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TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING TEACHING SKILLS

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Abstract

Mastery Learning is a method whereby students are not advanced to a subsequent learning objective until they demonstrate proficiency with the current one. Gardner's Theory of multiple intelligences states that not only do human beings have many different ways to learn and process information, but that these are independent of each other, leading to multiple intelligences as opposed to a general intelligence. This paper talks about personalized learning model and its approaches. Ultimately, just as Personalized Learning transforms student learning, it can transform the teaching profession, as opportunities will be created for teachers to design the instructional resources and provide support for teachers in schools. And in this regard, personalized learning has exciting potential for both the students and the teachers.

Keywords: Personalized learning, Teaching Profession, School Education



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Introduction

Mastery learning an instructional method that presumes all children can learn if they are provided with the appropriate learning conditions. Specifically, Mastery Learning is a method whereby students are not advanced to a subsequent learning objective until they demonstrate proficiency with the current one. Gardner's Theory of multiple intelligences states that not only do human beings have many different ways to learn and process information, but that these are independent of each other, leading to multiple intelligences as opposed to a general intelligence. Keller within the Personalized System of Education directs instruction on the base of the students' requirements allowing them to work on course modules independently. It is an individually paced mastery oriented teaching method.

Difference between Personalized Learning and Individualized Learning

Sometimes Personalization is improperly used as synonymous of Individualization. Personalization and Individualization are two distinct terms with a different pedagogical meaning. Individualization refers to the set of strategies aiming to guarantee all students the achievement of the same learning objectives, by different rhythms, times, ways according to learning styles, etc. The teacher manages the best solution for the learner. Personalization

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aims to explore all the potential of the learner, the biography, the intelligences, the sensibilities and competences that characterizes each learner as a person, in order to reach cognitive excellence. Learning objectives then will be different for each learner. Learning outcomes will not be decided by the competences acquired but will be decided by the different degree of ability developed in the using their available competences. The learner, guided by the teacher, is an active co-designer of the learning experience.

What is personalized Learning?

Personalized learning puts the needs of students first. Personalized learning honors each student as an individual learner, recognizes that each student has his or her own learning style, unique gifts, interests, aspirations, and challenges to learning, and supports each student to learn in his or her own unique way. Personalized learning is a blended approach to learning that combines the delivery of education both within and beyond the traditional classroom environment. The Personalized learning model fosters a collaborative partnership between the teacher, parent, student and school that designs a tailored learning program for each student according to the needs and interests of each individual student.

Need of Personalized Learning for Present Education System

Our education system is experiencing student dropout rates at an alarming pace. These students are disappointed by the educational system for a variety of reasons. Our class sizes are too big. We are experiencing teacher shortages, a budget crisis, overregulation of education codes, a shortage of facilities, and more. However, even if we solve all these problems, we will not be able to ensure the learning success of all students.

Education research confirms that not all students are able to learn successfully at the same pace, with the same teaching approach, in the same learning environment, and in the same learning style and manner. Research confirms that every individual assimilates information according to their own unique learning style, need, and interest. Learning styles vary. Some people are visual learners, others learn by auditory means, others kinesthetically. Some students learn at a faster pace; others need more time. Some students are distracted when trying to learn in a noisy environment with about fifty other students. Some students feel unsafe in a large classroom environment. Motivation to learn varies significantly from student to student. Interests and passions vary. And there are numerous other reasons and differences.

The underlying problem is that today's education system continues to insist that one size fits all and full time classroom-based model can effectively serve all students, in spite of the overwhelming research to the contrary. More and more students are not able to achieve

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learning successfully in this single model approach. Unfortunately, these children are labeled with some abnormality. They are labeled as children in special needs, disabled, disruptive children. The education paradigm continues to try to force every student into learning one way through one model, despite the increasing diversity and complexity of today's world that demands choice, opportunities, and more individualized and specialized solutions.

It is time to recognize and acknowledge that a one size fits all classrooms-only model can no longer effectively serve the needs of all students. The real solution for our education system must be founded upon a paradigm shift toward greater flexibility and choice. Rather than trying to force-fit every student into one model, the answer is to provide, in addition to the traditional model, alternatives that offer flexibility to fit the needs of the student. The personalized learning model is such a model to serve the growing percentage of students who are yearning for an alternative to the full-time classroom-based, traditional approach. The personalized learning model is a leading-edge solution for those students who need an alternative approach in order to learn successfully. The personalized learning model is a promising solution to turn the tide of our education system from increasing failure rates to one of success for all students, one that will truly ensure that no child is left behind.

Personalized Learning -A Distinct Educational Model

The Personalized learning approach embodies a unique combination of key components that qualify it as a distinct education model within the school system. As a model that embodies flexibility, innovation, and individualized student learning, personalized learning offers positive and encouraging hope as an alternative choice for a growing segment of school children who need or desire a more tailored approach to learning to succeed academically.

Personalized learning is truly a 21st century approach to education that, in practice, through flexibility and choice, honors and recognizes the unique gifts, skills, passions, and attributes of each child, as well as each child's challenges and obstacles to learning. The key attributes that comprise the personalized learning model are based upon a solid foundation of the latest educational research findings as to how students learn most successfully. These attributes include a strong emphasis on parental involvement, smaller class sizes, more one-on-one teacher and student interaction, attention to differences in learning styles, student-driven participation in developing the learning process, technology access, varied learning environments, teacher and parent development programs, and choices in curriculum programs. No other educational model offered in today's public education system has integrated these proven educational research results in such an in- depth and comprehensive manner to serve the diverse needs of today's students.

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