Mangalore schools.
- To study the impact of e learning on transforming education.

Literature Review

Many schools teachers are using ICT tools to supplement their traditional classroom instruction (Nelson, 2003). ICT teachers in K-12 schools to manage their classes electronically and to use technology tools in teaching (Warner, 2003). EduWave e-learning system is fairly new software tool that have been used in an educational setting for around a decade. EduWave is Internet-based software that manage student enrollment, track student performance, and create and distribute course content electronically in this way, the EduWave allows teachers inK-12 pubic schools in Jordan to manage their classes and use technology tools in their teaching, as well as enables them to extend the classroom beyond its traditional boundaries of time and space

Smart boards have recently become very popular in educational settings across the United States. However, more than “75% of classrooms in the United Kingdom have adopted the multimedia technology” (Moorhouse, 2007, p. B2).

Balanskat, Blamire, and Kefalla (2006) identified the factors as teacher-level, school -level and system-level. Teachers' integration of ICT in to teachings also influenced by organizational factors, attitudes towards technology and other factors (Chen, 2008; Tondeur, Valcke, & Van Braak, 2008; Lim & Chai, 2008; Clausen, 2007).

Rogers (2003) identified five technological characteristics or attributes that influence the decision to adopt an innovation: relative advantage, compatibility, complexity, trialability, and observability as perceived by individuals.

Neyland (2011) found that factors such as institutional support as well as micro factors such as teacher capability influencing the use of online learning in high schools.

Brown, (2004); Jordan, (2005) Proponents of ICT integration in to schools argue that ICT have the potential to improve academic results and whole school functioning.

II. Methodology :

Descriptive Research has been adopted for the present study. Data are collected from the secondary sources which include books, journals and websites of schools in Mangalore.

III. Analysis :

Historically, the primary educational technique of traditional education was simple oral recitation: In a typical approach, students sat quietly at their places and listened to one student after another recite his or her lesson, until each had been called upon. The teacher's primary activity was assigning and listening to these recitations; students studied and memorized the assignments at home. A test or oral examination might be given at the end of a unit, and the process, which was called "assignment-study-recitation-test", was repeated.

Use of technology is not restricted just to classrooms. Teachers are using social networking sites and emails to engage with their students and parents. Few modern techniques adopted in schools by way of smart classes are

Interactive White Board :

A Big touch sensitive screen with the board acting as a screen, mouse and keyboard at the same time. Displays a computer screen via a projector.

Classroom applications for using interactive whiteboards include:

- Multimedia lessons and presentations including audio and video
- Collaborative problem solving
- Showcasing student projects and presentations
- Recorded lessons that can be used by substitute teachers
- Documentation of student achievement

Global School Partnership

Connecting Classrooms is the overarching programme that supports schools through its work in areas namely school-to-school partnerships, professional development of teachers with face-to-face and online courses, school leadership, International School Award and policy engagement. It also include Professional Development workshops, online courses and action research accreditation for teachers, School Leadership Development courses for head teachers, collaborative projects, grant preparation seminars for school partnerships.

Computer Literacy

Students need a high level of computer literacy both to succeed at tomorrow's jobs as well as to create tomorrow's innovations. However, state governments and school administrators must understand that technological training for students, most of the time, depends on the willingness and savvy of teachers. Rather than forcing teachers to adopt technology in the

classroom, districts need to focus on providing adequate professional development. Teachers will feel empowered when they understand how technology will truly impact student learning in a positive way.

Career Guidance and Counseling Programs

Career guidance and counseling programs help individuals acquire the knowledge, skills, and experience necessary to identify options, explore alternatives and succeed in society. The schools now have been giving career guidance.

Connecting

Connecting with parents and students with related to the every aspect and disciplinary matters related to their children's in schools, also providing the on time results in the respective school websites has also been an innovative method adopted in schools these days. Along with this maintain the online attendance of students and updating the parents via messages related to the exam timetable has also contributed to the change in today's need.

Today more than 12000 schools across 560 districts in India have adopted smart class. Many of the schools in Mangalore have also adopted smart classes to meet the changing scenario in today's culture.

Challenges in adopting new technology

Creating a Vision

Why do schools with the same technology experience drastically different results? Planning. Who will use the technology? How will they use it? What's the goal? How will you measure progress? Start with a small, focused implementation instead of trying to use one tool to solve every problem for everyone.

Get Everyone Onboard

Help prevent this by including teachers early on in the selection and planning process. Provide an opportunity for teachers to express concerns in a productive way, offer individual coaching, and set clear expectations for usage.

Scheduling for Success

Allocating technology resources is easily one of the biggest challenges of any implementation. There's no one-size-fits-all solution, so be creative.

Impact of Smart Class

A. Education System

The education system is the most infected by this new growing technology. The education system includes the colleges, school, institutes etc. Nowadays the school has started using projectors, PowerPoint presentations slide so as to make learning more interactive. For schools the cost for each student per month would be less than the cost of a notebook.

B. Students

The students are the next most prone to the e-learning process. The students now no longer have to be dependent on teachers for studies, the smart class n e-learning technologies helps a student to cover up with his/her subjects sitting at home. E learning is becoming popular among the students as this makes them independent. For students the e-class costs less than annual tuition's fees.

C. Guardians

The parents or the guardians have now the power within their reach to make their child's learning interactive as well as it helps them to remain up to date about the latest learning skills to implement to their child's learning plan.

Findings

From the study it is found out that

- Teachers lack training in innovative teaching practices.
- In few schools e-learning is not there in library.
- When compared to other countries there is still need for enhancing smart classes

Suggestions

- The institutions can arrange for more training programmes for teachers to make smart classes more effective.
- The effectiveness of the methods can be seen by giving a longer duration of teaching.
- Smart class may be used as a supplementary learning tool to teaching low IQ level students and high IQ level students.
- The curriculum should be framed keeping in view the application of smart classes of teaching.

IV. Conclusions :

Indian Government is planning to set up virtual classrooms and online courses for school education, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said during his budget speech for 2014- 15. The Finance Minister proposed an allocation of `100 crore for this initiative .

Total number of schools in India stands at 1.3 million, and only around 10 per cent of the private schools have tapped the potential of multimedia classroom teaching, whereas in government schools, it has barely made any inroads. The current market size for digitized school products in private schools is around US\$500 million. This is expected to grow at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 20 per cent to breach the US \$2 billion mark by 2020. -

The SMART classroom and E-learning is a one-stop resource for students needing research, technology, or writing help, specifically aimed at the research needs of undergraduate students. The usage of this new technology must be encouraged in the current education system. The E-learning and smart classroom provide the students as well as teacher to learn through a new techniques and too in a different and interesting man.

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