GUIDELINES FOR INCLUSIVE DIGITAL EDUCATION

DEFINITION

Inclusive digital education means making sure that every student, no matter their abilities or disabilities, can get a good education using digital tools. This idea is all about making everyone feel accepted and included in schools and other social settings.

For students with disabilities or special educational needs, inclusive education means learning side by side with their classmates who don't have disabilities. They do the same classwork and join in extracurricular activities together. Such methods are very important for reaching global education goals, like the Sustainable Development Goal 4, which aims to "Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning."

ADAPTING ACESS TO EDUCATION

What needs to be done?

Customize digital education experiences to meet the unique needs of each learner, which will ensure that no one is left behind.

How can it be achieved?

Use of Adaptive Learning Technologies

Provide educational materials in multiple formats, such as text, audio, video, and interactive simulations, to cater to different abilities and preferences. This ensures a personalized learning journey for every student.

Offer a Range of Accessible Content Formats

Incorporate tools designed to support students with disabilities in accessing and engaging with digital content.

Help yourself with

Khan Academy: Offers personalized learning dashboards and resources adaptable to various learning needs.
https://www.khanacademy.org/

Edredo: Edredo is a cloud-based learning management system that facilitates personalized and engaging online education. It offers features such as virtual classrooms, interactive multimedia content, quizzes, discussion forums, and social learning communities. These tools are designed to support diverse learning needs and foster an inclusive educational environment
https://edredo.com/

StudySmarter is a learning platform that helps students reach their educational goals. It automatically creates summaries, mind maps, and flashcards from uploaded material, and recommends additional content like video tutorials or articles.
https://www.studysmarter.de/

Bookshare: A free online library for people with print disabilities, offering accessible ebooks.
https://www.bookshare.org/

Voice Dream Reader: A text-to-speech app that supports various document formats and allows for personalized reading experiences.
https://www.voicedream.com/

Balabolka: A free text-to-speech software that converts written text into spoken words, helping students with reading difficulties.
https://www.cross-plus-a.com/balabolka.htm

BBC Bitesize: Offers a wide range of educational resources in text, video, and interactive formats.
https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize

SiMAX: is a 3D animated avatar system for sign language. It translates texts into various sign languages and makes the digital world accessible to the deaf. It is extremely efficient and cost-effective. You can embedded it in videos or as a separate clip for instance for websites.
https://simax.media/

PROVIDE ADEQUATE TRAINING AND RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS

What needs to be done?

Equip educators with comprehensive training and a diverse array of ICT resources to effectively teach students with varying needs and learning preferences in a digital environment. Educators should be adept at utilizing a selection of these resources to best support their students.

How can it be achieved?

Provide Educators with Professional Development and Training

Offer and facilitate access to professional development programs focusing on inclusive teaching strategies and digital tools. Educators should select the most appropriate resources based on the specific needs of their students or groups of students.

Offer Relevant and Adaptive Digital Resources and Educational Materials for Educators

Find and provide educators with relevant and adaptive digital resources and educational materials that cater to a broad spectrum of learning styles and needs.

Help yourself with

Europass Teacher Academy by School Education Gateway: Provides free professional development courses on inclusive education, digital tools, and more.
https://www.teacheracademy.eu/

Coursera: Offers different courses in the field of inclusive teaching, which can be used to learn about strategies to support diverse learning needs.
https://www.coursera.org/

European Schoolnet Academy: Offers courses on digital competence and inclusive education, helping teachers stay current with educational technology and strategies.
https://www.europeanschoolnetacademy.eu/

DIG-IT UP: The aim of the training courses is to provide youth workers new knowledge and skills, and to help them finding creative ways on how to combine analog & outdoor activities in youth work, using digital tools and apps that are used by youngsters, through a hands-on approach and experience.
http://www.digitup.cloud/

EDpuzzle: Allows educators to create interactive video lessons tailored to different learning styles, by adding questions, notes, and voiceovers to existing videos.
https://edpuzzle.com/

Book Creator: Facilitates the creation of interactive digital books that cater to the unique needs of students with special educational needs.
https://bookcreator.com/

Badgecraft: A tool, which creates badges for participants in various activities to keep participants involved and engaged. https://www.badgecraft.eu/

EMPOWERING PARENTS

What needs to be done?

Help parents to support their children's right to be included and learn alongside everyone else in online classrooms and other digital platforms.

How can it be achieved?

Provide Information and Resources

Offer parents information and free resources about their child's rights to inclusive education. Show them how digital learning environments can benefit their children's education.

Organise Workshops and Support Groups for Parents

Organize workshops and support groups with social workers, youth workers, and tutors to help parents understand and use digital education systems, and to introduce them to inclusive practices.

Help yourself with

- **Better Internet for Kids (BIK) Portal:** BIK offers a plethora of resources and events aimed at enhancing children's digital literacy. This includes specific materials for parents to help guide and protect their children's online activities.
https://www.betterinternetforkids.eu/

- **European Agency for Special Needs and Inclusive Education:** Provides advice and resources tailored to support inclusive education. Their website features a range of digital learning tools and materials designed to aid parents and educators. https://www.european-agency.org/

- **BEE SECURE:** is an online platform promoting a safer, responsible, and positive use of new information technologies by the general public.
https://www.bee-secure.lu/de/

Slack: A messaging platform that supports real-time communication and collaboration. Create channels dedicated to specific topics related to inclusive digital education where parents can ask questions and share resources.
https://slack.com/intl/en-gb/

Google Meets: Use this platform for virtual workshops and support groups, use features like live captions and screen sharing.
https://meet.google.com/?pli=1

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN DIGITAL EDUCATION

What needs to be done?

Foster a community-wide approach to inclusive digital education by encouraging collaboration among teachers, tutors, youth workers, social workers, and other stakeholders.

How can it be achieved?

Create Collaborative Platforms

Establish forums and online platforms where stakeholders can contribute to the design, delivery, and monitoring of inclusive digital education

Example: Establish a local online forum where educators and other stakeholders can share resources, discuss challenges, and collaborate on inclusive education initiatives.

Encourage Participatory Decision-Making

Involve voices from across your educational community in decision-making processes to ensure diverse perspectives are considered.

Example: Host regular community meetings where educators, parents, students, and other stakeholders can voice their opinions and contribute to decision-making processes.

Help yourself with

Etwinning: Use this platform to start collaborative projects with schools across Europe, focusing on inclusive education topics.
https://school-education.ec.europa.eu/en/etwinning

Moodle: Moodle is the world's open source learning platform that allows educators to create a private space online (classrooms, forums etc.) and easily build courses and activities with flexible software tools for collaborative and inclusive online learning and enables discussions between stakeholders.
https://moodle.org/

Google for Education: This platform can create virtual classrooms and regular online meetings to ensure ongoing collaboration and resource sharing among educators, parents and other stakeholders.
https://edu.google.com/

Mentimeter: This platform can be used for live polling during community meetings to ensure all voices are heard and considered in the decision-making process.
https://www.mentimeter.com/

Padlet: Create interactive boards where stakeholders can post ideas, vote on suggestions, and discuss improvements in real-time.
https://padlet.com/

SurveyMonkey: Use this platform to gather feedback from students, parents, and educators on their needs and suggestions for inclusive digital education.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/