

The Role of Technology in Enhancing Inclusive Education: A Review of Current Practices and Future Directions.

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Inclusive education is an approach that aims to promote equal opportunities and participation in education for all students, regardless of their abilities or disabilities. One of the ways this can be achieved is through the use of technology. As technology continues to advance, it has become increasingly important in enhancing inclusive education practices. This research paper will review the current practices of technology in inclusive education and explore future directions for its implementation. The paper will focus on the role of technology in enhancing inclusive education and its impact on students, teachers, and the overall learning environment. By examining the current practices and future directions of technology in inclusive education, this paper aims to contribute to the ongoing discussion on how technology can be leveraged to promote inclusivity and equality in education.

Technological impact in inclusive education

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The use of technology in education has the potential to revolutionize the way educators approach inclusive education. Assistive technology can help students with special educational needs (SEN) or language difficulties feel accepted and fulfilled in the classroom, while also promoting equal opportunities and enhancing the overall educational journey for all students [1][2][3]. However, teacher training is a fundamental challenge for inclusion and the use of digital technologies in schools. Educators need to be offered professional development and training programs to enhance their knowledge and skills in utilizing assistive technology effectively in the classroom [1][2]. Ongoing research and development is also required to improve existing assistive technologies and create new solutions [1]. Open-use, accessible technology can assist learners with disabilities, and the goal is to nurture a more inclusive educational experience [4]. The GEM Report highlights the importance of making educational technology widely available to ensure equitable access to learning opportunities for all learners, including those who are not already privileged [4]. However, it is important to note that technology cannot replace the human connection that impacts education and learning. Digital technologies must support and enhance teacher-led education, enabling higher flexibility and differentiation in educational methodologies while still ensuring that the teacher remains central to the learning process [4][3].

The impact of technology in inclusive education is a topic of great interest among educators, researchers, and policymakers. The findings of this research paper suggest that the use of digital technologies has the potential to transform the way teachers approach inclusive education. However, the success of such an approach is contingent upon teacher training and support. Digital technologies in education should be designed to enhance teacher-led education, providing flexibility and differentiation while ensuring that the teacher remains central to the learning process. This is particularly important in inclusive education, where teachers must be equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to meet the diverse needs of all learners. It is important to acknowledge that the use of technology in education is not a panacea; there are potential limitations and biases that must be addressed. Future research should focus on the development of effective teacher training programs that incorporate the use of digital technologies in inclusive education. The ultimate goal is to promote

equal access to quality education for all students, regardless of their abilities or backgrounds. With careful planning and implementation, technology can be a powerful tool in achieving this goal.

References

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