OeAD DIGITaLeS LerNeN

THERE ARE MANY GOOD REASONS FOR THE DIGITAL SCHOOL

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1 Digital technology is a key part of pupils' lives today.

Most school children now use digital devices (such as smartphones or tablets) in their daily lives outside the classroom. It is important that children systematically learn to use these devices correctly and responsibly.

2 Pupils are actively involved in shaping the lessons.

The use of digital devices opens up new opportunities in the classroom. For instance, pupils can use simple digital tools to develop small tests themselves. These opportunities can lead to an increased willingness to actively contribute to lessons. Content created by the pupils, such as videos, presentations or simulations, turns the digital classroom into an interactive learning space.

3 Digital devices increase pupils' motivation.

Active involvement creates a desire to learn. Practical examples from schools with experience in this area show that digital lessons make many learners more motivated. Apart from the new opportunities created for teaching and learning, this is likely to be due to the fact that lessons can be made more varied and a wide range of visual and auditory media formats can be used.

4 Digital media can help teachers keep track of progress more effectively.

Modern communication tools and the use of apps enable teachers to be more responsive to their pupils' diverse learning needs and to keep track of pupils' progress more easily. A number of educational platforms also allow individual learning activities and targets to be defined in order to improve progress while taking into account the individual needs of every child.

5 Digital learning creates a more inclusive classroom.

Digital lessons provide a host of options that allow teachers to support learners' individual needs. Various display options can be set on digital devices to cater to pupils with a visual impairment, for example, while pupils with mobility issues can become more involved in lessons through the use of digitally based listening or speaking exercises. Digital media allow teachers to use modern teaching methods that can be adapted more effectively to children's needs.

// The use of digital devices offers the potential to support pupils in a more individual and differentiated way. Exercises can be provided with varying degrees of difficulty in order to both challenge and support learners in a highly effective manner. This also gives teachers more time to provide individual help to those pupils who require additional explanations or feedback.
Sonja Gabriel, Professor of Media Education and Media Didactics, University College of Teacher Education Vienna/Krems

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HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD USE THEIR DEVICE AT HOME

The Digital Learning device initiative will provide your child with a new digital device that they will use at school and for learning at home. This device should always be charged and ready for use with all the accessories your child needs (headphones, charger, etc.). You should also ensure that regular backups are done and that programs are updated. In partnership with Saferinternet.at, we have put together some tips on how to effectively support your child.

/LIMIT SCREEN TIME AND CONTENT

Discuss with your child what content they are allowed to access and for how long, and update these agreements regularly: si.or.at/218, si.or.at/219

//PROVIDE ALTERNATIVES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Actively encourage your child to balance digital learning with other activities, such as outdoor exercise, creative activities using different materials and colours, or spending time with friends.

///PROTECT YOUR CHILD'S PRIVACY

Users are often asked to disclose personal information (name, age, place of residence, etc.) on the internet. This information is not always required in order to use the applications. Talk to your child about what information they should reveal about themself and where: si.or.at/leitfaden

////TEACH YOUR CHILD HOW TO INTERACT WITH OTHERS APPROPRIATELY

Children need to learn how to behave and chat with others online. Help your child to behave respectfully: si.or.at/224

/////PRACTISE EVALUATING INFORMATION

What information can we trust and what can't be trusted? What is advertising and what is information? Practise questioning information with your child and help them to compare several different sources: si.or.at/220

//////AVOID UNWANTED COSTS

In many apps and games, users can make in-app purchases with real money. To prevent this, you can block purchases of this kind on the device and also via the phone provider: si.or.at/221

///////TAKE CHILDREN'S WORRIES SERIOUSLY

Time and again, children come across questionable content online. As well as setting up technical safety measures, it is important to build trust and talk to your child: si.or.at/222

////////MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD GETS ENOUGH SLEEP

Keep digital devices out of the bedroom. Your child's friends should not be disturbed at night either.

/////////BE A GOOD ROLE MODEL

Children's behaviour is strongly influenced by the way in which their parents use digital devices, which rules apply in their family, and how problems and difficulties are dealt with. Have regular conversations with your children and show interest in their digital life: si.or.at/223

Saferinternet.at
Das Internet sicher nutzen!

Whole brochure in German: **digitaleslernen.oead.at**