

# M.Ed. –SEMESTER-II

## Paper CC8: EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND ICT

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### **Educational technology: present trends and futuristic visions**

Educational technology, in terms of terminology and structural composition, may carry out two basic components, namely education and technology. Although both of them have been in a continuous process of evolution, we are focusing here more on the evolutionary nature of the second component, i.e. technology, simply on the ground that educational technology as a subject has its sole concern with the task of identifying the most suitable, appropriate and developed technology for serving the educational needs and purposes of the students and the society at a particular time and place. It is a matter of no secret that there has been a continuous shift in the use of technological means and measure for improving the processes and products of education depending on the type of excellence attained by the members of the societies and communities all over the globe in terms of the scientific, philosophical, psychological and technological progress and advances. This is why, we can witness a continual shift in the modes and means of technology being used for serving the cause of education in different periods of human history and civilization.

### **Current trends in educational technology include:**

#### **BYOD**

Bring Your Own Device, is now commonplace in many schools. Schools are giving [students](#) more freedom about selecting their own device to support their learning in an environment (that is almost entirely web based). Early studies show that students who use their own device for learning have increased productivity and [engagement](#). Schools need to select a strategy that best suits the needs of their community. BYOD is becoming increasingly

popular as the cost of devices becomes more affordable. This device has provided a lot of support to staff, Students and parents.

## **Social Media as a Teaching and Learning tool**

Both for staff and students – the world is literally at our fingertips – why not utilize it to [connect](#) and collaborate. With [Twitter](#) being taken over by educators sharing, connecting and collaborating, it is an amazing network to be involved in. Twitter is becoming a popular environment for teacher controlled class accounts where students connect and collaborate with other students and experts in a ‘live’ chat style, engaging environment. Learning literally never stops and can happen anywhere and anytime.

## **I Pads / Tablets**

The notion of portable devices that support learning anywhere at any time continues to be a trend and continues to be highly successful in all educational learning environments. Tablet devices (such as iPads) are now more affordable and are easily adaptable to the anywhere, anytime learning environments that many schools are now promoting. The thousands of education apps that are released every week pay tribute to the trend that is portable devices. Think of a problem, there is an app for it, think of a learning opportunity, there is an app for that too!

## **Use of video to create [global connections](#)**

The idea of being a globally connected educator and providing students with the opportunity to learn from experts through [Skype](#) or [Google Hangouts](#) is exciting and now a reality. Many schools are now connecting with experts and other classrooms all over the world in a collaborative and engaging manner. With the introduction of engaging programs like Mystery Skype, the world is your Oyster when it comes to learning opportunities. The teacher no longer has to be the expert in everything in the classroom.

## **The Flipped Classroom**

The pedagogical model where a typical classroom session is reversed. Short videos are created and viewed by students at home before the class session and in class time is devoted to exercises, projects or discussions.

## **Futuristic vision of educational technology**

### **Wearable Devices**

The art of being able to learn anywhere at anytime will also include any 'how' and wearable devices will give students and educators more opportunities to be connected learners.

### **Connectivity for all**

It is still frustrating that many schools are not connected with reliable Internet connectivity and is restricted from using programs that encourage collaboration like [Twitter](#), Skype and Google Hangouts. In the near future, we will see a change in this approach.

### **Online Learning**

The current trend of the 'flipped classroom' will continue and become the norm. So many learning opportunities will be found online, and in the future, any learning experience will be able to be found online in an interactive and engaging environment. The art of being a social creature, however, could be a skill that will diminish (hopefully not).