



TOOLS4 TEACHING

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WWW.TOOLS4TEACHING.EU

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tools4teaching



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Our TOOLS4TEACHING Project

Our Erasmus+ project has been based since its inception on the needs analysis on regional and national level of the partner countries i.e., Netherlands, Sweden, Spain, and Malta. A lot of teachers experienced difficulties with the change from offline to online education during the COVID period. Therefore, in putting the project together, partners have all conducted needs analysis, using

their own experiences and interviewing/asking other VET institutes to their experiences/needs prior to the application. During the project implementation we have revisited our teachers to ask for their experiences in relation to the proposed toolkit - its impact on online teaching and how the proposed toolkit relates to how they prefer to learn new things - providing a manual with video links to the more popular and accessible online tools. We wanted to put forward Tools4Teaching as a space for teachers with focus on those working in VET, who want to learn more about innovative tools and methods for online teaching.

Our Toolkit alpha and beta tests are now concluded. For the TOOLS4TEACHING Toolkit, we have selected several innovative digital tools which can be used by

educators and students. We have implemented these in the TOOLS4TEACHING Toolkit that has already been run through in 2022. Following the encouraging Alpha and Beta results, partners have elaborated and finalized the toolkit. The toolkit is currently being reviewed from a translation perspective ensuring clarity for users accessing this in English, Dutch, Spanish and Swedish. It contains information about the digital tools that one can use to prepare lessons, organize tasks, or involve students in the learning process. These tools have been classified according to the needs to be solved, such as digital communication solutions or facilitating group interaction.



We look forward to updating TOOLS4TEACHING Toolkit in all 4 languages on our website by end December/early January.

We are currently also working on concluding our innovative eBook, available in pdf-format, in an interactive way to include links to videos, experiences and extra reading material. Stay tuned and follow our [Facebook](#) page. If you have tried any of these tools and want to share your experience with us to inspire other colleagues, get in touch. Contact our [partners](#)



Tools4Teaching Toolkit

www.tools4teaching.eu



Ways to get Student Engagement in Online Learning

(Article Compiled by TOOLS4TEACHING)

There are many distractions to overcome in a virtual learning setting, such as family or friends talking in the background, people watching television, or it might simply be that you get bored looking at the screen.

Be Present and Engage with Students

In online lessons, it can be easy for students to switch off, which is why teachers are always looking for ways to maintain their focus. By having cameras and microphones on for both you and your students, you can encourage students to keep them focused on you and the lesson. This, of course, is not always easy. Many students don't like being on camera or might not have the right technology to make that happen but visualizing a teacher's presence can be enough to encourage some students' concentration.

In online lessons, you can still make use of many of the student engagement techniques you would use when teaching in person, thanks to technology.

With a camera on you, your body language can communicate many of the same things as you'd be able to in a classroom. The main downside is that you might

not be able to see your students and *their* body language. Where you would be able to quickly scan a classroom to see who needs to be re-engaged, that's not so easy online – luckily, there are a few options!

Classroom Quizzes

In any lesson, it is important to ask students questions to make sure they understand the lesson and to keep them focused. This is also possible online, and technology can allow you to engage more students with very little effort. Teachers can conduct live quizzes to encourage participation and test students' knowledge or even set up self-paced quizzes for homework. Competition in lessons is proven to help students with both information

retention and participation. Keep students engaged by using interactive quizzes. For some online lessons on more complex topics, you might find that you're having to start and stop a lot to answer any questions, and this can be disruptive to the students that don't need that extra help. Usually, in a classroom, you would be able to offer more targeted help, but in online lessons that isn't always possible. There are tons of options, like Kahoot that will allow students to participate from wherever they are.

Online Group Working

Mixing up how students learn is important for appealing to different learning styles, but online learning has meant that students cannot collaborate and socialize in the ways that they traditionally would. There are several ways that group working, and collaboration are still possible in online lessons.

Collaborative Tasks for Students

In an online classroom, it can be hard to tell how well your students are maintaining focus. Amongst the many faces and muted microphones, it can be difficult to single out which individuals are lacking the confidence to participate, as you would normally be able to in person. In these cases, there are tools you can use to encourage collaboration and give those students a confidence boost.

For example, word clouds and brainstorming tools can help less confident pupils to contribute easily. There are also some anonymity options so that students will feel confident to try to answer, even if they are not completely sure.

Checkout our [TOOLS4TEACHING Toolkit](#) to learn more.

FIND OUT MORE

Are you interested in participating in our further testing and have a sneak peek want our **TOOLS4TEACHING Toolkit**? Contact our [partners](#) Check out our [Facebook](#) page.

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TOOLS4TEACHING partners send our warmest wishes and wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

