

TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION: BENEFITS AND DRAWBACKS IN EDUCATION

by:

Jhobert S. Banlor

Teacher I, Jose C. Payumo Junior Memorial High School

The use of technology in the classroom setting has become increasingly prevalent in recent years. Advances in technology have created new opportunities for teachers to engage and connect with their students, while also providing access to a wealth of educational resources. However, the integration of technology in the classroom is not without its challenges.

Technology can enhance the learning experience for students in several ways. Interactive whiteboards, educational software, and multimedia tools can be used to create engaging and dynamic lessons. These can increase student engagement and motivation, leading to better learning outcomes. The internet provides access to a vast array of educational resources, including online textbooks, educational videos, and interactive simulations. This can provide teachers with a wealth of resources to supplement their lessons and help students better understand complex concepts. Technology can be used to personalize learning experiences for individual students. For example, adaptive learning software can adjust the difficulty level of questions based on a student's performance, while learning management systems can provide customized learning paths for individual students.

On the other side, the use of technology in the classroom can also create distractions for students. Social media, messaging apps, and other online platforms can compete for students' attention, leading to reduced focus and productivity. It can also create a barrier to face-to-face interaction between students and teachers. This can lead to reduced social interaction and a lack of personal connection between students and teachers. In addition, the use of technology in the classroom can also create anxiety for some students,

particularly those who are not familiar with technology or who have limited access to it outside of school.

To ensure that the use of technology in the classroom is effective, teachers should follow some best practices. First, planning and preparation to ensure that technology is integrated in a way that supports learning objectives. Second, teachers should receive adequate training and support to effectively use technology in the classroom. This can involve professional development workshops, online training modules, and ongoing support from technology experts. Lastly, teachers should monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of technology use in the classroom, using feedback from students and other stakeholders to improve their practices.

The integration of technology in the classroom can provide many benefits for students and teachers, including enhanced learning, improved access to educational resources, and personalized learning experiences. However, the use of technology in the classroom is not without its challenges, including digital distractions, a lack of face-to-face interaction, and technology-related anxiety. By following best practices for effective implementation, teachers can ensure that technology is used in a way that supports learning objectives and enhances the overall educational experience.

References:

Crompton, H. (2017). A historical overview of mobile learning: Toward learner-centered education. In *Mobile Learning Design* (pp. 3-16). Springer.

Roblyer, M. D., & Doering, A. H. (2013). *Integrating educational technology into teaching*. Pearson.

Stansbury, M. (2014). Digital distractions in the classroom: Student classroom use of digital devices for non-class related purposes. *Journal of Media Education*, 5(1), 6-18.