

# EDUCATION POST COVID: AN IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING PROFESSION AND TEACHING COLLABORATION

**Parulkumari Bhati**

Assistant Professor (Management), Department of Humanities & Social Sciences,  
Institute of Technology, Nirma University, Ahmedabad- Gujarat (India)  
dr.parulbhati@gmail.com

## **Abstract**

*The educational response to the COVID-19 crisis has revealed the capacity of educators to draw on their professional knowledge and collaboratively mobilize with a resourcefulness and creativity that could not have been achieved by a public authority simply issuing top-down orders. In fact, over the last several months, the education sector which is often unfairly critiqued for its conservatism has shown itself to be among the most robust and adaptable of all social institutions. This is an important lesson from this crisis and one which should lead us to grant teachers greater autonomy and freedom. Teachers need to be more recognized and more highly valued; they are essential participants in defining the futures of education.*

**Keywords:** Educators, Teaching Profession, COVID 19, Value

## **INTRODUCTION**

The global pandemic has disrupted just about every facet of our lives. COVID-19 is testing our patience in slowing down and staying put. It tests and continues to test our combined ability to sift through the information and misinformation about the virus and the safety precautions necessary to quell its spread. The impact of this pandemic is testing our global healthcare systems, emergency services, economies, and very social fabric in real-time.

Despite the overwhelming consequences of the pandemic, this global crisis has also been an extraordinary time for learning. We are learning how adaptable and resilient educational systems, policy makers, teachers, students and families can be.

Globally, 1.5 billion students (over 87 percent) had their schools closed. In the U.S. alone, most of the 55.6 million K-12 students were sent home not to step foot back into schools again physically. Individual school systems were left on their own to offer instruction at a distance.

Most school systems discovered it wasn't easy to go virtual. A lack of teacher training, accessible tools, and preparation time made the launch of remote learning flawed and rushed. Add this to the fact that educators and school leaders are dealing with their own anxieties and fears for their lives as the virus continues to spread, and there is a global call to open back up brick and mortar schools.

As an education system, we must jump ahead and prepare for learning post-COVID 19. What will teaching look like in this future? Here are six of the new critical roles educators must embrace to serve themselves and their learners during these uncertain times.

### **How has the pandemic changed the role of teachers?**

Two crucial factors have shifted due to the pandemic. First, pedagogical adaptations have proven to be pivotal as the traditional lecturing in-person models do not translate to a remote learning environment. No matter the type of channel used (radio, TV, mobile, online platforms, etc.) teachers need to adapt their practices and be creative to keep students engaged as every household has become a classroom - more often than not - without an environment that supports learning. Some countries are supporting teachers with this.

### **How systems have supported teachers in their new role?**

Almost 90% of countries that responded to the survey of Ministries of Education on National Responses to COVID-19 conducted by UNESCO, UNICEF, and the World Bank (2020) supported teachers by sharing guidelines stressing the importance of: providing feedback to students, maintaining constant communication with caregivers, and reporting to local education units to keep track of learning.

### **What impact have technologies generated in this changing role?**

Faced with the pandemic, countries have combined high-tech and low-tech approaches to help teachers better support student learning. In Cambodia, for example, education leaders designed a strategy that combines SMS,

printed handouts, and continuous teacher feedback, taking advantage of the high mobile phone penetration in the country. The approach goes beyond providing low-tech materials: it gives information on how to access learning programs, ensures students access paper-based learning materials, and includes home visits to monitor distance learning activities. Teachers are also expected to provide weekly paper-based resources to students and meet them weekly to provide their marked worksheets and issue new ones for the week ahead.

### **Role of a Teacher in Education**

Education has changed a lot in recent times. It's more interactive now with the intrusion of digital media. The new-age technology like artificial intelligence, augmented reality are opening a new dimension in education.

But there is a large role that the teacher has to **play here**.

They are no more seen as the only keeper of information. Information is already shared and students have chewed them, digested them.

Teachers can gear up to help students to understand knowledge and concepts outside the textbook. More the teachers interact with the students with viable, real-life examples, incidents, etc, students will have a better understanding and more awareness of the subject. With real-life examples, they can apply their lessons to many subjects. The teacher has to be a consistent guide here to help the student in graduating from one lesson to another.

There are so many options available and for an inexperienced student that it becomes really difficult to steer their career in the right direction.

They have undergone similar experiences and they certainly know what will work best and whatnot. Students need to be guided to pick the best career that suits their talent, skill and give them the best platform to expose themselves without any inhibition.

Choosing the right career is just the first step. Students across the world face multiple challenges while choosing a career for themselves. A teacher has to stand by their students to help them overcome these challenges. Here, the primary job is to be empathetic with the students. Show care and nurture students, pay extra attention, be their best pals, show confidence to build the best relationship and extract the best out of them.

A teacher must enhance civilization while giving people the right tools to make informed decisions. They are here to bestow the power of "problem-solving skills" to the students. They are here to build up a bunch of "creative", "Independent", "Informed", "Incisive" and "Innovative" individuals who can contribute to the society and build a better place for the next generation. This is a huge responsibility and a teacher has to guide the students and raise them as the leader.

Leadership is the most important trait for modern-day human beings. Leaders make connections and make everyone a part of their mission, a virtue and a quality that demands a special appreciation.

### **An importance of Teaching Profession and Teaching collaboration**

#### **1. Educators must be future-focused**

As educators, we can teach the content outlined in our curricula and academic standards, while simultaneously helping learners develop the required skills of modern learners. Since these are uncertain times, educators can take the opportunity to practice project-based learning, flipped learning, maker learning, or another student-centered learning approach.

#### **2. Educators must be lifelong learners**

Educators must continuously learn, unlearn, and relearn to improve their instructional craft. New research findings and advancements in teaching methodologies are reported each day, but this further information vital to educators is lost in the sea of information overload. Educators can explore micro-courses, workshops, or certification training to brush up on their face-to-face, blended, and online teaching practices. Or, they can simply search for new ideas online or join a professional learning network.

#### **3. Educators must be facilitators of learning, not sages on stages**

Despite the longstanding tradition of doing just this, the job of educators is not to stand up in front of students and show them how smart they are. Instead, an educator's job is to empower students to become independent thinkers and doers. Educators must shift the responsibility for learning from the teacher, where it has traditionally been, to their students, where it belongs.

#### **4. Educators must embrace discovery learning**

When educators depend too heavily on the "teaching as telling, learning as listening" instructional model, it can cheat learners out of that 'aha' moment where they connect prior knowledge to discover something new. Modern educators must constantly strive to be creators of engagement.

#### **5. Educators must enhance instruction with real-world meaning**

One of the essential uses of information is in solving real-world problems and creating something new or better. For learners to undertake these endeavors, they will need to depend on educators to craft problems for them to solve; or products for them to create. Educators must be crafters of real-world problems.

Although there are plenty of other roles and responsibilities educators must develop, these six are very practical and transferrable to any academic setting – virtual or face-to-face. Although the pandemic is unnerving and

unsettling, it is forcing people inside and outside education to question longstanding practices and change its antiquated system into more of a fluid and adaptable model.

Teaching is the specialized application of knowledge, skills and attributes designed to provide unique service to meet the educational needs of the individual and of society. The choice of learning activities whereby the goals of education are realized in the school is the responsibility of the teaching profession.

## CONCLUSION

Teacher should inspire students to find their hidden talents and achieve their aim. An inspired teacher can make students motivated by setting up Role models. Teachers are the source of influencing tomorrow's leaders. Teachers create classroom space and enable students to be educated and future responsible leaders. We cannot replace teacher and teaching profession. Not only do they guide students in academics or extracurricular activities, but teachers are also responsible for shaping a child's future, making him/her a better human being. A teacher imparts knowledge, good values, tradition, modern-day challenges and ways to resolve them within students.

## REFERENCES

- [1] Allen, J. M., Wright, S., & Innes, M. (2014). Pre-service visual art teachers' perceptions of assessment in online learning. *Australian Journal of Teacher Education*, 39(9). doi:10.14221/ajte.2014v39n9.1
- [2] Biesta, G. (2019). Teaching for the possibility of being taught: World-centred education in an age of learning. *English E-Journal of the Philosophy of Education*, 4, 55–69.
- [3] Cooper, H. (2017). *Research synthesis and meta-analysis: A step-by-step approach* (5th ed. Vol. 2). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- [4] Dorn, F., & Schinke, C. (2018). Top income shares in OECD countries: The role of government ideology and globalisation. *The World Economy*, 41(9), 2491–2527.
- [5] Gough, D., Oliver, S., & Thomas, J. (2017). *An introduction to systematic reviews*. London, UK: Sage.
- [6] Pettinger, T. (2017). *Cracking economics*. London, UK: Octopus Publishing Group.
- [7] Saval, N. (2017, July 14). Globalisation: The rise and fall of an idea that swept the world. *The Guardian*.
- [8] Sheridan, G. (2020, March 18). Why this COVID-19 pandemic will kill globalisation. *The Australian*.