REVISITING
11th World Education Summit
DUBAI, 26-27 November, 2017

Discovering Happiness Quotient in Dubai's Education World

A galaxy of edu-leaders from different parts of the world recently joined Dubai's top-notch education experts and practitioners to deliberate upon the latest innovations, practices, strategies and challenges of the educational landscape of Dubai.

The occasion was 11th elets World Education Summit (WES) 2017, Dubai, which witnessed an impressive congregation and participation from the Indian education sector as well.

Key decision-makers including education ministers, top government officials, college/university directors and vice-chancellors, school owners and principals shared the platform to dwell upon their vision and discuss the finest and latest educational practices in the global education landscape.

The summit was inaugurated by Dr Abdulla Al Karam, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Director General of the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA), Dubai. He is responsible for a wide spectrum of education in Dubai's private sector, spanning early learning, school, and higher education and training Institutes.

A special edition of digitalLEARNING magazine was launched at the summit by Dr Al Karam along with Mark Beer OBE, Chief Executive, Dubai International Financial Centre's (DIFC) Dispute Resolution Authority; Consultant Registrar and a Small Claims Tribunal judge, DIFC; Ramesh Mudgal, Principal, Global Indian International School; and Dr Ravi Gupta, Editor-in-Chief of the digitalLearning magazine and CEO Elets Technomedia Pvt Ltd.

With Knowledge and Human Development Authority, Dubai,

United Arab Emirates (UAE) as knowledge partner, the summit had participation from noted organisations such as Telangana State Board of Intermediate Education as supporting partner, Global Indian International School as gold partner, and Merittrac as assessment partner. Renowned Indian universities and corporates participated as university and associate partner respectively.

The two-day conference was divided into two parallel sections: School Education and Higher Education. The school education section witnessed various brainstorming sessions including Redefining School Education Spectrum; Importance of Personalised Learning in Schools; Green Schools: Future of Global Schools; School Learning Through Innovation: The Classroom Experience and many more.

Similarly, the Higher Education section witnessed the sessions on Dubai's Education Scenario: Attracting Foreign Students by Leveraging Effective Educational System; Collaborative Learning in Globalised Environment and Importance of Education for Skill Fulfillment: Global Experiments 21st Century Skill and their

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relation to employability; Transforming Educational Systems: Ensuring World-Class Education to help students Realise their full Potential as Future Leaders, among others.

During the summit, two roundtables were organised with

The Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) and Knowledge Fund. The roundtable with KHDA was organised for participation of schools, universities, parents, students, educators and investors to create a high quality education sector focused on happiness and wellbeing along with Government participation. The roundtable with Knowledge Fund sought the participation of various investors in developing Dubai as knowledge capital. The Knowledge Fund identifies and uses state-of-the-art investment strategies to support its initiatives in the different sectors of society.

The industry presentations during the summit highlighted the scope of technology and its effects in the education sector, need for skill development in the country and more participation of corporate for betterment of education landscape. Here are glimpses of the grand educational conclave:

Roundtable with Knowledge Fund, Dubai

Hesham Khalifa Al Qaizi, CEO of the Knowledge Fund, Government of Dubai, elaborating how the organisation as a government entity aspires to provide an ideal work environment promoting innovation and creativity

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>> Abdulla Al Karam

Chairman of the Board of Directors and Director General of the Knowledge
and Human Development Authority (KHDA), Dubai

"The future is here! Automation, Artificial Intelligence are going to decide how we live, how we work -- every industry will be affected. It has started taking over jobs that involve repetitive tasks, which could be done by robots. That means, the jobs we are preparing for our students today will no longer exist. If you are teaching students skills that can be done by a robot, all you are preparing is just another robot. People are asking: how will this affect our future and everyday life? The question we hear less often is how can I change myself, my ideas and my education so that I can prepare for that future. Students see this change coming. They are asking: what can I study to make sure that my skills are relevant to the future? What kind of jobs should I choose? Not surprisingly, a lot of educators struggle to answer these questions with confidence. But, there is a Good News: Each of us can do something about it. Everyone can play their part. We can bring together policy makers, educators, leaders, teachers, parents, students to talk about our strengths, positivity, and a positive change we can all make. We are after all human beings not human drones. Forward-looking companies are looking for people who cannot be replaced by robots: people who have attributes that are distinctly human attributes -- creativity and positivity. Then, are we teaching our students to be creative and positive? What are we placing more importance on: attributes that make us human or the knowledge that makes us human. And, ask yourself: can you do something about it? If the answer is 'yes', that's great! then why worry -- keep on and do it. So, when it comes to the future, I don't think we need to worry because we can all do something and we can all become something."

>> Dr Naji Al Mahdi

Chief, Qualifications and Awards in Dubai (QAD), Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA), Dubai

It's good to hear about the concept, experiment that happen around the world. But can you actually scale this up so that it can reach everyone? Sometimes, it becomes difficult to scale ideas. It's like, "should the students take a work experience before they graduate?" A lot of people would say "it's a very good idea". But it's very challenging to guarantee that everybody will get that a valuable work experience. This is the problem in scalability. There is no shortage of good ideas but problem lies in getting a very sound idea that is scalable. In Dubai, many different initiatives are going on at the same time. Among them are Teacher Licensing and Educational Leadership Licensing. We have 99.9 per cent of teachers who have obtained their education degree from any of the 180 different countries around the world. This licensing is like a 'melting pot' where people are remoulded into the shape of Dubai. We don't go into the business of judging thousands of qualification; but into the business of judging what the person is able to do. We want school leaders, headmasters, principals, teachers, who can give advice, who actually have vision for their own school, who can go to the Governor and the board of trustee and argue their own point and decision -- not be subservient and do what they are told. Once you get the Dubai license, it means your mobility into other countries — with the brand and quality of Dubai, benchmarked best in the world — it's an added-plus to everyone! It is a quality initiative, a development initiative. You can't be a teacher in a classroom expecting your students to pass, learn and to engage when you are not willing to do anything like that yourself. Because, it's all about learning.

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Kalthoom Al Balooshi

Executive Director of Education Development, KHDA, Dubai

"The parents and students have no choice. They used to choose the schools where their friends are studying. KHDA always focuses on the quality of the education. So, incentivising good quality and ensuring transparency are the two key components of KHDA. From 2006 – the second period of renaissance to 2017, we have 194 private schools, 17 different curriculums, 200 different nationalities, around 3,00,000 of students studying in different schools of Dubai."

Mark Beer, OBE

*Chief Executive
DIFC Courts, Dubai International Financial Centre*

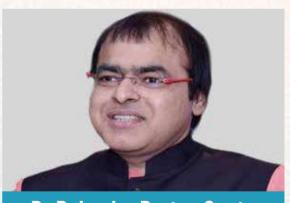*"In my view, 1985 was Dubai's first Renaissance. It went from the "Era of Oil" to "Era of diversification". In 1985, oil contributed around 50 per cent of Dubai's economy but now it contributes only 2-3 per cent. Dubai decided to diversify its economy, away from the wealth coming out of the earth. And in this process, the city becomes the hub of moving goods from West to East and East to West."*

Ramesh Mudgal

*Principal
Global Indian International School*

"The vision of Global Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (GCIE) is to ignite and nurture innovation and entrepreneurial spirit among our student community. We steadfastly support our youth and empower them to achieve the highest levels of innovation and creativity in all fields. The objective of our programme is to give our students a basic level practical understanding of the principles and practices of creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship."

Dr Rajendra Pratap Gupta

Member, National Education Policy Committee, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India

"Education and health are the means to economic development. Economic growth without improvement in education and health is not development. For example, Medellin, a city in Columbia, was used to be among the world's most dangerous cities but education has transformed the city completely in a way that now it is among the world's most innovative cities."

Dr Archana Thakur
Chief Vigilance Officer & Joint Secretary
University Grants Commission

"In 25 years, reforms and initiatives in academic arena have enabled the inclusive expansion of higher education system in the country. There are 799 universities, 39,071 colleges, and 11,923 standalone institutions listed on All India Survey for Higher Education (AISHE) web portal. Currently 86 per cent of the students are enrolled at undergraduate level, 12 per cent at post graduate level and 1 per cent each in research, diploma and certification courses."

Dominic Emmeanuel
Director
Pappaya Education, United Kingdom

"Schools and colleges use three or four tools to run the institutions effectively. Pappaya is a complete CRM and ERP tool with additional features specifically for all the educational institutions, including schools and colleges. We call it as a one-stop-shop. One can have all the features from lead generation of any school or college to students, parents, faculties, exams, assessments, inventory management, hostel management and transportation management."

Ayesha Al Mutaiwei
Managing Director
Atticus Education, Dubai

"Parental engagement is the most important connection and partnership between parents and school remain a critical area for development particularly for Emirati students in both public and private education. Parental engagement is defined as parents and school staff working together to support and improve the learning and health of the students. It compromised two distinct domains parent engagement within the school environment and parental engagement in the children's learning outside of the school."

Scott Stevenson
Co-Founder
BEEM, Dubai

"Within our curriculum lessons, we're using the topic of conflict or dealing with conflict that can come in many forms in every single culture. This is always an interesting topic how we deal with conflict. So, we actually have a specilised programme for the students and on the same day. We also do sessions for parents to understand the type of issues that their child might be going through and also how to deal with it and how to speak to a teenager."

Santosh Choubey
Chairman, AISECT

"The AISECT Network has got around 23,000 learning centres in India. Around two lakh students get enrolled to this network every year. Till now we have trained around two million students. In 30 years of AISECT University, we have established 5 Skill Universities that are making a great impact in the country and they all in the backward region of the country. We are one of the largest skilling partners of Government of India and we train around 1 million students in ever three year."

SK Rathore
Director, Founder and Managing Director, Sanfort Group of Schools

"I am here to invite people from Dubai and different parts of the world to invest in school education in India. Investing in India's school education sector is a big opportunity as the Government is working very hard to improve it. New Education Policy of India is an inclusive policy. It will help the educational institute to nurture employable youth."

Panel Discussion – Redefining School Education Spectrum

Abdul Wadood
Vice Principal
Pakistan Education Academy

"According to me, the City Makers Initiative by Government of Dubai is about the customisation of the society. Customisation in the sense that how schools are connecting with the life of people. The initiative is all about connecting the education with citizenship. It is about developing a place where people love to live."

Julian Williams
Principal
Springdales School

"For me it's about trying to understand that a school is community, not just made up of students but parents and staff as well, and that community exists not only introspectively for itself but also in relation with the society as a whole i.e. locally, nationally and internationally. We talked about global citizenship and it must be started at the schools."

Sudha Shanbhag
Principal
Children's Academy, India

"We do not have the City Makers programme as such in India but we do have many citizen programmes. We have girls' empowerment programme. The programme is conducted in the first six months of the course which is the first semester. At the end of the semester, the trained in the programme have to carry this programme forward in slums for development of underprivileged children."

Huda Alsamkari
Principal
School of Modern Skills, Dubai

"In Srinagar, we were able to convince parents of two girls for their participation in a Taekwondo Championship at Macau. It was a difficult task but we got the support of the parents and they let them travel the super distance with the coach. One of them got gold medal in the championship and other one got silver medal. Their accomplishment changed everything in the society. The appreciation they received created joy in the city."

Dr Kavita Khullar
Principal
Doon International School, India

"We have adopted a lot of new practices to encourage and empower the students. We believe in empowering the students to have a healthy lifestyle that for sure will influence the whole community. Nurturing happiness among students has helped us a lot in improving the learning environment among our students and it also helped us to inculcate habit of healthy lifestyles among them."

Akram M Zayour
Principal
Dubai International School, Dubai

"To integrate citizenship with education, students should be aware about the global issues, financial issues, health issues etc. They should also know how to be resilient and not to surrender on any obstacle. Now, the most important thing here is curriculum. After finishing a lesson or a unit, teachers should ask themselves what students got from the unit or lesson for life. We need consistency; we need alignment between what we are teaching and what students use."

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Aishah Siddiqua

Principal, Al Ain Juniors School, Abu Dhabi

"I think, it is important to have more active learning where students are more engaged on not just what they want to learn but where they going to arrive at the end. We need to move away from the approach where the teacher is always talking and let the students take the learning lead. While integrating the citizenship in teaching, we must give students a broad perspective of what there is out there. Ultimately we need to do is teach them what is right and wrong."

K K Nirala

Director
Technical Education, Government of Gujarat

"India is the sixth largest economy in the world and in near future, we are going to be the largest workforce of the world. With more than 4,200 new age companies, India ranked third among global start-up ecosystems. India's National Innovation System comprises innovations from informal sectors as a key component. In India, nearly 3,000 tech start-ups are supported by more than 250 incubators. Most of the Indian States have their own Innovation and Start-up Policy."

Nishchal Shukla

Associate Vice President
Educational Initiative

"There is a need to equip teachers with data-driven technology solutions that diagnose the learning gaps for each topic, prioritise the remediation for those learning gaps and provide remediation support to overcome those learning gaps. In the assessment reports of the students, there should not be the numbers only. The reports must have the patterns of mistakes students are committing and their improvement areas along with the remediation methods for the same."

Panel Discussion – Importance of Personalised Learning in Schools

Vandana Gandhi
CEO and Founder
British Orchard Nursery, Dubai

"One of the challenges we have in India while we all are very excited about personalised learning is that we have to have major overhauls in our assessments and board examinations to implement personalised learning in its truest sense."

Dinesh Kothari
Pro Vice-Chairman and Managing Director
Delhi Public School, Dubai

"We have Delhi Public Schools in Dubai and Sharjah both with over 10,000 students. Whenever a student enters the school, he/she has a dream while the parents have aspirations and apprehensions. For personalised learning, we request parents not to impose their desires on their kids. The children have their own thoughts and dreams and let them make efforts to realise their dreams."

Dr Heena
Principal, Global Indian International School (GIIS), Abu Dhabi

"For holistic development of students through personalised learning, at GIIS, we have put the whole thing into nine gems: Academic Excellence, Sports Excellence, Visual Arts, Digital Arts, Personality Development, Life Skills etc. Under these nine gems, we try to explore the side of every student other than the academics or studies. At GIIS, November 2017 was celebrated as the "Month of Curiosity" during which we have found scientists, artists and sportspersons in our students."

Maurice de Hond
CEO
Steve Jobs School, Netherlands

"In the last three years I travelled all over and visited more than 25 countries. I think, the definition of personalised learning for a country cannot match with the requirements of other countries in the world because all the countries have specific things with the curriculum and the final examination. Schools have to act according to those guidelines."

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Lina Ashar

Founder, Kangaroo Kids Preschool and Bilabong High International School, India

"We at the preschool level are actually happy with personalised learning or creative play because we do teach with play based methodology. Our preschool chain called British Orchard nursery has its centre in Dubai and across United Arab Emirates (UAE). We have this kind of structure for personalised learning which I do believe is important for students."

Ali Abdallah

Regional Manager
MEA, ViewSonic International Corporation

"ViewSonic can be explained in two words, "Display Expert". We are a 30-year-old company with our head office in California, USA. We have our global existence in Europe, China and also in Taiwan. Our international office is in Taiwan, Dubai, Middle East Asia and Africa ViewSonic is basically a technology provider with focus on the education and display solutions."

Abhilasha Singh

Provost
American University in Emirates, Dubai

"If we look at the various aspects of higher education, they are all interlinked rather inseparably interlinked. We cannot enjoy the vital and striving educational progress without enduring on some degrees of pressure for change. If we talk about a healthy educational system, one must have a diverse educational service which extends to collaborating with public and private sector."

Reshma George

Managing Director
Motley Education, Dubai

"On July 15, 1949, a great leader was born whose great vision is the ever evolving landscape of Dubai. His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum has started off a wonderful journey of ever changing and ever empowering Dubai. National agenda developed by over 300 officials from 90 federal and local government entities set out the key performance indicators in first rate education system in UAE. It has been enforced to measure long-term outcomes and thus allow comparison in global benchmarking."

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Dr MG Shirhatti

Academic Head, Shri Jagdishprasad Jhabarmal Tibrewala University

"JJT University, like any other university, believes in quality education and in the name of that we have been making all efforts to take the challenges in the market. It is our effort to provide the education that covers all the present trends with an eye on the future. We try to provide the education that bridges current perspective and future aspirations."

Rohan Roberts

*Innovation Leader
GEMS Education*

"Any technology that's an Information Technology is now growing exponentially and we are going to see amazing things in next 5, 10 or 15 years. The kind of jobs and skill sets we should share with our students or young minds need to change based on the future technologies. These technologies include Genetics, Nanotech, Robotics, Quantum Computing, Augmented ad Virtual Reality, 3D Printing, Brain Mapping and Brain Scanning, Sensors, etc."

Collaborative Learning in Globalised Environment and Importance of Education for Skill Fulfillment: Global Experiments 21st Century Skills and their relation to employability

Dr Ranendra N Saha

*Director
Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) Pilani, Dubai Campus*

"Long-term industry internships will make the students more employable. Bringing industry to the classroom with more practical knowledge will help the students to develop new skills as per the industry demands."

Francois Therin

*Director
Institute of Management Technology, Dubai*

"The situation of lack of skills among our graduates is not very new because now we tend to say that the pace of the change of skills is much faster than before and we seem to have this type of issues. In my opinion the main issue in terms of skills we have now is that when we ask companies the kind of skills they need for our graduates; they don't really know because we cannot really adapt our curriculum to their needs."

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Swetha Madhusudanan

Dean Faculty of Architecture
Dr MGR University, India

"Matching unemployability with the skill development for the students is a very essential component of Education. In our curriculum – governed by council of architecture norms, New Delhi – we have a structured programme with 50% of basic architecture theory and 50% of practical. In practical, we cover the studio aspects that are the architectural design and the building construction."

Rohit Manglik

CEO, Edugorilla

"The four entities: government, private institutes, individuals and corporate are actually going to make a difference in the new industry revolution. All four have to work together to make the necessary changes for the globalised environment. The underlying parameters for these changes are participation of more women in the workforce and changes in ethics and privacy issues so companies have changed their hiring strategy."

James Maughan

Director
Dubai Business Internships

"We basically give them an internship in Dubai entity and we train them to be a strategy consultant. It's a project-based experiential learning. They constantly learn from each other which is peer to peer learning in environments with lots of different nationalities that push these young people to work out of their comfort zone."

Hisham Hanfy

Lecturer
Higher Colleges of Technology, Dubai

"It is important to understand that why our students can't find a job once they finish a course or they graduate because they don't have the skills. They can't integrate what they learn in math with Physics. In our college of technology, we have integrated Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in our curriculum."

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Panel Discussion: Green Schools: Future of Global Schools

Virendra Rawat
Founder
Green School Initiative, India

"Green Schools are the schools for the environment by the environment. The core concept of Green School is whatever resources we are using in educational practices, we must use it judiciously. The resources include human resource, space, water, energy and stationary among others."

Bindu Sharma
Principal
Army Public School, India

"Green Schools are not just about curriculum. It is something beyond bricks and mortar. It is a concept that doesn't need a lot of people to sit together and make a policy for that. The concept is important in a way that though we have witnessed a massive growth but we must take a pause now and think will we sustain?"

Ramiz Haddadin
Regional Director
Cambridge High School

"At Cambridge, we thought that Why shouldn't we create a green exam? All our exams are now green. We refrain from using paper. Most of our exams are computer based or online even in online tests; we are using the adaptive model."

Albin Anthony
COO
Sacred Heart School, Kalyan, India

"We at Sacred Heart School are proud to be awarded with the "Cleanest School in Country" by Economic Times in 2017. The journey was started 15 years back when we debunk the idea of sustainability to take it to a higher level. The future of next generation lies in the environment protection only."

G Sreedevi

Academic Director
Jubilee Hills Public School, India

"As Margaret Thatcher once said, "No generation has a free hold on this earth. All we have is a life tenancy-with full repairing lease." I can say that the current generation has the tendency of protecting their environment. We don't need to be worried about what will happen to our environment as the new generation is aware about that."

Luisa K Mendoza

Principal
Far Eastern Private School, Sharjah

"It's not enough to prepare children for brighter future but we need to prepare a brighter future for our children. At our school, we have integrated environmental awareness in our curriculum. We also encourage the children for preservation of nature by motivating them to plant and care for trees around."

Dr S Nabi

Director
Infoplus Technologies Limited

"We have started the digital education in schools around 10 year ago and now it has evolved to a highly mature level. The same we now need to replicate in Higher Education. We mostly develop 3D visuals required in a classroom. Through the visuals we try to explain the concept of various subjects. The explanations in the visuals, are as per the lesson planning and curriculum."

Dr Yousef Al Assaf

President
Rochester Institute of Technology, Dubai

"The future is different and we have to prepare kids and the new generation for it. The real life is not about what we do at university, it is about having students who are prepared for the future. What we have to do is change the ways of delivering programmes in order to make sure that you meet the anticipation of the future."

Panel Discussion: Best and Next Practices of School Education Spectrum

Neeti Kaushik
Principal and Director
Mount Olympus School, India

"Our time, around 15 years ago, was good in the way that there were handful of schools and we used to prepare to get admission in hose schools. Nowadays, the parents are shopping for schools. You have all kinds of schools and also the means and ways for the admission of your kids in those schools. Now the schools are smart and everything is available on a click."

Shiny Davidson
Vice Principal
Amled School, Dubai

"Innovation and creativity are the two things that have to go parallel. Innovation is not just about technology, it is about bringing creativity to your school environment. At the same time the skill-based learning is very important. Skill-based education is the most important change that a school may have to include in its teaching-learning practices."

Ranju Anand
Vice President of Schools
Gems Education, Dubai

"The definition of Innovation can be very different for people. Something which is innovative for me can't be innovative for anyone else. It depends on what a person is used to. For me, the best practice in a school is happiness. None of the parents or teachers makes their students learn how to move their thumb on gaming console. They learn it by themselves as it makes them happy. So, I ask my teachers to let their children do what they are interested in."

Ritika Anand
Vice Principal
The Winchester School, Dubai

"We in our schools also try to make learning more engaging. We try to ensure that the learners are involved. We also ensure that the activities students are involved in are of their interest and also in line with the curriculum requirements."

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Dr Vinod Tibrewla
Chairman
Sri JJT University, India

"Success has nothing do with the university degrees. For achieving success in life, one has to focus on various parameters. For being a successful businessman, it is very important to make friends as business is nothing but people. More the number of people connected with your business, more will be your reach and also the profit."

Panel Discussion: Ensuring Training of Teachers and Improvement of Infrastructure for creating Brand

Pranjala Dutta
Principal
IQRA Education, Dubai

"Professional development of a teacher goes alongside with the teacher. Any new school with a vision to establish it as a brand has to train its teachers so they become adept at most of the best teaching practices followed across the globe."

Asha Alexander
Principal
The Kindergarten Starters, Dubai

"The best asset for any organisation is its teachers. We can't engage them for improving the brand value of a school through compulsion. It can be done through their engagement in the school. Teachers can be the brand ambassadors of a school as they share an emotional connect with the customers (students). If we somehow made this possible than other assets will play comparatively smaller role in a school's brand recognition."

Panel Discussion: Learning through Innovation: The Classroom Experience

Maryssa O'Connor
Gems Wellington International School Dubai

"I think, one of the key aspects that we need to discuss today is how do we decide the best technology to be used in the classroom and what conversation do we have as leaders in schools. Moreover, teachers are also required to check whether or not a particular application or programme is enhancing the learning experience of students and really ensure that students do learn from using such technology."

Simimol Raijo
Head of Information and Communication Technology Department, Amity School

"Education is the foundation of any economy. In today's world, innovation in education is playing an important role where we people i.e. educators have to nurture new innovators and creative thinkers. Most of the schools in Dubai are investing more on getting smart devices and technology for innovative classrooms."

Rafia Zafar Ali
Principal
Leaders Private School

"For me, innovation is not only in the classroom, it is everywhere and it can be without all these technical things. The classrooms in the schools of villages do not use any technology but students in those schools are more innovative than the students who are in closed classrooms. The only thing students needed to be innovative is a platform where they can come up with their ideas and where teachers will act as the facilitator."

Will Murrills
Senior Project Leader
Struensee & Co

"Adopting best global practices and new innovations is one of the important factors to boost learning but most of our educational organisations have finite resources. In such a scenario, it is very important to optimise those resources for implementing the new initiatives to get the desired outcome."

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Panel Discussion: Nurturing Early Childhood, Encouraging Establishment of Preschools: Innovate, Invest and Collaborate

Priya Krishnan
CEO
Founding Years Learning Solution, India

"Preschool segment of education spectrum is largely ignored because there are no consumer outcomes defined like schools and colleges from where people get into higher education and in jobs respectively. I see that as a benefit to preschool industry. One very interesting aspect of this segment is that the consumer of the service is different from the payee of the service. Consumers in preschools are the kids whereas the fee for our services is paid by their parents."

Nyla Khan
Executive Director, Innovation and Development, Kids World Nursery LLC, Dubai

"We all know that more than 90 per cent of our brain is developed before the age of six. We really do need to take a look at the pedagogical approaches that are being used for early childhood education. There is also the need of continuous research to find out that how the learning methodologies have impacted the life of students."

Krishna Nambiar
Director
Aptech Montana International Preschool, India

"We are fortunate that we are not bound by any frame work; there is no fixed curriculum in preschools. We have a lot of freedom; we are allowed to do things, research and experiments. I think, this is high time that we all should collaborate to frame some kind of body that allows us to share knowledge."

Zahra Hamirani
CEO
The Blossom Nursery, Dubai

"Our company is founded on the principle of triple P. This is the idea of People, Planet and Prosperity. Education for many of us as is a mission not a business. It is something that we do from our heart. Therefore when we set up this company we set it up like a cooperative."

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Amit Sharma

Regional Director, Survey and Land Records, Government of Jammu & Kashmir

"Educationists want to venture out with new things. Probably the focus should improve, to innovate, to renovate and to develop some perspectives. I'm finding out with my friends sitting here that everybody has given his or her own perspective of how they are innovating how they are bringing about the change."

Melissa Maria

Principal
Global Indian International School (GIIS)

"We want to create a happy environment for our children to make them productive and sustainable learners. A happy class is a productive class. Greater the number of happy classes in a school, higher will be the productivity of the school."

Panel Discussion: Outcome Based Education: Importance Of Technological Interventions

Shahnaz Ahmed

Chairman
Springdale High School, India

"Education is about the holistic development of children. Happy children, happy school is education. Education is not a preparation for life but it is life. Outcome based education is basically theory or philosophy that involves no uniform set of practices. It is goal oriented and result based."

Dolly A Goriawala

Principal
Star Internati onal School, Dubai

"Outcome based education is a very current thing. It is something which is necessary for all of us and especially schools. Outcome Based Education is basically about looking at the end goal and working backwards from that end."

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Pramod Mahajan
School Director and Principal
Sharjah Indian School

"Many students in India and worldwide do not have access to schooling and among the students having access to education, according to a data, only around 5 - 15 per cent have mastery in learning. Here comes the Outcome Based Education which helps students to become master in what they learn."

Latha Venkateswar
Principal
Sabari Indian School, Deira, Dubai

"I firmly believe that outcomes are important but it's not written in black and white. Outcomes can go beyond what schools have planned and what the teacher can imagine especially with the intervention of technology. The things which were not even imaginable in learning earlier are now possible in classroom."

Muhammad Tahir Nadeem Qadri
CEO
American Lyceum International School

"Emotional Intelligence is the capability of individuals to recognise their own emotions and those of others. It can be used to guide thinking and behaviour and manage or adjust emotions to adapt to environment or achieve one's goal (s)."

CONFERENCE REPORT

Panel Discussion: New Age Pedagogical Interventions in Teaching

Abhilash Rao
Director
IQRA Education, Dubai

"Technology has become an integral enabler for innovation. In terms of a product for a customers, service quality is most important. In terms of education, pedagogy is one of the most important factors."

Maya AlHawary
Chairman of Board of Governors
Carmel School, Dubai

"One of the most important practices, I am following in my teaching is the impact of social media on personalised learning and the messages one will be able to give through micro-learning videos. The videos are of very short duration and help a person to keep up the learning spirit in this fast paced world."

Tassos Anastasiades
Director
Ajman Academy, Dubai

"Rather than talking about instruction and teaching, we must talk about learning. In the school curriculum we are trying to accomodate the personalised learning that will help the students learn at their own pace."

Malaya Mohapatra
Founder
Vidyabhawan School, India

"Every child has their special abilities and special interest and so it is really needed to identify their interests assess their abilities. In our school we conduct psychological counselling of every child to find out their interests.
When we talk about personalised learning the reason why I believe it's so important now is because we're trying to get students ready for a future that most of us don't actually know that what it will actually contain."

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Dr MGR Educational and Research Institute, India

Dr Vinod Tibrewala, Shri JJT University, India

Indira Gandhi Computer Saksharta Mission (IGCSM)

Manipal University, Dubai

Tomy Kuruppassery, Shri JJT University, India

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Vidyabhawan School, Keonjhar, India

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