Creating a Conducive / Positive Learning Environment is Corner Stone of Teaching and NEP-2020

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Abstract: *A positive environment is fostered when learning outcomes and expectations are clearly communicated. Students have a wide range of learning needs and styles, and this diversity must be taken into account in employing a variety of teaching strategies. An environment that is conducive to learning is critical for an efficient Education System. The environment must be safe, neat & clean, peaceful, caring, tolerant, impartial, steady, corrective but not punishing, accountable, warm, responsive and inclusive. All these properties assume greater importance when it comes to School Education (from the pre-school stage to the pre-university stage) because that's when the System either makes or breaks young minds! The environment must prepare Students with the necessary Life Skills besides academic skills. India's NEP 2020 takes great care to address the common issues related to the learning Environment, and proposes measures to keep it in top shape & form. The new Education System takes over a kid when she or he is just three years old, and that certainly puts enormous responsibility on the System. That the local community of every School is considered a significant part of the Learning Environment, is a core aspect of India's NEP 2020.The size of the classroom, the arrangement of the furniture, the functioning of equipment and other physical aspects of the class all contribute to, or detract from, the learning environment. When these factors can be manipulated to be positive influences, an environment more conducive to learning will be created.*

Keywords: Positive Environment, Learning Outcomes, Styles, Conducive

1. Introduction

An environment that is conducive to learning is critical for an efficient Education System. The environment must be safe, neat & clean, peaceful, caring, tolerant, impartial, steady, corrective but not punishing, accountable, warm, responsive and inclusive. All these properties assume greater importance when it comes to School Education (*from the pre-school stage to the pre-university stage*) because that's when the System either makes or breaks young minds!

The environment must prepare Students with the necessary Life Skills besides academic skills. India's NEP 2020 takes great care to address the common issues related to the learning Environment, and proposes measures to keep it in top shape & form. **The new Education System takes over a kid when she or he is just three years old** and that certainly puts enormous responsibility on the System.

That the local community of every School is considered a significant part of the Learning Environment, is a core aspect of India's NEP 2020.

Creating a positive learning environment is the cornerstone of effective teaching. As teachers we are accountable to our students, as well as to their future employers. We as teachers assist students to achieve course and program learning outcomes. The success of our efforts depends on our ability to create and maintain favorable instructional, physical and psychological learning environments. A positive learning environment is one in which all students have an equal opportunity to succeed.A positive environment is fostered when learning outcomes and expectations are clearly communicated. Students have a wide range of learning needs and styles, and this diversity must be taken into account in employing a variety of teaching strategies;

- The size of the classroom,
- The arrangement of the furniture,
- The functioning of equipment and other physical aspects of the class all contribute to, or detract from, the learning environment.

When these factors can be manipulated to be positive influences, an environment more conducive to learning will be created. Our demographic size and variables may defeat us however, there is **one common factor** that can turn the tide and lead the Indian education system out of its current morass of aimlessness and inflexibility to become a progressive, flexible, multidisciplinary, technology and skill focussed education system that will have the capability to produce competent, creative, skilled, employable and ethical learners. This common factor is – **the Teacher.**

The Kothari Commission, 1966 said, 'Of all the different factors which influence the quality of education and its contribution to national development, the *quality, competence and character* of teachers are undoubtedly the most significant.' The NEP 2020 too exhorts, 'Teachers truly shape the future of our children – and, therefore, the future of our nation' thereby implying that teachers play the most important role in nation-building by creating high quality of human resource in their classrooms.

By definition, a conducive learning environment is a platform devoid of both physical intimidation and emotional frustration, which allows for a free exchange of ideas as well asmaking a certain situation or outcome likely or possible which tends to promote or assist an atmosphere conducive to education.

Learning occurs when we are able to:

- Gain a mental or physical grasp of the subject.
- Make sense of a subject,

- Event or feeling by interpreting it into our own words or actions.
- Use our newly acquired ability or knowledge in conjunction with skills and understanding we already possess.

Learning can occur in many settings, not just in the classroom.Across the nation, communities are

- Redesigning schools to support how students learn best.
- These communities recognize from intuitive experience,
- Backed by a solid body of scientific evidence, that learning happens best when social, emotional, and cognitive growth are connected.

Research has shown that an engaged learning environment increases students'

- Attention and focus,
- Promotes meaningful learning experiences,
- Encourages higher levels of student performance, and
- Motivates students to practice higher-level critical thinking skills.

Creating a positive learning environment is the cornerstone of effective teaching. In order for our students to succeed, they must first believe they can succeed. Students must have confidence in their abilities and they must feel that the teacher shares that confidence. A positive learning environment nurtures these feelings by allowing students to explore and expand their knowledge without undue risk or fear.

What is a Conducive Learning Environment?

Think about the classrooms you experienced as a student. Maybe you remember sitting and listening as the teacher did most of the talking, or maybe you and your peers were challenged with problem-solving activities. Perhaps your tests were all rote memorization of the learned information, or maybe you kept a portfolio of your work that your teacher assessed with one-on-one feedback.

The NationalEducation Policy lays particular emphasis on the development of the creative potential of each individual. It is based on the principle that education must develop not only cognitive capacities - both the 'foundational capacities 'of literacy and numeracy and 'higher-order' cognitive capacities, such as critical thinking and problem solving – but also social, ethical, and emotional capacities and dispositions.

Learning environments vary from classroom to classroom and context to context.

There are four types of learning environments, each with unique elements. Learning environments can be student- or learner-centered - environments pay close attention to the needs of the student. Students bring culture, beliefs, attitudes, skills, and knowledge to the learning environment. A learner-cantered teacher builds on the conceptual and cultural knowledge of each student. The classroom is often involved in discussion, where the students do much of the talking and construct their own meaning based on prior knowledge and experiences. The teacher acts as a bridge between new learning and what students already know.

Knowledge-centered -environments focus on helping students learn information with deep understanding so students can use it in new situations and contexts. Teachers who believe in knowledge-centered classrooms believe rote memorization does not lead to true understanding and only helps students learn at the surface. Deep learning involves learning through problem-solving.

An example of this type of learning environment is one where a teacher directly teaches a concept, such as how to find area and perimeter. The teacher would then take this concept one step further, connecting this new knowledge to a real-life scenario.

Assessment-centred - to be effective, learning environments must also be assessment-centred, which stress the importance of feedback to learning. Students need opportunities to get feedback so they can revise their work. Assessments must match learning goals. Formative, or classroom assessment, used to improve teaching and learning, is a constant source of feedback throughout the context of a course

Community-centred - Community-centered learning environments explicitly promote norms and expectations that encourage critical inquiry and collaboration.a concerted, coordinated approach by local agencies and facilities to address such problems in a community as mental disorder, delinquency, and substance abuse. This approach holds that since these problems developed in the community, efforts at prevention and treatment should be community-based rather than the province primarily of state institutions.

As conscientious teachers, we need to become aware of our own assumptions and guard against acting out our own biases. We must avoid creating or tolerating a climate in the classroom which in any way results in the unfair treatment of an individual because of his or her identity. Ecclesial order for learning to come accessible to a student, it needs to be presented in an atmosphere free from fear or humiliation. Students need clear expectations Of learning outcomes so they can measure these against the skills they already have in order to establish their learning goals.The aim must be for India to have an education system by 2040 that is second to none, with equitable access to the highest-quality education for all learners regardless of social or economic background. This National Education Policy 2020 is the first education policy of the 21st century and aims to address the many growing developmental imperatives of our country. This Policy proposes the revision and revamping of all aspects of the education structure, including its regulation and governance, to create a new system that is aligned with the aspirational goals of 21st century education, including SDG4, while building upon India's traditions and value systems.

Students also require access to the physical resources necessary to achieve their learning goals. Qualitative

academic standards can only be maintained within a learning atmosphere which honors the diversity and integrity of each individual, builds self-esteem, provides productive and purposeful learning activities, and prepares dents for responsible citizenship. Whatever level of motivation your students bring to the classroom will be transformed for better or worse, by what happens in that classroom.

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, aim of Early Childhood Care and Education is to facilitate optimum development of the child's full potential and to ensure each child is valued, respected, feels safe and secure and develops a positive self concept, enable a sound foundation for physical and motor development of each child- as per each child's potential, lay the foundation for all round development and lifelong learning.

From the day children are born, they enter a new and colorful world of discovery, where everything is new and unfamiliar. To get to know themselves, others and their worlds, they need to feel safe and confident. Creating rich, stimulating, engaging environments for them to explore will ensure that they are active participants in their own learning. The Early Learning and Child Care Curriculum is based on the vision all children can grow to their fullest potential with dignity, a sense of self worth, and a zest for living and learning.

To reach this point requires a holistic approach to early learning and care, where all of the curriculum elements function in harmony with each another. The curriculum promotes healthy development by emphasizing responsive relationships, stimulating environments and learning through play.

Based on up-to-date research on how to maximize children's learning, the curriculum appeals to the uniqueness of each and every child. This factor contributes to the innovative nature of the curriculum, and allows its contents to be practiced across a variety of cultural, linguistic and social backgrounds.

By implementing its teachings at the earliest age possible, children are prepared for a smoother transition into primary school, and given a foundation of learning that will support them throughout their lives-Caring and supportive relationships are fundamental when creating an environment that encourages healthy learning experiences for children. Positive relationships foster feelings of safety and trust that all children need in order to explore and experiment with confidence.

It goes without saying that our surroundings affect us consciously and subconsciously. The environment we are in can motivate us to focus on our tasks or cause distractions that will make us lose concentration. For students, the environment where they learn and study affects their productivity.

As students spend a significant 6 to 7 hours of their time daily in their classrooms, it is essential for educators to ensure that their students have a conducive environment that promotes learning. Creating a space that promotes learning

amongst students does not just benefit the students, as teachers will also find it easier and more enjoyable to teach students who are focused on their lessons.

Instead of the boring classroom setting with the teacher by the blackboard and students in rows of tables, here are five things that you as a teacher can do to create a comfortable environment for your students:

1) Create a classroom that encourages interaction
Teachers can come out with thought-provoking topics that require the students to think and share their opinions with no prejudice. Having discussions and even debates promotes creativity and critical thinking, which are important life skills that students should inculcate while they are still in school. Planned interaction also gives quieter students the opportunity to express themselves where they would normally not speak up.

Student interaction factors

a) Know your students. In addition to their names and experiences, determine their skills and knowledge.
b) Create a welcoming learning environment. Make students feel comfortable and important.
c) Set and communicate expectations.
d) Encourage students to interact positively with one another.

Rather than a classroom where only the teacher speaks and the students merely listen, create one that promotes interaction, be it amongst students themselves or between teachers and students. Conversations are great for making lessons more entertaining for students, as this makes learning more than just about listening, copying down notes, and doing homework.

Creating an Interactive Learning Environment

a) Content is king. First, be sure you have relevant subject matter. ...
b) Allow students to explore. A student is likely to be more interactive within a course that can be easily explored.
c) Collect feedback.
d) Ask questions.
e) Share resources and use hyperlinks.

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2) Make the best out of your classroom space
Students spend a significant amount of their time in school, with the majority of this time being in the classroom. Therefore, the layout and arrangement of the classroom should be one that encourages students to be productive. Instead of sticking to the typical classroom arrangement that

we are so accustomed to, opt to have different sections of the room with each serving a specific purpose.

Our conversation is condensed here into some specific things you can do to make your classroom a better space for learners.

a) Ask your Students.
b) Subtract.
c) Mix up Your Seating Opt
d) Consider the Perimeter.
e) Reduce Your Teacher Footprint.
f) Create Spaces for Collaboration.
g) Create Spaces for Creation.
h) Create Writable Spaces.

As a start, experiment and try out different layouts that give both teachers and students the opportunity to interact better. A great seating arrangement to start out with is to have the students sit in a semi-circle in front of the teacher. This enables the teachers to be within close proximity with the students thus being able to communicate with them more effectively and at a more personal level.

3) Play with colours
Feeling blue! Seeing red! Green with envy or yellow with fear…. These colourful phrases reflect how we feel. Colour is a very real thing in our lives and influences what we do and how we feel. For impressionable kids minds, it's even more relevant! Colours certainly catch the attention of little ones more easily, but they do a lot beyond that. They contribute to the growth, development, receptiveness, moods and more of children. Studies have shown that colours stimulate the brain, therefore work with colours to create a vibrant and lively environment that supports creativity and learning. A colourful classroom not only helps to stimulate the brain, it also helps students to stay focused and refreshed when studying. However, it is important to note that the classroom should not have colours like bright red and orange as they might over-stimulate the learners instead.

A great way to instantly add pops of colour to the classroom is by using coloured paper. Teachers can organise arts and crafts sessions with the students to decorate the classroom, which is another fun activity to keep classes interesting for the students.

4) Have an Awards Section
Students learn best when they are motivated and a great way to keep them driven is by rewarding achievements. Oftentimes, it is only the high achievers that win most school-based awards and this can cause weaker students to feel left out and unmotivated. Therefore, having a special awards program for your own classroom is a great way to encourage the weaker students and make them feel appreciated as well.

Apart from awarding the top performers, teachers can also create unique awards like "Most Helpful", "Class Sports Star", "Most Improved", "Friendship Award", "Kindest Kid" etc. These will give every student a chance to be valued and feel included regardless of their academic prowess. Feel free to invite the parents for the awards ceremony as well so that they can see how their children are doing in school. Remember, celebrating success is one of the best ways to give students extra drive to perform well in class.

5) Have a Games Corner
Games are a great addition to any class, as they enable students to play amongst themselves and foster a closer relationship with one another while they learn. Also, games can help to reduce stress especially when examinations are looming.

Board games are amazing tools to teach students strategy, cooperation skills, and leadership.

You can also incorporate them as teaching aids to develop a more interesting way to teach your lessons, apart from the typical textbook and blackboard way of teaching. This will help the students absorb information better and remember their lessons longer.

Hope these few tips help make your classroom experience a wonderful one for both teacher and student!

Make your students' future college life a wholesome journey! they'll constantly learn new skills, be sparked by bright ideas and be geared to take actions that will lead them to become an all-rounded individual.

Activities teachers can organise-

The activities of the teacher include managing classroom behavior through the use of positive reinforcement techniques and assigning consequences for noncompliance, such as forfeited participation points.

Teachers must develop and enforce rules of student conduct to maintain proper order and decorum. Teaching Organization for All Kinds of Learners.

- Make assignment details memorable.
- Set up a start page.
- Help students feel in charge.
- Space out assignment dates.
- Use motivation techniques.
- Introduce long-term projects with care.
- Keep parents informed.
- Discuss organization in class.
- Staying cool during exams

It's crucial that every student has a coping mechanism and learn ways on how to manage stress well during the examination period.

Teaching can be a stressful, lonely, and intimidating job.
Transparency in education is important for a variety of reasons. Transparency education is required as it helps the parent's universities and related organizations to see what is happening in the classroom. Information on student learning can be presented in language that is understandable by the audience. It should be updated regularly.

A fully transparent celebrity should contain

- Student learning outcomes
- Assessment plans and procedure
- Evidence of student learning

Today the internet, in particular, has become a powerful tool for sharing what was once seen as restricted. This has altered the teaching profession in numerous ways. It is also enabling teachers to open up their classrooms and bring more transparency to their practice.

The teacher can also give parents access to information that helps. They better understand the day-to-day operations of the classroom. Via learning-management systems, class websites, and online grade books, parents can become better informed about course content and routines, as well as their child's progress.

By creating an open dialogue with parents and administrators, teachers can accept parent suggestions and change aspects of their program as needed. Thus transparency is one of the important aspects to create a conducive school environment.

Self Esteem

Self-esteem is a positive or negative orientation toward oneself; an overall evaluation of one's worth or value. People are motivated to have high self-esteem, and having it indicates positive self-regard, not egotism. Self-esteem is a psychological concept. It is the positive or negative evaluation of the self, as in how we feel about it. Self-esteem is an important part of success. Enhances their confidence and other abilities thereby play a contributing role in facilitating a conducive school environment. People with high self-esteem are realistic about their strengths and weaknesses and can set goals and work towards them with optimism and humour. They also feel competent in the area. They consider important and do not take other people's negative impressions of them too seriously.

2. Conclusion

The new education policy must provide to all students, irrespective of their place of residence, a quality education system, with particular focus on historically marginalized, disadvantaged, and underrepresented groups. Education is a great leveller and is the best tool for achieving economic and social mobility, inclusion, and equality. Initiatives must be in place to ensure that all students from such groups, despite inherent obstacles, are provided various targeted opportunities to enter and excel in the educational system. These elements must be incorporated taking into account the local and global needs of the country, and with a respect for and deference to its rich diversity and culture. Instilling knowledge of India and its varied social, cultural, and technological needs, its inimitable artistic, language, and knowledge traditions, and its strong ethics in India's young people is considered critical for purposes of national pride, self-confidence, self-knowledge, cooperation, and integration. Instead of blaming teachers for poor learning outcomes in Indian classrooms, the **NEP 2020** holds these dismal conditions of teacher education, recruitment, deployment, and service conditions responsible for the lack of teacher quality and motivation. ***Recognising the 'power of teacher'*** NEP 2020 has put in place systemic reforms that would help 'teaching' emerge as an attractive profession of choice for bright and talented young minds. It proposes several reforms to empower teachers and ***'restore the high respect and status'*** to this profession hoping that it would eventually attract the best minds and talent to choose teaching as their profession and impr https://www.wikihow.com/Play-Four-Cornersove the environment of the classrooms.

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