



**STIRLING
SCHOOLS**

EFFECTIVE ONLINE EDUCATION

2020–2021



ACCREDITED
PROGRAMME

Stirling Schools is recognized and accredited by one of the world's most reputable and prominent organizations, City & Guilds, UK.

Effective Online Teaching

“Online Teaching is Still Teaching”

This summary document is prepared as a supportive guide for Stirling Online Education Model to enhance the effectiveness of online education which is projected to continue throughout this academic year.

It is essential that teachers and students should be motivated by developing a clear understanding that online education is not a temporary solution and shall continue this year, and thus, both groups should try hard to participate in online education interactively.

6 parts below provide some ideas about how to enhance effectiveness in online education.



Classroom Setting

Online teaching is not only screen teaching. The main difference is that in online teaching the teacher preferably teaches in a classroom setting. Learning would be more efficient when the teacher is seen while teaching on a smartboard, and the students are able to see both their teachers and the contents on the smartboard. For instance, it would be a good idea for especially primary schools when charts or other designs around the board are visible as an inclusive and motivational element of a classroom setting.

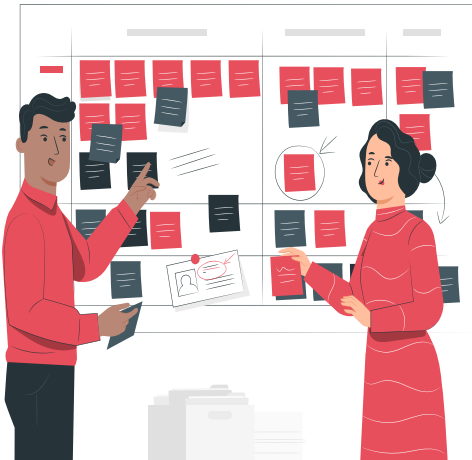


2 Teacher

It is crucially important for learning to be achieved that students should be active as much as possible during live lessons. Live lessons provide an important opportunity and setting for the teachers to check for understanding and assess learning, and for students –who are mostly passive receivers in recorded lessons– to express their ideas and participate in the learning process actively. Thus, the teacher’s key role is to design interactive live lessons to maintain student engagement.



Planning



While lesson planning is an indispensable requirement in actual classes, this requirement gains much more importance in online education. An effective lesson planning which aims to resolve challenges of online teaching and increase the participation of students will not only reduce the stress on the teacher but also help motivate students more for participation in live lessons.

A key element in planning an online lesson is structuring a lesson in which the teacher pauses lecturing (teacher talk) every 5 or maximum 8 minutes and prompts student participation with certain activities, asking for their opinions, asking questions by calling names, asking them to summarize or paraphrase, etc.

Screen Teaching vs Online Teaching

In order to have an interactive online lesson, the teacher had better teach actively in front of the board in a classroom environment as described above. When the teacher teaches only with screen sharing on a pc, it would hinder the engagement of both the students and teachers, and discourage students from attending in the long run.

In a few words, we should push our limits to teach live lessons in a classroom atmosphere actively.

Morning Routines

Although it is considered as a classroom procedure mostly for primary classes, flexible morning routines would be useful for also secondary classes functioning as warm up activities of on-site teaching.

Some activities and routines will create an engaging atmosphere such as greeting students individually, asking questions about daily life, a short introductory video, morning songs, assignment reviews, introductory charts and graphs, birthday surprises, question of the day or award winning questions, and some physical exercise in the morning classes.

Morning routines will make teachers closer to the students as mentors rather than just someone who only lectures and checks assignments.

Camera Display

When a teacher does not allow her video to appear for the students, it will be no different from listening to an exciting football game on the radio rather than watching on TV. In this sense, it is almost an inevitable requirement for teachers to turn on their cameras to appear on student screens.

It would be more engaging and beneficial if the teacher does not only stay in a video box on student screens and sometimes appears on the whole screen by turning of the screen share. The teacher might sometimes stand up and change the camera angles to engage students' attention.

Simplicity

It is in the nature of teaching that teachers avoid complex sentences in instructions and directives. This gains utmost importance especially in online teaching. Therefore, it will be more practical and facilitate learning if the instructions are given step by step in a simple and concise way.

Simplicity and intelligible instructions will facilitate understanding for the students and management for the teachers.

Assignments -Home Learning

It is recommended that assignments are more hands-on activities to be done on books and notebooks for students who would spend most of their time on the screen during online education.

Besides, assignments given in efforts just to complete all units in the books will cause boredom and tiredness with the students and stress on the parents. This would create an impression that these problems are due to online education.

For this reason,

Assignments should be based on review activities of what has been learned in the lessons, and should be done without requiring assistance from the parents.

Assignments should be kept at a minimum reasonable rate especially in primary classes.

Checking and reviewing assignments in scheduled zoom meetings with groups of students will make the teacher a most-wanted educator.

Online Classroom Expectations

Just like classroom rules and procedures of on-site teaching, it is necessary to review and reinstruct online classroom expectations and rules, which have been introduced at the beginning of the academic year, regularly until they are well established.

Expressing the expectations clearly, and speaking with a single voice with other teacher that teach the same group is another method that will facilitate a good conduct in online lessons.

Flexibility

Flexibility does not mean malpractice and misconduct. Mutual tolerance and assistance in these hard times are very necessary both for teachers and students/parents.

Without violating the core rules we established and harming the conduct, it is essential to be flexible and supportive in deadlines and even contents and difficulty of tests especially in the contexts where online education is very new. This attitude will highly serve the wellbeing of the online education in the long run.

One Last Time

It will be time saving and create an impression of well-preparedness both with students and parents when the teacher joins some 5 minutes earlier to make the final technical checks, make the materials ready and wait for the students. Thus, the teacher will not have to waste time looking for documents, materials and supplementary applications during the lesson.

One last check will not only make the lesson more efficient, it will also save the teacher from unexpected consequences.

3 Parent

It is very difficult for students to be successful and maximize the benefit from online learning without parent support as in learning in traditional classrooms.

Parents must be informed and briefed about the expectations through seminars and meetings and assisted in understanding and internalizing their responsibilities.

- Providing fast internet access for the students within best conditions
 - Providing a silent and comfortable environment to study
 - Providing the right device: tablet or pc.
- are just a few of essential parent responsibilities.

4 Management

School management has without doubt a crucial role in effective online education. School managements must develop plans and policies to assist and assess efficiency of online teaching by referring to the Online Education Handbook provided.

The points regarding teachers mentioned above are references for quality assurance in online education.

In addition, below are the points that school leaders ensure and assist teachers in:

Technical Issues

We believe the directors do their best within their circumstances and budget limits. Furthermore, the school managers should make sure that technical staff make routine checks before the lessons so that the teachers do not suffer from bad technical surprises during the lessons.

Safety and Hygiene

For teachers who teach in the classroom environment, classrooms and relevant facilities must be sanitized for a safe and healthy environment. Visuals that refer to the importance of the health and safety measures will also be helpful in raising awareness. A safe and healthy atmosphere will encourage teachers more.

Schools are required to develop policies and procedures in this manner.

5 Student

Effective online learning will without doubt be achieved also when students fulfill their own responsibilities.

Learning at Computer

Students should attend online lessons on computers or tablets. Attending online lessons on cell phones must be restricted as much as possible. This is without no doubt an important factor in the success of online learning.

Camera On

The teachers should remind the students regularly that the students must keep their videos on until it becomes a habit. Some cities which have limited internet speed can be exceptional in this sense. However, this should be decided after the speed tests are conducted and approved by the school authorities.

Pen and Paper

Keeping books and notebooks available during online lessons will create an atmosphere in which students feel as if they are in the classroom. When the teacher requires this during lessons, it will contribute to the seriousness of the lesson.

6 Technology

Teachers can use useful and free supplementary online applications to enhance student engagement and interactivity during online lessons. Here are some examples:

Whiteboard Feature on Zoom

You can use this to create a classroom atmosphere by having group works with students and summarizing the main points in the lesson.

Edpuzzle

Edpuzzle enables educators to easily create beautiful interactive video lessons for students and integrate them right into the LMS. This webinar is designed to help teachers about how to use Edpuzzle, creating engaging video lessons, and integrating video lessons to LMS recorded lessons modules. The webinar is in Turkish Language.



SCAN ME

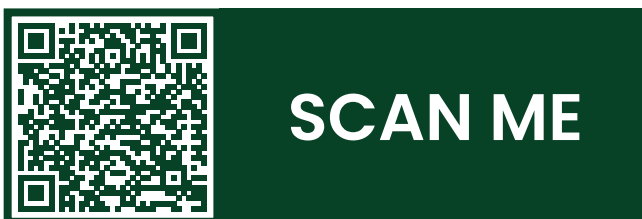
Quizizz

Quizizz enables educators to use free gamified quizzes for every subject to play in class and online. Teachers can pick an existing quiz or create their own for review, formative assessment, and more. This webinar is designed to help teachers about how to create and conduct quizzes during online lessons to make online lessons more interactive.



Padlet

Padlet is a digital canvas to create beautiful projects that are easy to share and collaborate on. It enables teachers to create and manage interactive and engaging projects to share with their students. Students can contribute to the project with the link the teacher provides. It also allows the teacher to track the students' progress on the project. This webinar is designed to help teachers about how to use Padlet and integrate it in distant learning. The webinar will be in Turkish Language.





“Reimagining Education”



**STIRLING
SCHOOLS**

All Rights Reserved to
Stirling Schools 2021

www.stirlingschools.co.uk