

SEG BULLETIN

the latest articles, activities, and platform updates

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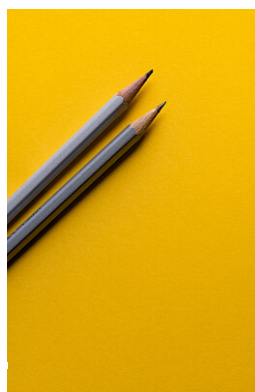
About this bulletin

This bulletin is there to keep our stakeholders up to speed with new content, activities and developments of the School Education Gateway.

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How does education research work?

Education research is not only produced by universities. Teachers may also conduct studies within their daily activities, using a cyclical strategy of change, data collection and reflection. And, sometimes, this leads to game-changing, bottom-up classroom innovations.



Action research is a great way to take ownership of evidence-based school development. Our latest overview of good practices highlights three projects to be inspired by. The objectives: introduce more science education researchers and teachers to the philosophy of action, support the newcomers to action research and build a network for innovation in teacher education.

Victoria Elliott's study "A Marked Improvement?" stimulated several schools in London, which embarked on a research project to investigate some of the ideas. The output was a brilliant how-to guide called "Mark Less, Mark Better!". Elliott's summary was a useful starting point for the most powerful research: that done in schools, testing and evaluating what can work for each context and students.



Through evaluation activities, the school community is able to respond in real time to its emerging needs with training and team teaching, enabling continuous teacher learning and tracking the progress of innovations. This can also be an opportunity to share similar experiences within the schools, if some valuable works follow the principles of academic research.

Teaching students to debate in a modern era: the problem with "for" or "against"

Debate encourages speculating beyond “intuition” and into the realm of “reasoning”. But framing an argument as a binary “should...?” question potentially limits students’ capacity to engage with ideas. Dominic Ruiz of the University of Applied Sciences Utrecht guides us through the fallacies of this approach and shows that it is possible to cultivate and encourage practices that lead to more genuine thought-provoking debate.



New survey results and a sneak peek



LEARNING SPACES

A school's learning environment plays a crucial role in teaching, learning and well-being, for both students and teachers.

Teachers wish to have a flexible space in the school for varied learning approaches to facilitate innovation, and they believe that there are simple, low-cost steps that can be taken to improve the learning environment. One of our latest surveys points out that the school environment is generally not suitable for 21st-century education.

PREVIEW OF USER SURVEY RESULTS

We asked your opinion on our content and services. While we are still working on the outcomes, we would like to share some insights and make together some reflections with you.



50% of the users visiting the site are looking for professional development opportunities. Accordingly, the most popular services on the School Education Gateway website were the Mobility Opportunities search and the Catalogue of on-site course. Looking at the topics users would like to see addressed on the site, it seems that Digital Competence and Tools along with Personal, Social and Learning Competences are the two main themes to be explored in 2020. We will publish an article with more details next year, so keep an eye on our website!



Join this webinar on digital competences!

Our last webinar of the year, focusing on digital competences for learners and teachers, will be on air on Tuesday 10 December! It will present findings from the recent Eurydice report on *Digital Education at School in Europe*, and insights into how the *SELFIE* tool can help schools to embed digital technologies into teaching, learning and assessment. The speakers in the webinar will be Peter Birch, coordinator for education policy and systems analysis for Eurydice (who published the report), and Seán Gallagher, a leader at St Angela's College, Ireland, speaking about their experiences with SELFIE. Join the webinar on Tuesday 10 December at 17:00h CET!