

**VIRTUAL LEARNING: AN INNOVATION IN EDUCATION**<sup>1</sup> Dr. Joan Lopes,<sup>1</sup> Assistant Professors, Teresa's Institute of Education, Mumbai.**Abstract:**

Since the COVID -19 pandemic has destroyed people's daily lives all over the world, the virtual world has stepped in to support. Many organisations, including colleges, have shifted their focus to virtual platforms in order to conduct classes online. As a result, online education has emerged as a viable alternative to traditional education, catering to the needs of students at all levels of education from pre-primary to university. As a result, numerous stakeholders, including government and private organisations, are doing their best to support each other by enhancing their current online platforms and applications, as well as providing teachers with training on how to use these apps and platforms to their full potential. Students and teachers face similar obstacles by using these online tools. Students are unable to access the internet due to financial restrictions, and are without electronic devices such as a laptop, phone, or computer, as well as radio and television. Those students who have the opportunity to attend online classes face difficulties due to a lack of physical space, which is similarly frustrating. This study is conducted in S.S.C board school to find the effectiveness of E-learning during this pandemic.

**Keywords:** Virtual, Innovation

**Copyright © 2022 The Author(s):** This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC 4.0) which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium for non-commercial use provided the original author and source are credited.

**Introduction**

The true aim of education is to turn each individual into a better person who loves himself, others, and the country, as well as to educate individuals within society, to prepare and qualify students to work in the economy, to incorporate people into society, and to teach them society's values and morals. Learning is at the heart of education. Learning is the method of obtaining new information or skills. Whatever exists in the world will always have an impact on education. As a result, the COVID 19 epidemic has left its mark on education. The corona virus epidemic has forced educational institutions across the world to close in order to control the spread of virus. This occurrence prompted educators to consider alternate teaching methods during the lockdown. As a consequence, it paves the way for web-based learning, also known as E-learning. In India, e-learning has exploded, particularly after the pandemic, and as a result, there has been a huge shift away from the old-school chalk-and-board teaching method and toward one that is now fuelled by technology.

There has been a lot of advances in educational technology in the last few decades and some proved to be immensely useful during the pandemic. Different online platforms were available to support online learning. Nevertheless, it was a challenge for schools to map their educational activities in an online space. Additionally, teachers and students faced a wide range of technical, financial and social problems. The pandemic and the lockdowns, have affected the mental health of people around the world. Many students are suffering from stress and anxiety. Such psychological issues

often hinder students from adapting to online education. Moreover, not all students have equal access to, and expertise on digital technologies.

This is the time to seriously reconsider, revamp, and overhaul our educational system, which is in urgent need of change in light of the current situation. Informal and non-formal schooling are also severely impacted. However, no pedagogical approach can take the place of formal education as the center of learning because of the direct contact between teacher and student. However, after the COVID-19 crisis, online education became a pedagogical change from conventional to new teaching-learning methods, from classroom to zoom, from personal to interactive, and from seminars to webinars.

**Definition:**

- 1) E- Learning: A learning system based on formalised teaching but with the help of electronic resources is known as E-learning.
- 2) Zoom: Zoom is a cloud-based video conferencing service that can be used to virtually meet others - either by video or audio-only or both, all while conducting live chats - and it lets you record those sessions to view later. Mainly used during the pandemic to take online lectures.

**Statement of the Problem**

Effectiveness of online learning among the secondary students during Covid-19 pandemic.

**Aim**

To study the effectiveness of online learning among the secondary students during Covid-19 pandemic.

**Objectives**

- 1) To determine the effectiveness of E-learning among the secondary students during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2) To understand the effectiveness of E- learning among the secondary students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Methodology of Study**

The study is based on primary data. The data has been collected from students of class IX A of S.S.C board school located in Mumbai. The online questionnaire through Google forms had been prepared for collecting data.

**Sample**

Data of 46 students was collected from class IX A of S.S.C board school located In Mumbai.

**Tool**

Questionnaire of 12 questions was given to students of class IX to check the effectiveness of online learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Statistical Analysis**

From the data collected, we can infer that most of the students can concentrate on the lectures conducted during this pandemic via online mode and students can easily understand the study material taught to them through online mode. While 50% of students were happy writing online examinations, the other half missed the physical examination mode.

**Finding of the Study**

Major Findings of the Study:

Around 15.21% students feel Effectiveness of E-learning is low around 82.60% students feel Effectiveness of E-learning is Average Around 2.17% students feel E-learning is highly effective. Most of the students felt that online learning was useful to understand the concepts and could get familiar with online mode easily. They could concentrate Better and could go long hours without getting distracted, whereas few students found it difficult to cope with online learning.

**Suggestions/ Educational Implications**

1. More research is needed to understand the Effectiveness of online learning during this pandemic.

2. The same study can be conducted in another school which follows different board (C.B.S.E, I.C.S.E etc.).
3. The same study can be conducted at college and university level.
4. The study can be conducted to identify the problems of teachers during online classes.
5. The same study can be conducted for lower standard children.
6. The same study can be conducted for boys.

### **Conclusion**

The effectiveness and success of using technology in Education, it needs to surpass hurdles like changing the mind-sets of educators to accept and learn using the new tools and resources and enhance professional skills to bring in advanced technologies in training students. Thus, a platform should be designed to train teachers to imbibe the skills required for handling technology.

It is noticed that due to the Corona virus Pandemic, in a mere span of months teachers managed to upgrade their skills and imbibe new acceptance, educators can motivate themselves to surpass all obstacles in their quest to impart knowledge. The researchers in the field of education have noticed a marked level of increase in awareness among the educators about the advantages and effects of the virtual simulation technology in education.

### **References**

- Individual Preferences in E-Learning – Howard Hills Hills, H. (2003). Individual preferences in e-learning. ProQuest Ebook Central <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com>
- How to Succeed at E-Learning – Peter Donnelly, Joel Benson, and Paul Kirk Donnelly, P., Benson, J., & Kirk, P. (2012). How to succeed at e-learning. ProQuest Ebook Central <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com>
- The e-Learning Reader – Sara de Freitas and Jill Jameson de, F. S., & Jameson, J. (Eds.). (2012). The e-learning reader. ProQuest Ebook Central <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com>
- Knowledge Management and E-Learning – Jay Liebowitz and Michael Frank Liebowitz, J., & Frank, M. (Eds.). (2010). Knowledge management and e-learning. ProQuest Ebook Central <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com>

### **Bibliography**

- <https://www.financialexpress.com/education-2/online-learning-and-education-for-all-during-and-after-covid-19-pandemic/2021940/>
- <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/hbe2.240>
- <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0047239520934018>

### **Cite This Article:**

*Dr. Joan Lopes, (2021). Virtual Learning: An Innovation in Education, Educator Research Journal VIII (VI), 181 -183.*