

ENCOURAGING LEARNER-CENTRED EVALUATION

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A B S T R A C T	K E Y W O R D S
<p>In the active set up of education, conventional teaching methods are increasingly giving way to learner centred approaches that classify students' individual needs and ambitiousness. The learner centred approach represents a shift from passive absorption of information to active engagement, collaboration, and personalized learning experiences. It places the learner at the heart of the educational journey, empowering them to take ownership of their learning and become lifelong seekers of knowledge.</p> <p>Gone are the days when lectures, rote memorization, and standardized assessments dominated classrooms. Today, educators recognize the importance of nurturing critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and adaptability in students to thrive in a rapidly changing world. This realization has spurred the adoption of learner-centered approaches, where students are active participants, co-creators of knowledge, and partners in their educational journey. In this blog, we will discuss the principles and benefits of the learner centred approach. We will explore specific strategies and innovative classroom practices that highlight the transformative impact of placing learners at the center of their educational journey.</p>	

INTRODUCTION

A learner centred approach, also known as a student-centered approach or learner-centered education, is an instructional philosophy that places the learner at the center of the educational process. It emphasizes active participation, engagement, and autonomy on the part of the learner, shifting the focus from the teacher as the sole provider of knowledge to the learner as an active participant in their learning journey.

In a learner centred approach, the educator acts as a facilitator or guide rather than a lecturer. The approach recognizes that learners come with diverse backgrounds, interests, and learning styles and seeks to accommodate and respond to their needs. It promotes personalized learning experiences and encourages students to take ownership of their learning by effective goal setting, making decisions, and reflecting on their progress.

Adopting a learner centred approach requires a shift in instructional practices and a focus on student engagement, empowerment, and personalization. Some steps you can take to adopt a learner centred approach:

- **Understand your students:** Get to know your students individually. Learn about their interests, strengths, learning styles, and goals. This will help you tailor your instruction to meet their specific needs.
- **Promote active engagement:** Design learning experiences that acts with a sense of ownership and takes initiative. It is this optional effort that really defines an actively engaged person. Encourage them to participate in discussions, ask questions, and contribute ideas. Incorporate hands-on activities, group work, and real-world applications to make learning more meaningful and engaging.
- **Provide choices and autonomy:** Offer students choices in their learning. Allow them to select topics of interest, decide on project formats, or choose from various assignments. Foster a sense of autonomy by involving students in decision-making and allowing them to take ownership of their learning process.
- **Personalized instruction:** Differentiate instruction to accommodate diverse learners. Provide varying levels of challenge, support, and resources based on student needs. Use various instructional strategies, materials, and assessments to cater to different learning styles and preferences.
- **Incorporate reflection:** Integrate regular opportunities for students to reflect on their learning progress. Encourage self-assessment and self-reflection to promote metacognitive skills. Provide feedback that supports students in understanding their strengths and areas for improvement.
- **Embrace technology and resources:** Utilize technology and various resources to enhance student learning. Incorporate digital tools, online resources, and multimedia to provide students diverse learning opportunities and facilitate self-paced learning.
- **Be a facilitator:** Shift your role from being the sole provider of knowledge to a facilitator and guide. Support students' learning journeys by providing guidance, structure, and feedback. Create a supportive and safe learning environment where students feel comfortable taking risks and seeking help when needed.
- **Continuously reflect and adapt:** Regularly reflect on your instructional practices and adjust based on student feedback and needs. Stay open to new ideas, research, and professional development opportunities that can further enhance your learner centred approach.

Adopting a learner centred approach is an ongoing process that requires workability, experimentation, and a willingness to adapt to the evolving needs of your students.

Conclusion

The learner centred approach represents a paradigm shift in education, acknowledging individual students' unique needs, interests, and aspirations. By placing learners at the heart of the educational experience, this approach empowers students to take ownership of their learning, fosters their intellectual curiosity, and equips them with the skills necessary to navigate an ever-changing world.

Throughout this blog, we have explored the fundamental concepts and benefits of the learner centred approach. By adopting learner-centered practices, educators create dynamic and inclusive learning environments where students actively participate in their education. The learner centred approach also cultivates essential 21st-century skills such as collaboration, communication, and adaptability. Students learn to work effectively in teams, respect diverse perspectives, and navigate challenges collaboratively. These skills are invaluable in preparing students for future careers and equipping them to contribute meaningfully to society.