

## e-Teaching and the tools in the e-Toolbox of the teacher

In the previous article we said that: “e-Teaching, as the method in using or applying the electronic educational technologies and tools in the classroom, should come more to the forefront in the e-education debate. In a school environment, e-Learning on its own does not happen as a rule. It is the teacher who needs to apply e-learning in the classroom.”

To enable the teacher to make use of the latest technologies in teaching, the teacher should be equipped and well trained to use these technologies. Teachers can earn up to 40 PD points when completing a qualification in End-User computing. This will make them comfortable with the technologies used in e-education. Schools of the future will demand the use of technology in the classroom and the concept of e-teaching as a didactic method.

But what is needed in the e-toolbox of the teacher? When you look at the adapted cone of e-learning from the previous article, the following should be included as minimum tools in the e-toolbox.

Level	Description	e-Tools
1	What you read	e-Reading material in the form of PDF text-books, paragraphs and other text base electronic/PDF material.
2	What you see	Multimedia presentations like MS PowerPoint or Prezi.
3	What you hear and see	Video and audio clips linked to the subject at hand.
4	What you say and write	Streaming of interactive video and audio feeds from one classroom to the next with the subject expert teacher delivering the lesson; video conferencing between classes in different schools, different districts, different provinces and even different countries. This is and will be a more challenging exercise in primary schools.
5	What you do	Simulation software and educational games, practical tasks carried out on a computer or tablet.
6	What you experience and apply	A combination of all above in interactive e-publications. This must include electronic flash cards, well designed interactive content and questioning techniques. Active participation by the learners using all learning styles, tactile, audio, and visual, will be required.

In the rapid changing e-educational field, the implementation of an e-toolbox will be a long-term action, but the schools and the teachers with the vision for e-education, will very carefully select the correct tools for the e-toolbox. It is important that one must not be penny-wise and pound-foolish. To only replace the paper-based text books with pdf-text books on a tablet, is not the long-term answer.

To search the internet for the exact right material for a teacher's 5 lessons for tomorrow may take hours of a teacher's valuable and limited time. The further challenge in e-education, is the fact that most lesson material available on the World Wide Web, is based on other countries' curricula and does not fit seamless into tomorrow's lesson as prescribed by South African policy statements like CAPS.

What a teacher needs, is lesson material that dovetails directly with CAPS and links both the DBE-workbooks and a range of handbooks in one e-publication. A dream curriculum product like this will immediately free-up the teachers' time to focus on teaching and may be the best set of tools in the e-toolbox of a school! More about these exciting new e-tools in the next article.

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