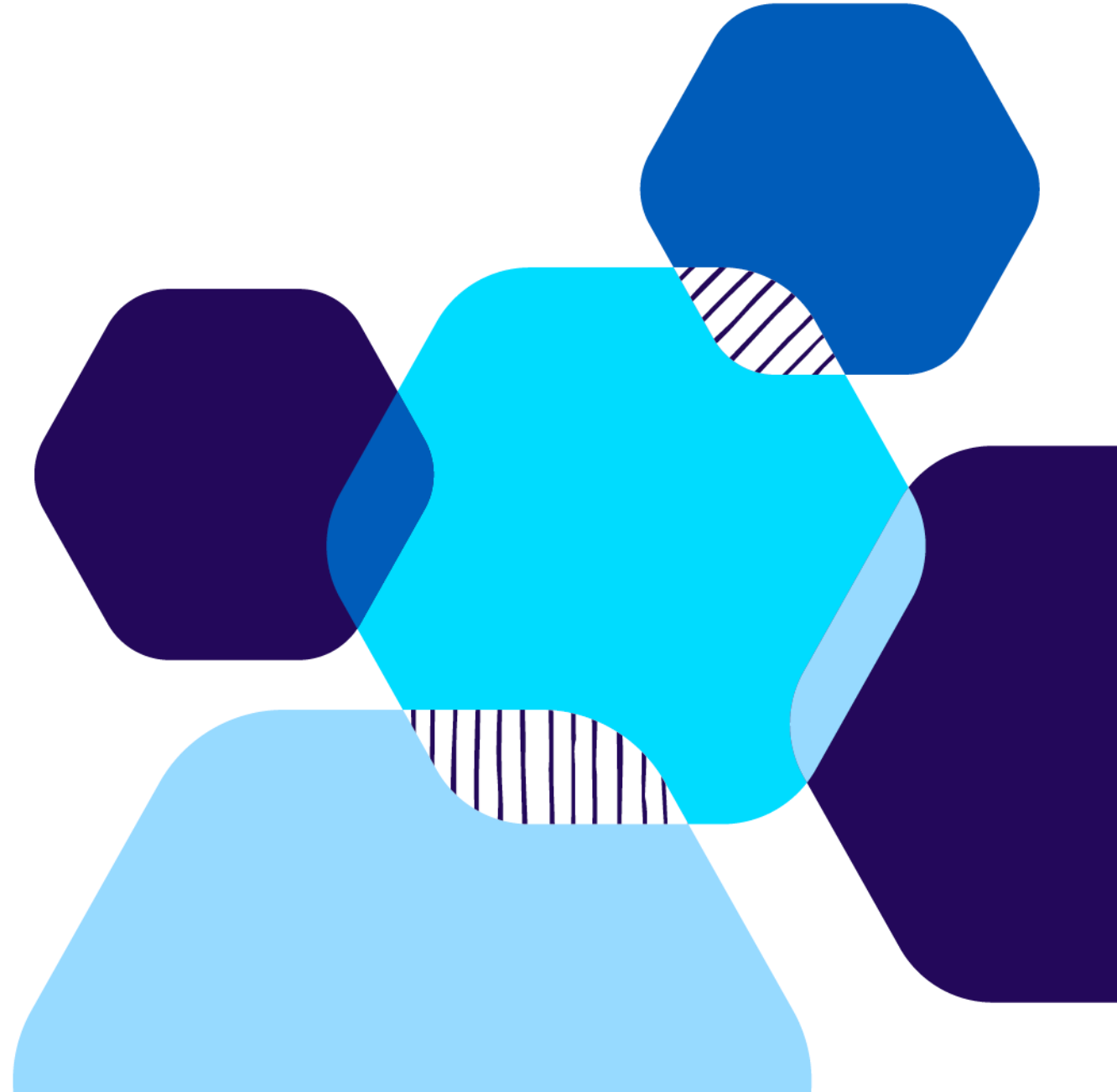


Teaching English Africa webinar

Supporting every child to achieve

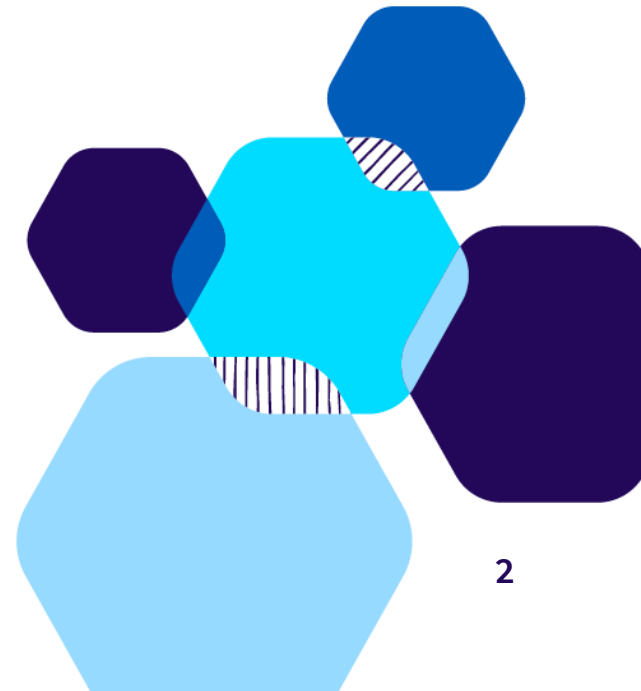
Sarah Adebajo

13 September 2023



Introduction

This webinar is aimed at exploring ways in which every child despite their unique peculiarities and challenges can be supported to enjoy a rich experience within the school system and to achieve curriculum aims and objectives.



Webinar objectives

- To understand the concept of inclusion and its importance within the school system.
- To analyse the peculiarities of the Gen Z.
- To be able to come up with various strategies to support the learning of the 21st century child.

Keywords

Inclusion

SEN (special
education
needs)

Peculiarities

Differentiation

Gen Z

Inclusion

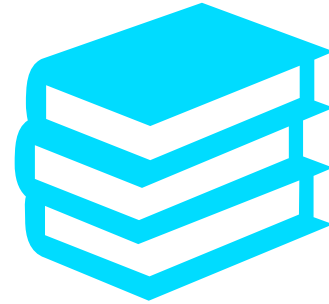
- A learning system where there's a deliberate plan to support every child until learning takes place.
- A process that helps to overcome barriers limiting the presence, participation and achievement of learners.' (UNESCO, 2017: 7)



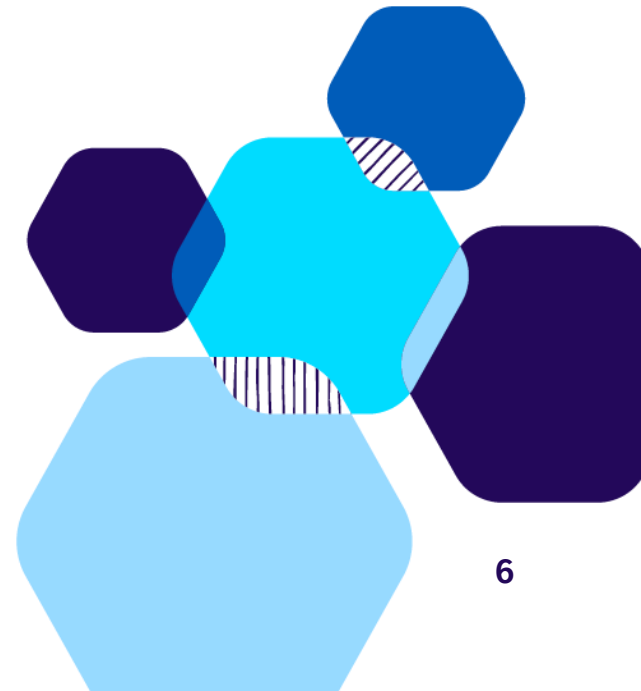
Why inclusion?



The curriculum should have been designed to equip the learner with skills to becoming a well-rounded individual who can thrive or at least function optimally in the society.



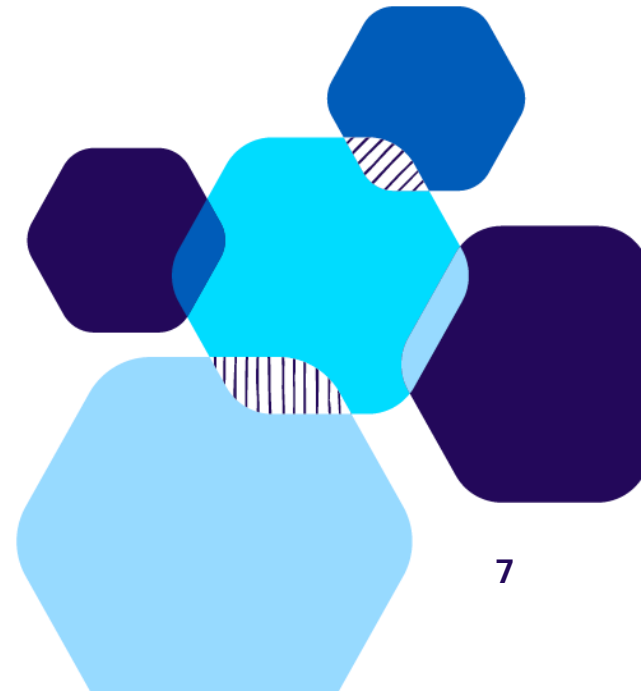
However, certain factors affect some learners which pose as a barrier to achieving curriculum aims and objectives. Hence, the need to focus on inclusive education.



Activity 1: Think and share in the chat



What do you think this quote means?



5 Nuggets for inclusive learning

01

Know yourself
(the teacher)

02

Know the child
(the learner)

03

Know the curriculum
(the objectives)

04

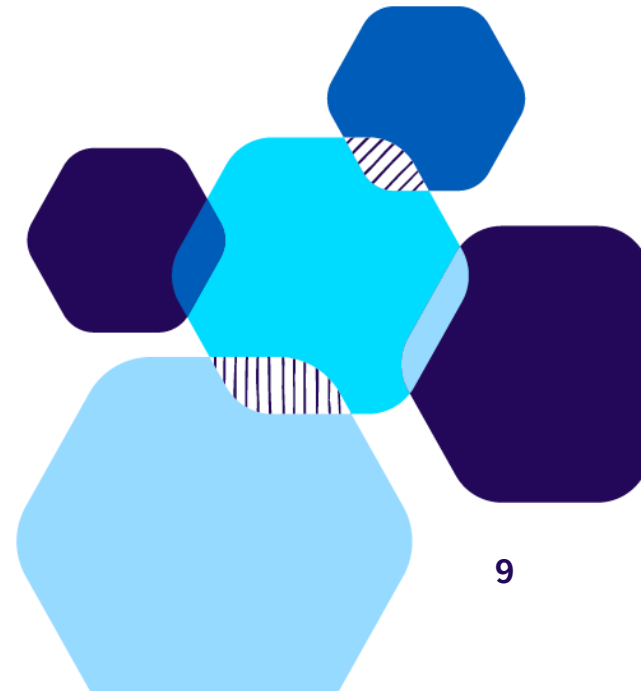
Know what you want the children to achieve
(learning outcomes)

05

Know the environment
(the society/
global trends)

Why inclusion? Let's discuss the following factors

- Children from other communities in your country
- Learning disabilities: Dyslexia, ADHD, dyscalculia, dysgraphia and more.
- Gifted and talented children
- Children who are emotionally challenged for various reasons
- Ailing or sick children
- Children with physical disabilities
- Displaced people from other countries (refugees)



Peculiarities of the Gen Zs

The learners in our classrooms now are 21st century children and fall within the Gen Z. They are the demographic cohort born from 1996 upwards

They succeed the millennials; people born between 1981-1996 and precede the Alpha generation.

Let's examine some traits peculiar to these learners.



Peculiarities of the Gen Zs



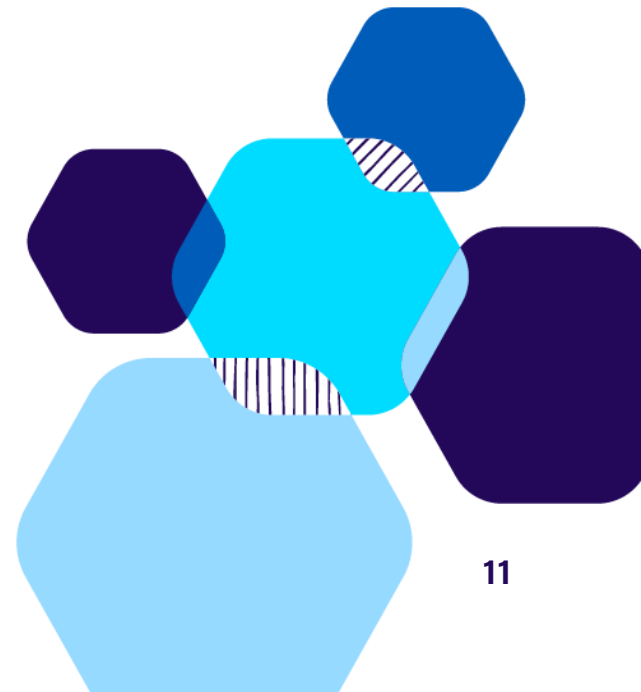
Generation Z has emerged as a population increasingly worthy of attention.



They share a number of characteristics with Millennials. Their formative years have been shaped by a drastically different world, resulting in key differences in attitudes, tendencies and outlook.



According to statistics compiled by the Pew Research Center, America the following peculiarities have been found out about these unique set of learners:



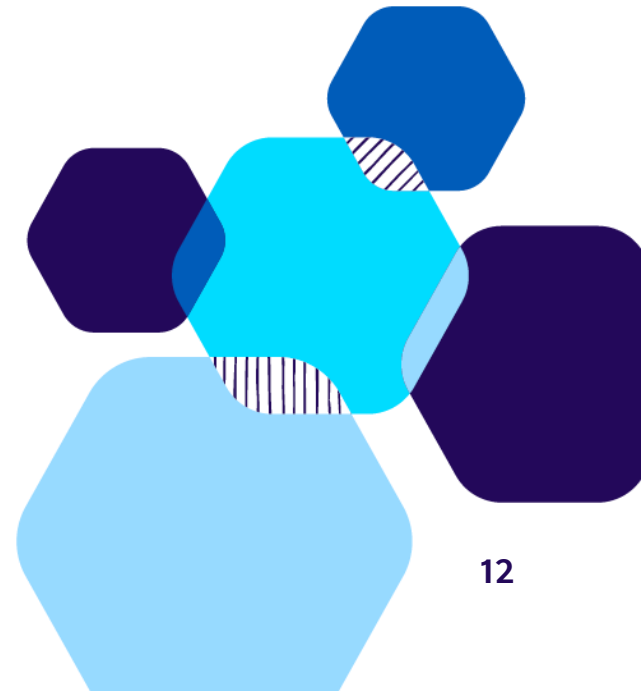
Diversity Is Their Norm

Using America as case study

Gen Z will be the last generation that is predominantly white.

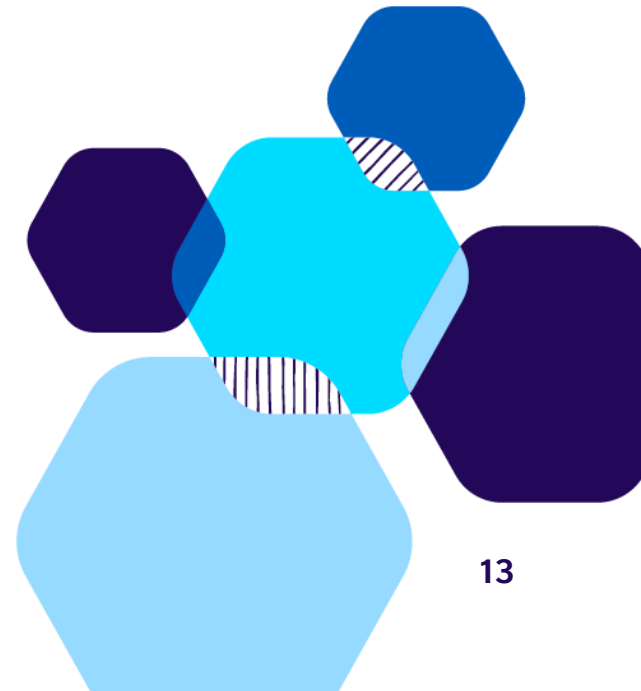
The oldest Gen Zers turned 18 in 2015

The latest data for young adults ages 18 to 24 in 2020 showed that a slight majority are 53% white



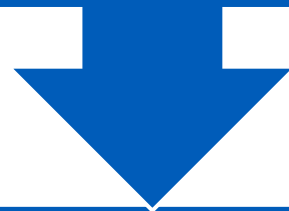
Activity 2: Put your ideas in the chat

What other features can you attribute to the Gen Z?

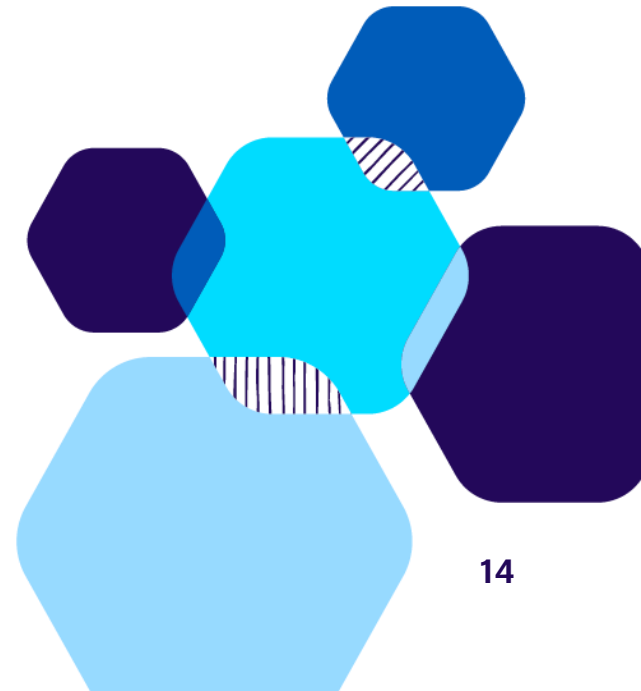


Diversity is their norm

They are more likely to have grown up amid diverse family structures — whether in a single-parent household, a multiracial household, or a household in which gender roles were blurred.



As a result, they are less fazed than previous generations by differences in race, sexual orientation or religion.



They Are The First ‘Digital Natives’

They are digitally minded. They have prompt access to information. They virtually have the entire globe at their fingertips;

Whereas Millennials were considered “digital pioneers,” who bore witness to the explosion of technology and social media, Gen Z was born into a world of peak technological innovation — where information was immediately accessible and social media increasingly ubiquitous.

They Are The First ‘Digital Natives’



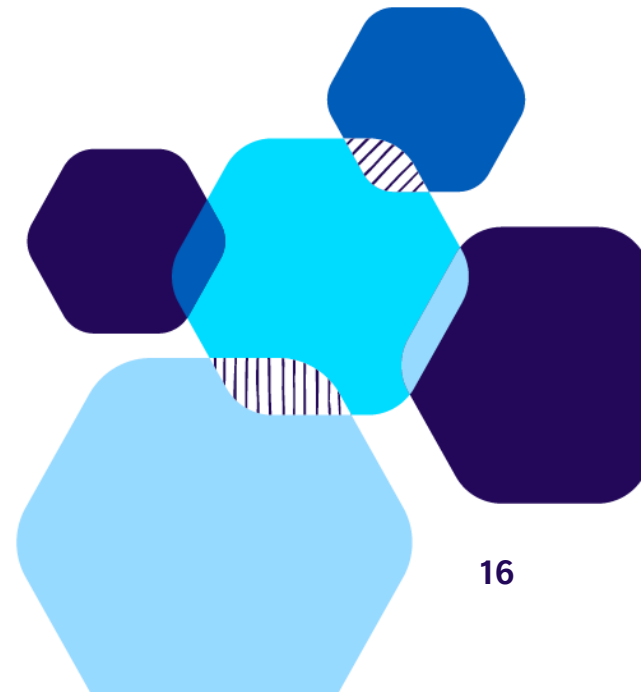
These technological advancements have had both positive and negative effects on Gen Z.



On the plus side: an abundance of information is at their fingertips, allowing Gen Zers to broaden their knowledge and be proactive in their learning.

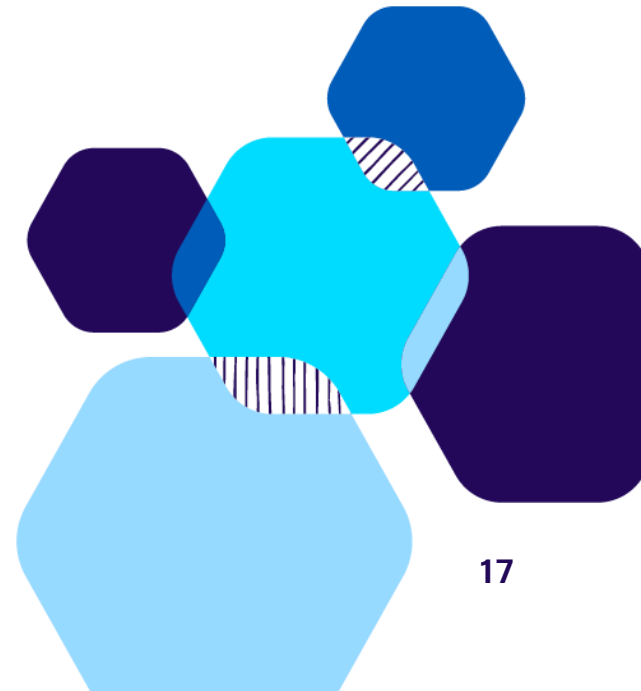


On the other hand, too much screen time can compound feelings of isolation and lead to underdeveloped social skills.



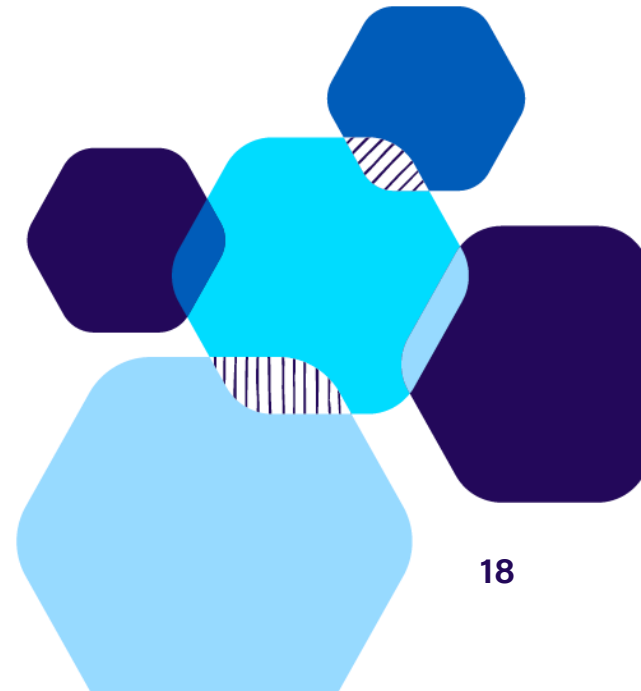
They Are Financially Minded

- Financial mindedness is another core characteristic of Generation Z.
- Many Gen Zers grew up watching their parents take huge financial hits during the Great Recession.
- Having witnessed their parents' struggles, this generation is driven by pragmatism and security.



They Are Financially Minded

- While Millennials came of age during an economic boom, Gen Zers were shaped by the economic pressures their families and communities faced.
- Thus, they value the stability that comes with conservative spending, stable jobs and smart investments.



Peculiar Mental Health Challenges



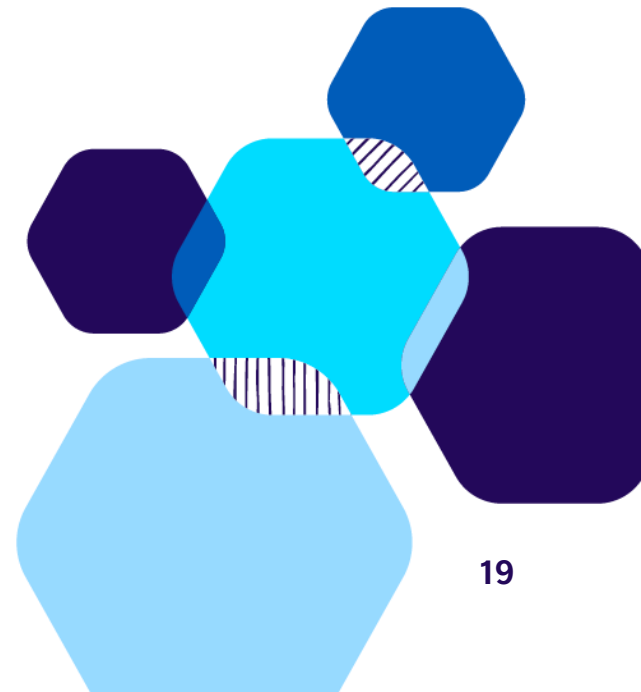
Mental health challenges are a sad characteristic of Generation Z, which has been referred to by some as the “loneliest generation,” as their endless hours spent online can foster feelings of isolation and depression.



More time spent on smartphones or watching Netflix means less time spent cultivating physical relationships.

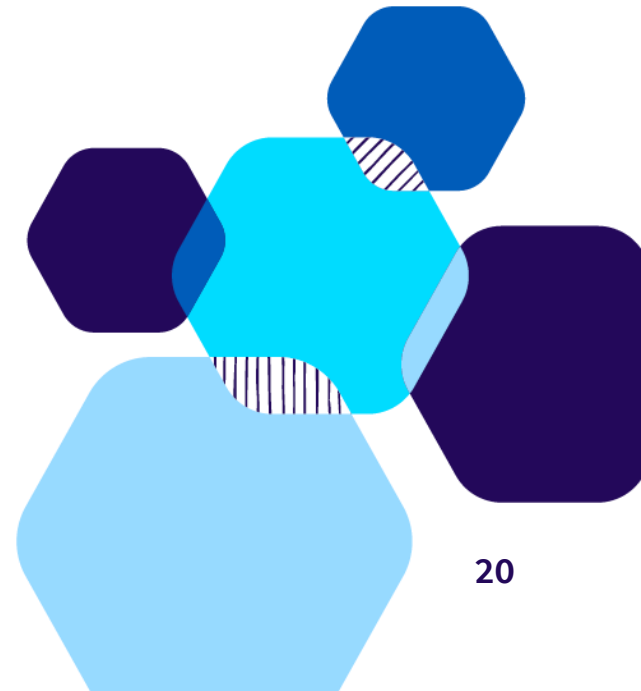


Additionally, many young people fall prey to the “compare and despair” trap that social media presents.



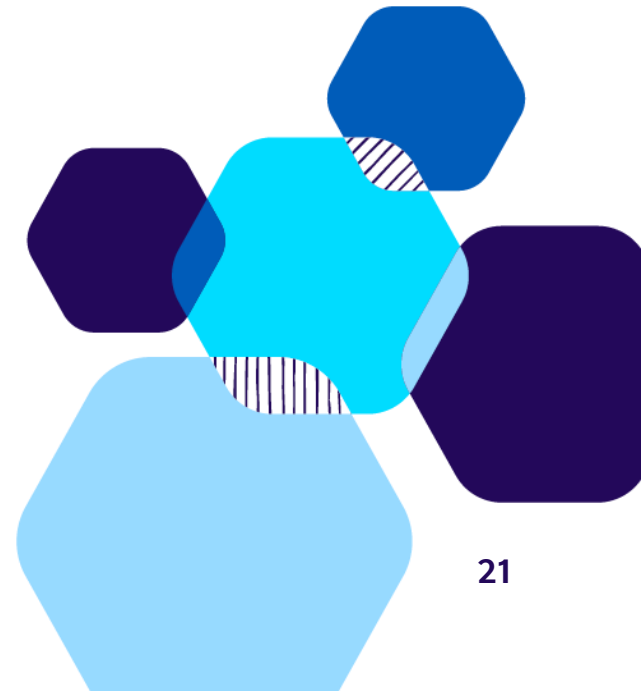
Inclusive strategies for effective teaching and learning.

- Putting into consideration the peculiar features of the Gen Z and other unique needs that various learners may have, it is important that lessons and school activities are carefully planned to cater for, challenge and support every child towards achieving set objectives.
- This brings us to the concept of differentiated learning.

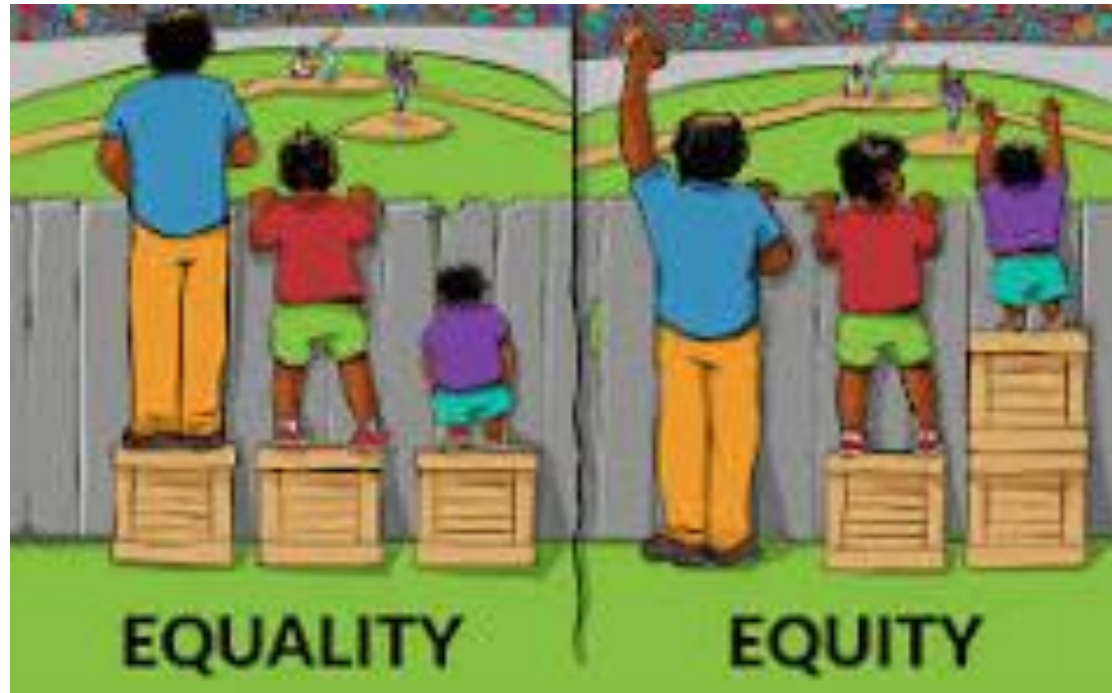


Differentiated learning

- Differentiated instruction is the process of tailoring lessons to meet each student's individual interests, needs, and strengths.
- Differentiation is responsive teaching rather than one size fits all teaching (Tomlinson, 2005).
- Differentiated instruction is both a philosophy and a way of teaching that respects the different learning needs of students and expects all students to experience success as learners.



Supporting every learner uniquely to achieve set goals.



Strategies for effective differentiation

Well set objectives

Conducive environment for learners

Flexibility of instructional methods

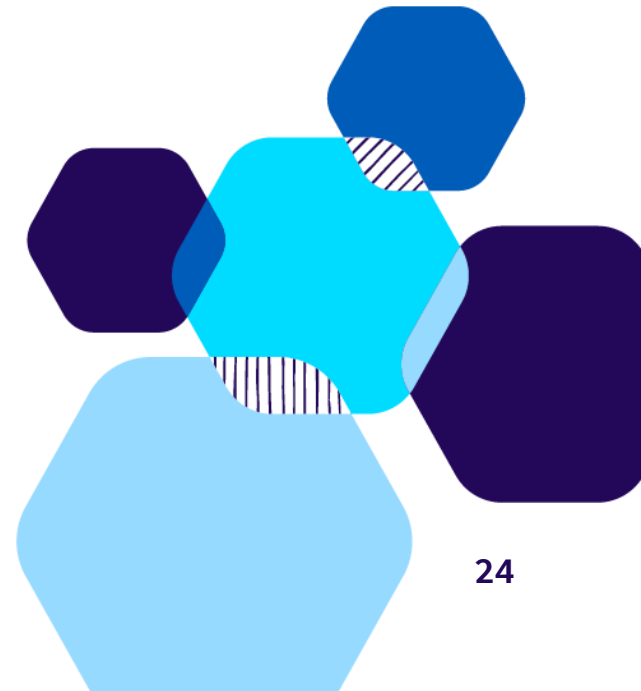
Encouraging collaboration and a safe community

Flexible grouping

Assessment for learning

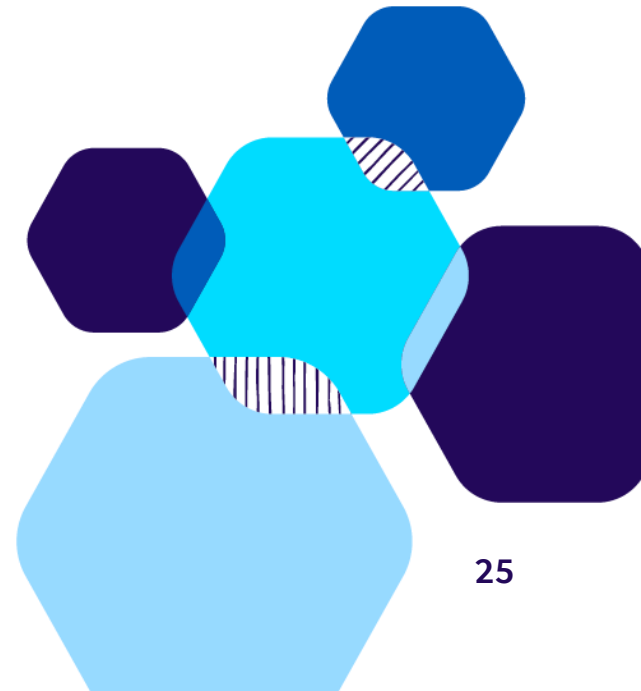
Well set objectives and outcomes

- It is important that lessons and school activities are planned with the end in mind.
- It begins with clearly defining where we want students to go before thinking about how we want them to get there. What do we want them to Know, Understand, and be able to Do (KUD) as a result of the learning experience?
- How do we breakdown learning objectives and scaffold them to accommodate, cater for and challenge every learner?



Conducive environment for learners

- No learner should be limited, disadvantaged or excluded based on type or degree of disability.
- The classroom seating arrangement should accommodate all learners;
- Walkways, play areas, toilet facilities, lightning and temperature regulation should be carefully planned to include every learner.



Assessment for learning

- Assessment is the element that steers instruction in the differentiated classroom.
- During lessons, continually assessing each students' progress toward the learning objectives guide the teacher in planning the next instructional steps in the classroom.

Building a safe community

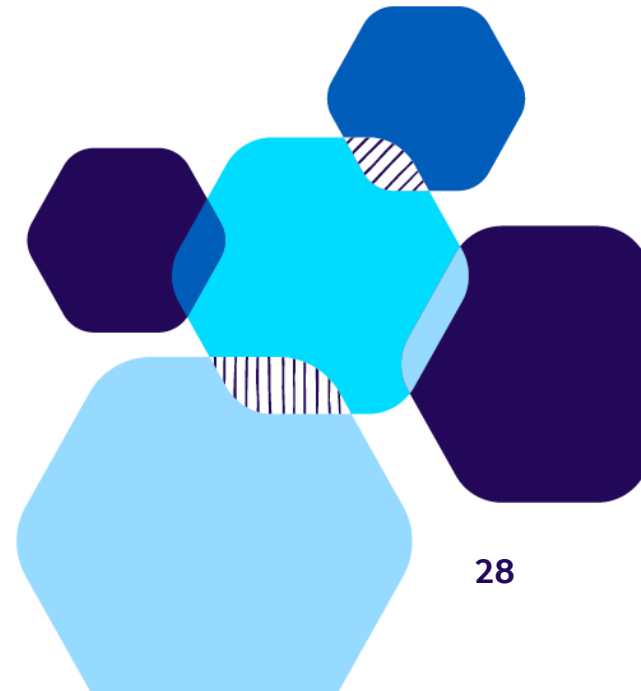
In a differentiated classroom, teachers guide the learners to understand what differentiation is all about and everyone feels they play an important role in the community. Learners have a voice in how the community works and take responsibility for identifying and solving problems in the classroom.



Flexible groupings

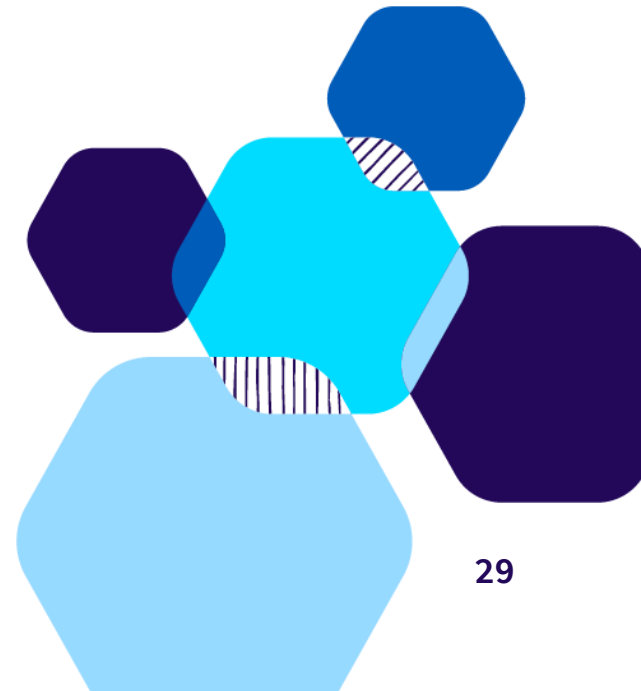
In a differentiated classroom, learners work in a variety of arrangements

- Grouping assignments may be selected by the teacher, by the student, or randomly. In this way, learners have the opportunity to work with a variety of other learners on a frequent basis.



Activity 4: Recalling task

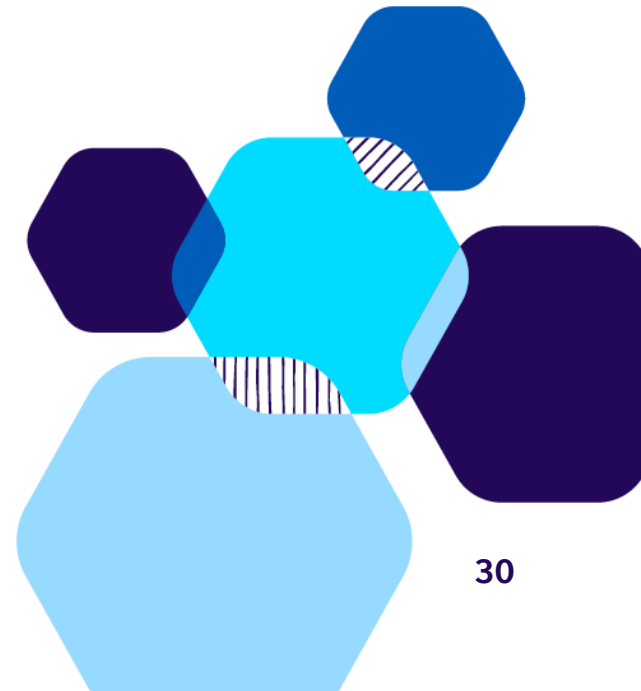
In the chat box, list 4 strategies to effective differentiation.
List 5 reasons why every school be inclusive in their operations.



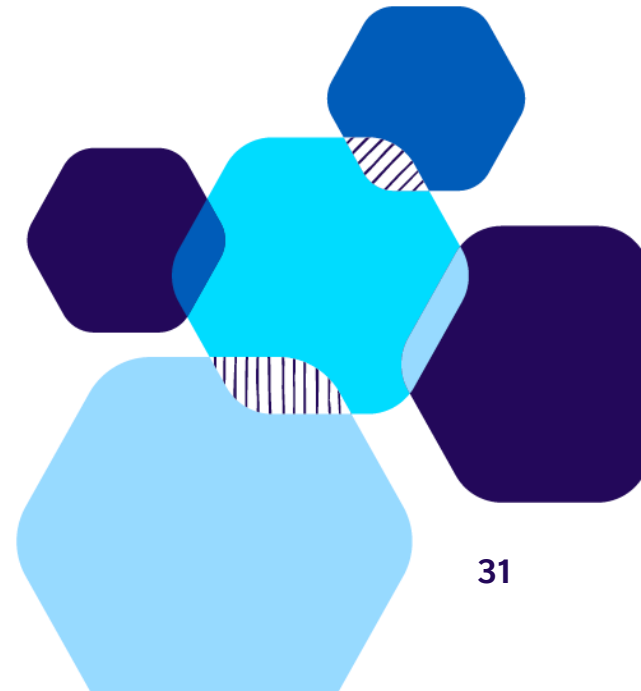
Conclusion

The goal of an inclusive education is to make sure no child is left out regardless of their peculiarities.

Educators must continue to develop their knowledge and skills to ensure that the right kind of support is given to every child such that they have a rich and well-rounded experience at every level of learning



Questions and further contributions



Thank you

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