#### THE GROWTH OF EDUCATION AFTER PANDEMIC

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The COVID-19 pandemic has caused significant disruptions to many aspects of life, including education. In the Philippines, the government responded to the pandemic by implementing various measures to mitigate its impact on the education sector. While the pandemic has presented numerous challenges to education in the Philippines, it has also sparked innovation and growth in the sector.

The pandemic has forced schools to shift to online learning, as in-person classes became impossible due to lockdowns and social distancing measures. This shift has been challenging for many students and teachers, as it requires access to reliable internet, computers, and other technological resources. However, it has also opened up new opportunities for distance learning, which has the potential to make education more accessible and flexible. the Department of Education (DepEd) in the Philippines has implemented several initiatives to support online learning during the pandemic. For example, the DepEd has partnered with telecommunications companies to provide free internet access to students and teachers. The government has also launched the DepEd Commons, an online platform that provides free learning resources for students and teachers.

In addition to online learning, the pandemic has also given rise to blended learning, which combines online and in-person instruction. This approach allows for more flexibility and customization in education, as students can learn at their own pace and in their own way. Blended learning has the potential to improve the quality of education in the Philippines, especially in remote and underserved areas. The DepEd has also

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launched several initiatives to support blended learning during the pandemic. For example, the DepEd has provided tablets and laptops to teachers and students in remote areas, to facilitate online and blended learning. The government has also partnered with private companies to provide training and resources for teachers to implement blended learning effectively.

In terms of mental health, the pandemic has taken a toll on the mental health and well-being of many students and teachers in the Philippines. The DepEd has responded by implementing several initiatives to support mental health and well-being, such as providing counseling services for students and teachers, and promoting mindfulness and self-care practices.

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, it has also presented opportunities for innovation and collaboration in the education sector. For example, the pandemic has sparked the development of new technologies and platforms for online learning. It has also encouraged collaboration between different stakeholders in education, such as schools, universities, and private companies.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused significant disruptions to education in the Philippines. However, it has also sparked growth and innovation in the sector, as schools and educators adapt to new challenges and opportunities. The shift to online and blended learning has the potential to make education more accessible and flexible, while initiatives to support mental health and well-being can help students and teachers cope with the challenges of the pandemic. The pandemic has also presented opportunities for innovation and collaboration in education, which can help to improve the quality of education in the Philippines in the years ahead.

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