



About the Benefits of Adopting E-Learning in the Current Romanian Educational System

**Bogdan-Vasile Cioruța^{1*}, Monica Lauran², Mirela Coman^{3,4},
Alexandru Leonard Pop¹ and Alexandru Lauran²**

¹*Technical University of Cluj-Napoca - North University Centre of Baia Mare, 62A Victor Babeș Street, 430083, Baia Mare, Romania.*

²*Faculty of Science, Technical University of Cluj-Napoca - North University Center of Baia Mare, 76A Victoriei Street, 430122, Baia Mare, Romania.*

³*Faculty of Engineering, Technical University of Cluj-Napoca - North University Centre of Baia Mare, 62A Victor Babeș Street, 430083, Baia Mare, Romania.*

⁴*Faculty of Agriculture, University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine in Cluj-Napoca, 3-5 Calea Mănăstur, 400372, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.*

Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. Authors BVC and AL designed the study, performed the literature searches and wrote the first draft of the manuscript. Authors ML, MC and ALP managed the analyses of the entire study. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Article Information

DOI: 10.9734/AJESS/2021/v15i330379

Editor(s):

(1) Dr. E. Seda Koc, Namık Kemal University, Turkey.

Reviewers:

(1) Amarilio Ferreira, Federal University of São Carlos (UFSCar), Brazil.

(2) Antonio Luque De La Rosa, Universidad de Almería, Spain.

Complete Peer review History: <http://www.sdiarticle4.com/review-history/65544>

Original Research Article

Received 10 December 2020

Accepted 13 February 2021

Published 05 March 2021

ABSTRACT

Starting from the current context, of the transition of educational activities in the online environment, we will try to outline some aspects that e-learning covers. Through this study, we aim to synthesize the general perception of those involved in the Romanian education system, where it was possible to obtain relevant information. Based on the online discussions with the students, as well as based on the meetings we had with colleagues, we decided to present the perception of the interviewees regarding online education. Equally, following the answers received, we aimed to expose the favorable (pros) and less favorable (cons) aspects of the transition to e-learning in the Romanian education system. Their exemplification was made taking into account the options of the

*Corresponding author: Email: bogdan.cioruta@staff.utcluj.ro;

main actors involved in education; for each of them (teachers or formators, students, parents) the possible benefits or disadvantages were highlighted in relation to the education carried out exclusively online.

Keywords: Benefits of virtual classroom; educational perspectives; Romanian education.

1. INTRODUCTION

The process of learning and vocational training defines people at any age. In particular, human existence itself is conditioned by vocational learning and training [1]. To survive as a community, we need to learn, to know the environment we belong to, to know those close to us. In the deepest form, we have to know ourselves and, within the possibilities we have to surpass ourselves [2].

The newest trend in education, implicitly in our professional and scientific training, but also personal growth, is known and appreciated as the most effective and desirable so far, in the form of e-learning [3]. Known as “e-learning” or “online education”, the current education system is represented by the interaction between the teaching-learning-assessment process and information technologies; the latter making impressive progress in recent years [4]. As such, e-learning is, at least at the moment, more than a concept, it is part of Romanian current education system. The problems highlighted and approached in the paper have been considered after having discussions with the three factors involved in the online educational system, teachers, students, and parents. We proceeded to approach a general overview of the problems that online learning poses to the three categories mentioned before. We decided to extrapolate and emphasise the points brought to us through our experience with the system and the inquiries answered by our students and by parents.

E-learning means, in a less established definition, the human chance to get information easily and quickly, in any field, not being conditioned by physical support (such as paper books) or a mediator (such as considered, most of the time, the teacher). This concept makes it possible to make the educational process more flexible by offering the widest range of e-books, consultancy, and other resources with specific content [1]. Professional learning and development in the traditional model, for some of us, are already becoming history. Things are moving very fast, with a special dynamic, and the

actors involved in education - teachers and pupils/students - must make a common front and become a team to create and access this new learning environment, by using modern technologies.

Today, at the beginning of 2021, the best and most convenient channel for disseminating educational content is still online, with the help of the Internet. The online environment supports the professional skills of the 21st century, as well as communication, collaboration, and creativity, essential elements of any educational process that is respected [5]. All over the world, as is well known, universities, colleges, and schools need to prepare their teachers for change. This is how, as the culture of our society changes, in response to technological innovations, educational institutions and teachers alike must adapt. They need to adapt their attire, behavior, and teaching skills, adapt to the new, and integrate novelty into their daily work. In this regard, online learning opportunities, as well as the use of free educational resources, can significantly reduce the costs associated with training materials. Equally, the use of technology allows the efficiency of the time available to the teacher.

The degree to which online learning occurs and how it is integrated into the curriculum may vary depending on the schools, as well as the availability of the teacher in this regard. The strategy of combining online learning with face-to-face school instruction is useful to adapt the different learning styles of learners (pupils and students) and to allow them to study at their own pace. An important word in this sense is computer-assisted training, as a variable of the modern educational process in the information society and that of knowledge [6]. As such, the resources available online allow the revolutionization of the education system in several respects. This fact occurs not only because the respective resources are convenient and accessible, but also because they allow the whole teaching-learning-assessment process to become more interesting and adapted to the digital learner.

Thus, it is achieved through the prism of the different teaching and learning styles adopted [7], what we can consider, a personalization of learning. More than ever, students and teachers benefit from free online resources and paid online resources. Everyone prefers different resources depending on the topics of interest and the learning style. However, they all want access to good quality tools.

In this technological world, we live in, teachers need to keep up with new technologies. This will allow them to better understand their students who are actively browsing the web. Tutors will be able to adapt their teaching methods to the needs of their students, by alternating the on-site teaching-learning-assessment approach with the one carried out online [8,9], and will also improve their own digital skills [10]. Through this study, we reveal the benefits and disadvantages of e-learning for all those closely involved in the education system, with emphasis on the one in Romania, which is more convenient for us. The study will also focus on how e-learning allows mentors to improve and develop their teaching styles. The article will highlight how online platforms (by virtual classroom training) can have a positive impact, or where appropriate, a negative one, on the professional development of teachers, as well as on students and parents, respectively. Both parents, but especially their children (pupils and students), can develop through online education, where the emphasis is on solving homework, which proves to be much more than in the case of on-site education.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

At the base of this study is, as already mentioned, a series of close debates with colleagues, in turn, consistent trainers, mentors in the training process assisted by digital devices. At the same time, the study was possible due to the investigations during the debates with the students, but they were asked about the current online education system developed in Romania. A survey was conducted in this regard, in its infancy, to see what their perception of e-learning is in reality. The questionnaire itself, although not yet centralized, was based on only three questions/requirements, so, at a conceptual level, the whole discussion focused on the following issues, namely:

- A three-word description of the current online education system;

- Explaining the answer to the question “Do you like/dislike the current way of learning-teaching-assessment?”;
- Explaining the answer to the hypothetical situation in which “If you could change something in the current form of the educational process, what would you change?”.

The working scenario occurred exclusively in the online environment, involving both students and students with parental status. From both perspectives, a series of conclusions were drawn, more or less on the advantages of e-learning as a way of approaching education. As a natural result of the debates in question, the most frequently encountered ideas were put on paper, based on which the entire present article was sketched.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Following the analysis of the discussions with the students (mostly students), as well as the debates with some of our colleagues, we came to put on the paper several aspects not to be neglected. In essence, they are limited to how the educational activity carried out online is perceived. We speak both of perceptions among students (in their capacity as auditors, respectively, partners of the educational process itself), and among teachers and parents (as intermediaries of learning through specially designed online platforms), as shown in Fig. 1.

On the one hand and the other, there are both benefits and reluctances to fully adopt such a teaching-learning-assessment style. Some of them, about the role of each educational actor, are set out below.

3.1 Benefits of E-Learning For Teachers That Improve Their Tutoring Style

Each teacher has, of course, his teaching style, but usually tries to adapt his approach to the learning needs and interests of his students. What are the benefits of e-learning for teachers that impact their style? Well, regardless of the teaching style approached by the teacher, the beneficial aspects are presented in Fig. 2. According to them, it is also important for him/her to develop a positive attitude towards the students, to set SMART-type goals, well defined in the discipline sheet, and, where possible, to set high expectations for students, which should create competitiveness.

Effective teaching-learning methods engage both gifted students and students who are slower to perceive learning and those with attention deficit disorders. Here differentiated instruction and a balanced mix of teaching styles can help reach and involve all students in a given class, not just the few who respond well to a particular teaching style. In this context, e-learning is a channel and a tool through which teachers can improve their teaching styles. Here are some of the key benefits of e-learning for teachers related to this topic [10]:

- Accessibility - Online platforms that are available 24/7 allow teachers to develop and create their own materials according to their schedule and whenever they want. It is also important to remember that all teaching materials stored online can be reviewed as often as needed. This is a very encouraging aspect for most people involved in online education.
- Better communication with parent - E-learning offers greater transparency to parents in how their children (pupils and students) prepare for school. In general, e-learning contributes to better communication between teachers and parents, the latter having only to gain by the simple fact that they are better anchored in the educational reality of their children.
- Connection - E-learning platforms allow teachers to stay connected with their students even outside of school hours, to exchange resources, videos, ideas, methodologies, and pedagogical practices. This is another aspect with special implications in pedagogical training and not only for the youngest.
- Efficiency - The benefits of e-learning for teachers include the ability to receive constant feedback from their students; they can thus see if the students understand the material, if it is interesting for them, if they like it or not. Equally, online platforms also offer a wide variety of assessment tools, which are also suitable for mobile devices. Thus, questionnaires, for example, are the most commonly used tools for evaluation, Kahoot-type applications being of real use.
- Flexibility - Among the benefits of e-learning for teachers is the wide variety of different resources, such as text, audio-video resources, and presentations, which they can use to adapt their guidance methods to their styles. learning of their

students. All these resources are available in real-time, mainly in the space allocated to the storage of resources at the level of educational platforms.

- Greener and more cost-effective - One of the most important benefits of e-learning for teachers is low costs when it comes to renting classrooms, travel taxes, and printing costs. Paper consumption is also significantly reduced because all information is in electronic format. In this sense, the emphasis is on the efficient use of resources, mostly exhaustible. The reduced consumption of paper has special implications on the environment, thus limiting wood processing activities.
- Innovation - The use of new technologies gives teachers the freedom to experiment and put into practice their teaching strategy, as well as the ability to make changes if something does not work at the level of the platforms used.
- Passion-based learning - Online platforms allow teachers to support their students outside the classroom, where, normally, in face-to-face education assistance, they do not spend much time together and give them additional instruction on other topics of interest. Furthermore, through the respective platforms, teachers have the opportunity to lead, direct, and monitor students on their way to success, both during school and after.
- Saves time - Time is one of the most valuable goods for educators. By eliminating the need to commute to school during the evenings and weekends, educators can spend more time learning concepts. They may also have more time to invest in developing their teaching style.

3.2 Benefits of E-Learning For Teachers That Encourage Self-Development

Nowadays, we all know that teachers are very busy, preparing their educational resources, and preparing for each educational activity. Therefore, for some educators, learning, professional development, and reflection simply slip on the list of priority activities. The problem, most of the time is not the lack of motivation, but the challenge to find the time to benefit from the respite to achieve everything they set out to do.

E-learning comes, in this context, to show teachers that they can have the time resource. Educational platforms can thus help them save

time and focus on their development. Here are some of the areas where e-Learning platforms, including virtual classrooms, are helping educators improve, as shown in Fig. 3, the following aspects [10]:

- Building community - Online platforms allow educators to stay connected with colleagues around the world, as well as share ideas and get inspiration. Resources in online format are much faster disseminated compared to those in print format.
- Creativity - Every day, teachers are challenged to become more versatile and creative to attract students' attention. Using a variety of online resources for online training challenges and developing educators' creative thinking processes. I make them look for new resources or even new approaches to work. Most often, the scenarios they think of, inspired by the online environment, are well received by students, who also provide tailor-made feedback.
- Feedback - And because we just mentioned feedback, we think we should debate this aspect a bit. Another important benefit of e-learning for teachers is the possibility to receive feedback about their teaching style from students (pupils and students), and implicitly from colleagues. In this way, teachers get a better perspective on their work, see what they like or dislike, and learn where and how they can improve their teaching style or even the educational content created.
- Lifelong learning - E-learning platforms are one of the channels that educators can use to deepen their knowledge and enhance their skills. Online education successfully folds over lifelong learning strategies, monitoring the educational process being as well defined as possible.
- Observation - Observing other educators or other online courses can also be very beneficial. Teachers can thus compare different teaching styles, teaching practices and strategies, etc. They can become, much faster, more aware of what kind of teachers they are. They can fully see their flaws as mentors, or they can even notice the gaps in the educational materials created.
- Self-reflection - Modern platforms bring more benefits of e-learning to teachers, such as the ability to make audio and video recordings of their lessons, the ability to later use the recordings (to view, analyze and reflect on the same recordings), to take notes on their improvement, etc.

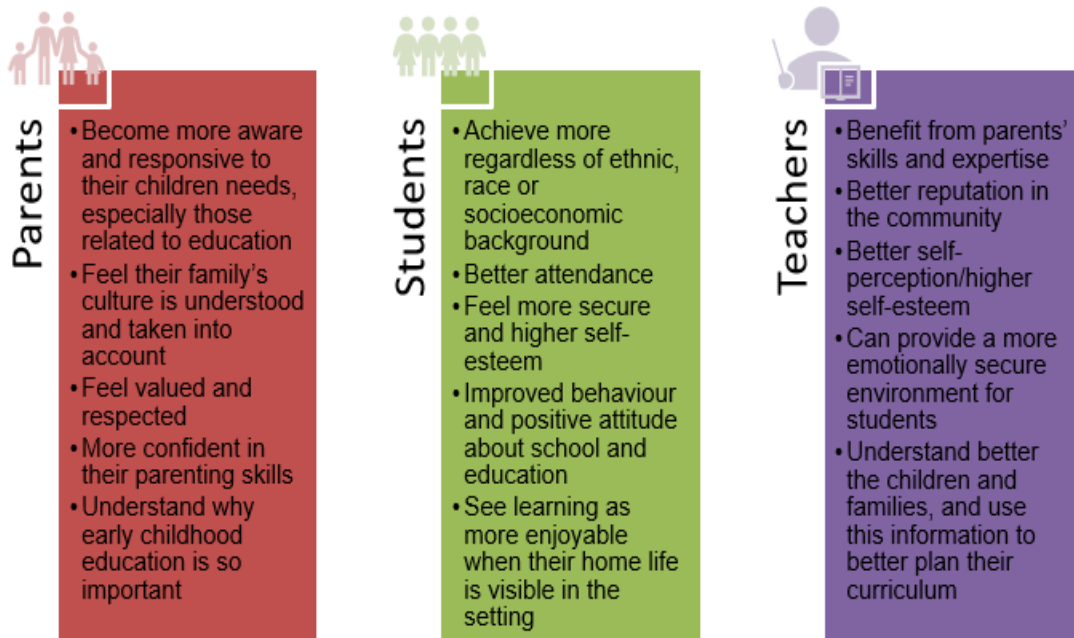


Fig. 1. Beneficial aspects of online education among the main actors involved

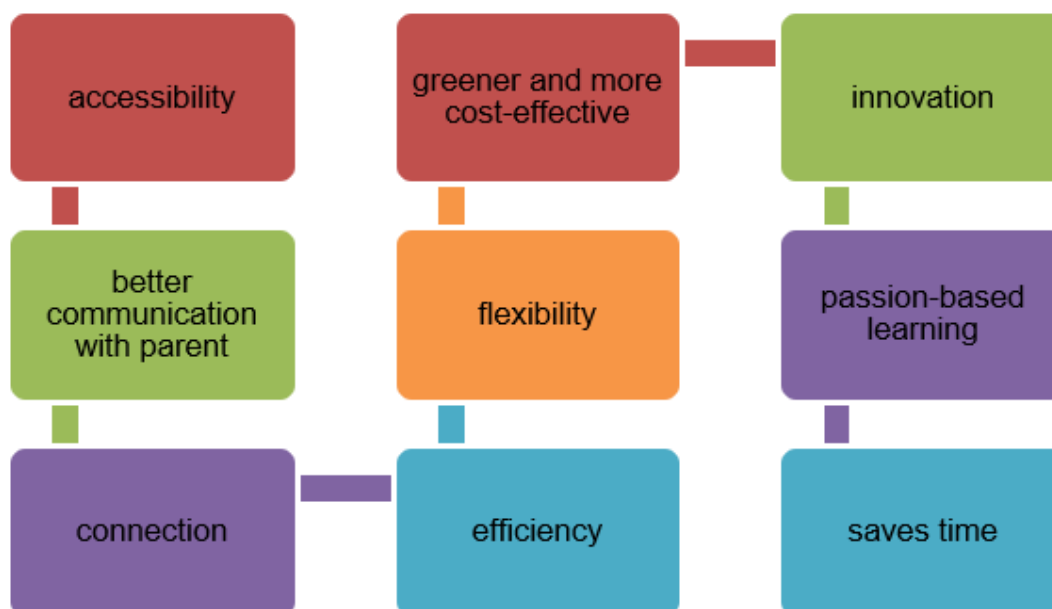


Fig. 2. Beneficial aspects of online education for teacher tutoring style



Fig. 3. Beneficial aspects of online education for teacher self-development

3.3 Benefits of Virtual Classroom Training for Students

During the lifelong learning process, the virtual classroom, as the main workplace of e-learning, plays a considerable role in providing a wonderful opportunity for students who strive for knowledge and development [11]. In the following, we will focus on the benefits of virtual classroom instruction for students. Virtual classroom training is the 21st century method of education, even before the pandemic. In this

global world, online education gives us the freedom to choose and adapt our learning styles to suit our lifestyle.

In the last half-century, constant scientific and technological innovation has had profound effects on the way learning is understood. Learning is no longer limited by a place and time to acquire knowledge (in school) and by a place and time to apply this acquired knowledge (work). Instead, learning is considered something that occurs continuously, from and through our

daily interactions with others and the world around us. The interaction itself is flexible and can take various forms, such as formal education, informal training, or self-directed learning. All of these can develop individually from one or more clean perspectives.

Lifelong learning is naturally the pursuit of "continuous, voluntary, and self-motivated" knowledge for personal or professional reasons. Therefore, it not only improves social inclusion, active citizenship (including digital citizenship), and personal development, but also self-sustainability, competitiveness, and employability. Precisely in this process of lifelong learning, we get acquainted with the benefits of students, on which we focused synthetically in Fig. 4.

Taken and discussed in detail, each of the aspects mentioned in Fig. 4. offers another vision of e-learning integrated into students' development, focused on their needs. We have, for example, the following beneficial aspects [11]:

- Better access to expertise - The training carried out at the virtual classroom level; offers students access to people of all types and levels of experience. Participating in online courses with a person they admire, for example, will inspire and encourage them in their future projects. In fact, the more they have a wider range of inspiration, the easier it is to outline in their imagination the ideas presented, as well as the information from various courses, seminars, etc.
- Bonus points in the CV - Certificates from various virtual training courses bring bonus points at the image level. For a potential employer, they show that the student in question has shown a certain interest in a particular subject, or has had certain notable concerns in a certain field. All these certifications, more or less officially recognized, can impress the employer, and can even ensure access to the desired job. And this, starting only from a time spent online on a certain training platform, a time that shows and emphasizes the student's search for self-development and improvement.
- Community building - Being part of a virtual classroom allows students to join a community of people who share, in one way or another, the same interests. The virtual classroom is most often perceived as a space where new contacts can be created and where one can interact very easily with colleagues, but not only with them. The online environment itself teaches students to work together on projects, encourages them to be part of a team and to cooperate with the people they meet for the first time. The online community is more than beneficial for those who do not feel comfortable cooperating in person through the classic option (face-to-face cooperation).
- Cost-effectiveness - Virtual classroom training is affordable and saves time and money. All learning materials are available online and there are no costs for children or textbooks. As a virtual student, you do not have to pay travel and accommodation costs to attend a particular lecture at your favorite university. Through the virtual environment, students have access to a considerable amount of online study resources, which can be manipulated much more easily compared to the same resources but in the classic form (printed, for example).
- Creativity - In the virtual classroom, students have many more different tasks and opportunities to choose from in the learning process, so we can agree that virtual learning develops their creativity. It also allows them to run freely, without constraints, without the teacher blowing them in the back of the head, for example.
- Freedom - Virtual classroom instruction allows students to choose when, where, and how they will take the desired course or material. Virtual classes can be taken at home, at work, or during the holidays, without requiring additional space in luggage. Also, there is the possibility that a certain resource can be chosen whenever the student wants. The student is the one who can choose whether to attend either a virtual class or a material that offers a certificate after completing the activity. Moreover, an online course can be taken only with pleasure, to open the mind, to outline an idea, or to learn something new in a field of interest.
- Innovation - The use of new technologies in the virtual training course allows students to be innovative and learn new software solutions, for example. Studying in an online environment allows students from all over the world to work together in one place - the virtual classroom. This

prepares them for real professional life, for solving harmoniously the various daily problems. Today, many international companies connect their employees from different locations through their cloud operating systems, an aspect that has begun to take shape in the educational process.

- Pure joy and fun - Taking a virtual class session is easy and fun. Students practically meet and connect with their colleagues. The teaching methods in the virtual classroom are very diverse: videos, projects, tests, papers, presentations, etc.
- Soft-skills development - Achieving the proposed objectives or requirements, sometimes even imposed by the teacher, is essential, but how they are achieved is just as important, if not more critical. At work, for example, as in the university environment, the employee (student equivalent) must have not only technical and theoretical knowledge for a particular job/field of activity but also to be a professional who has patience, empathy, and openness to collaboration. All of these skills can be developed, and are very easily developed, through e-learning.

3.4 Benefits of Virtual Classroom Training for Parents

As a parent, everyone wants and always thinks only for the good of their child. Virtual classroom instruction is another opportunity for parents to compensate for the weaknesses of the traditional school system, providing a better way to develop and improve a child's knowledge. In particular, online training is suitable for subjects of high interest to the child, as shown in phase I of Fig. 5. In the dynamic daily agenda of each parent (who sees only work and work again), virtual training can bring many benefits, which, although they seem insignificant at first, accumulate along the way.

Online training allows parents [12]:

- To adapt the child's education to better meet their interests - Virtual classroom instruction is a good opportunity for parents to help their child progress in areas where he or she has a particular interest or talent. Whatever the topic, online teaching allows the child to receive personalized knowledge that takes into

account their learning style and preferences.

- To be flexible - Online teaching gives parents the freedom and flexibility to manage their child's education according to their work schedule and availability. Using this distance learning opportunity, parents can train themselves to participate in their child's school life in a way that suits them, and that does not upset or disrupt their daily routine.
- To improve digital skills - Most of us, whether or not we are parents, agree that current generations are much more involved in technology than previous ones. One way to be closer to their children is for parents to try to communicate with them through their favorite types of communication channels. Virtual classes can help parents improve their computer and web skills, and even experience how their child prefers to learn.
- To be better connected with other parents - Virtual classes can be used to hold online meetings with other parents, to discuss specific and common issues, and to find appropriate solutions. Live communication with other parents helps build a closer connection with children, giving a sense of belonging to a community as well.
- To shield the child from an environment in which they don't feel safe - We all know that sometimes children don't feel safe in their traditional school environments. For example, if a child is more introverted, is feeling threatened in some way by the school environment or negative peer groups, or just prefers to be tested in a nontraditional way, virtual classrooms offer a lot of opportunities to support the child. They allow them to communicate remotely with their peers and teachers during times when they may need to regain their self-confidence.
- To improve the child's concentration and grades - For example, a child might be absent-minded or experience difficulties concentrating in the traditional classroom, where noise and different activities interfere with their ability to pay attention to the lesson and to listen to the teacher. The virtual environment is a great solution for a child to feel safe again and to focus on the instructor's lecture and tasks.
- To better monitor the educational process and to support the child's progress - Virtual classroom training provides access to

different online resources, presentations, and video and audio records. Thus, they are also available for the parent who can, in this context, support a much more efficient child during the learning process. Moreover, using virtual classrooms the parents will have the opportunity to watch recordings from their child's classes. This allows them to discuss the learning material and find answers and solutions together with their children.

- To get detailed feedback on the child's achievements - One of the key strengths of online teaching platforms is that they can provide parents detailed feedback about the learning progress of their child. Virtual classroom training combines a multitude of very precise assessment methods, along with real-time communication with the teacher. Therefore, they will provide parents accurate information about where their child is successful and in which subjects.

3.5 Benefits of Virtual Classroom Training for Homeschooling Parents

All over the world, parents choose homeschooling for various reasons. This is either a well-informed and responsible decision in the countries that allow it, in addition to what the traditional system provides, or an inevitable choice when parents face the special needs of their children [13]. Whatever the reason, the virtual classroom (the e-learning scene) offers a lot of benefits to parents who have decided to do education at home.

Among the top features, some of them exposed in Fig. 6, that the virtual classroom offers to homeschooling parents, who have chosen to take care of children's education at home, is a safe environment, a controlled educational process, the comfort of their own home, a global exposure that guarantees the best online teachers, people with the same idea in the online group, premium classroom tools that offer premium knowledge and the benefits of online learning for homeschooled students.

Within the dynamic daily agenda that parents have, there is often no place and time for anything, let alone for the child's education. Virtual classroom instruction allows the parent who has chosen to prepare their child at home to focus on other aspects, namely:

- A monitored and engaging learning experience - Computers and the internet have become valuable tools for parents doing homework with instructors. Online learning offers a fascinating way to study in the safety of your own home and with the help and guidance of experienced online tutors. Therefore, parents closely involved in education can track their children's progress, and assist in their development.
- A variety of online tutors - The virtual classroom can offer many online sessions and online tutors. Depending on the goals of the child and the parents, the best guardians can be chosen by agreement, because there are no geographical (space) or time restrictions. In the virtual classroom are only the children and their desire to learn, under the close observation of the educating parents.
- A multicultural environment - What we have omitted to specify so far, is that virtual classrooms offer global coverage. Both tutors and students can connect to different online sessions around the world, which also means that a class can consist of a wide range of individuals, in turn of different nationalities. Therefore, online sessions offer students, first of all, the chance to learn to be more tolerant of different types of people, in addition to expanding their knowledge and enriching their vocabulary.
- Social skills development - Whether they are educated at home for a lifetime or for a short period, students must learn to socialize. The virtual classroom plays a crucial role in this process. Besides, it makes it possible to balance cultural diversity and motivation to join the online group.

3.6 Synthetic Note on the Advantages and Disadvantages of E-Learning

An e-Learning platform, in the definition accepted by us, is an integrated set of online interactive services that provide the main actors consuming education (teachers, students, parents, and others involved in education) with information, tools, and resources to support and enhance educational delivery and management [14]. The main features of e-learning platforms are login, content generation, view content, different environments with a teacher/tutor/mentor, performing activities such as tasks, workgroups,

the report of the activities undertaken by the student, and evaluation tools.

As is well known, e-Learning platforms, through which current educational activities are carried out, allow two modes of learning: synchronous - in which the instructor controls the whole lesson, creating, coordinating, adapting, and monitoring the educational environment, respectively asynchronous - which involves study in the personal rhythm of the students, collaboration projects and distance learning. Synthetically speaking, based on multimedia technologies, mostly e-Learning platforms have a number of advantages, among which we can list [14-16]:

- Accessibility, comfort, and flexibility, respectively, a much freer interaction with the teacher, almost without constraints;
- Allows access to the new skills required by modern life skills that transform students from simple technology users into digital citizens;
- Allows synchronous and asynchronous interaction between teacher and students.
- E-Learning, perceived as a whole, is less stressful than traditional one, although, in turn, it implies the observance of certain rules of behavior in the online environment;
- Encourages creativity and the discovery of new interpretations, which are often very well perceived by students;
- Low costs of distribution of materials allow online education to be much easier to organize by subject, not by age group;
- Much higher storage capacity compared to physical location or hard disks;
- Participant/student-centered learning, depending on their interests;
- Participants have the opportunity to collaborate and learn together in a team;
- The materials that constitute the support of the didactic/training activity can be customized and modified much more easily, even depending on the specifics and interests of the students;
- The possibility to measure, quantify, and analyze the effectiveness of the program by tracking the number of accesses to the platform and downloads of educational materials made by students;
- The student can learn at his own pace and benefit from permanent feedback;
- The teacher can address a much larger number of students than in traditional education, also the discussions are much better perceived by them;
- Unconditional access to digital resources at any time and from any location;

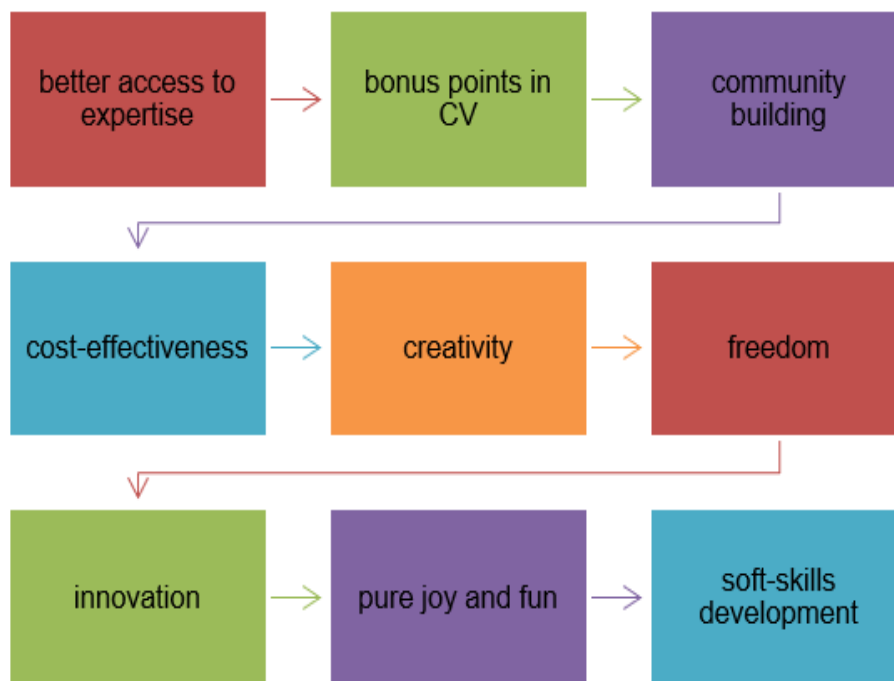


Fig. 4. Beneficial aspects of online education for students

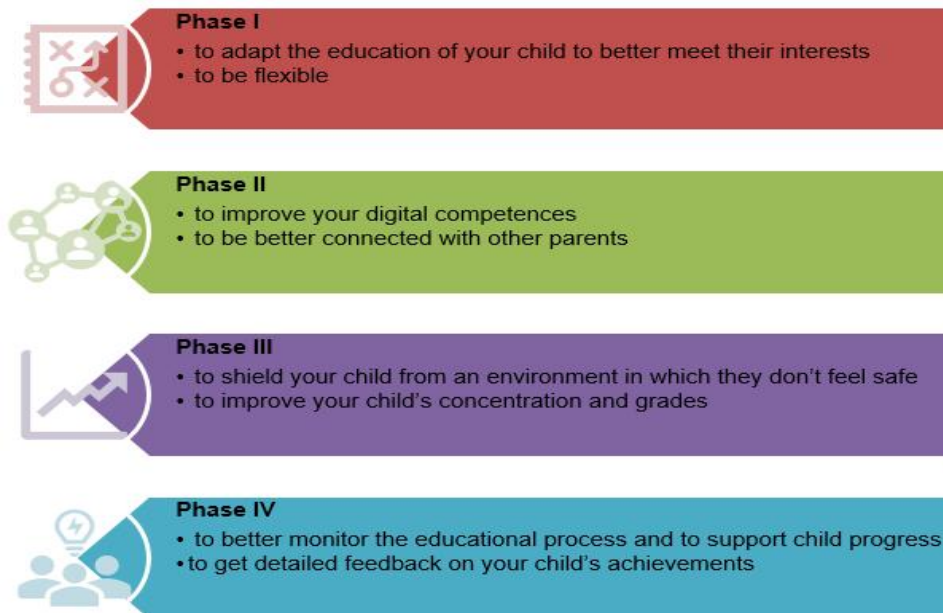


Fig. 5. Beneficial aspects of online education for parents

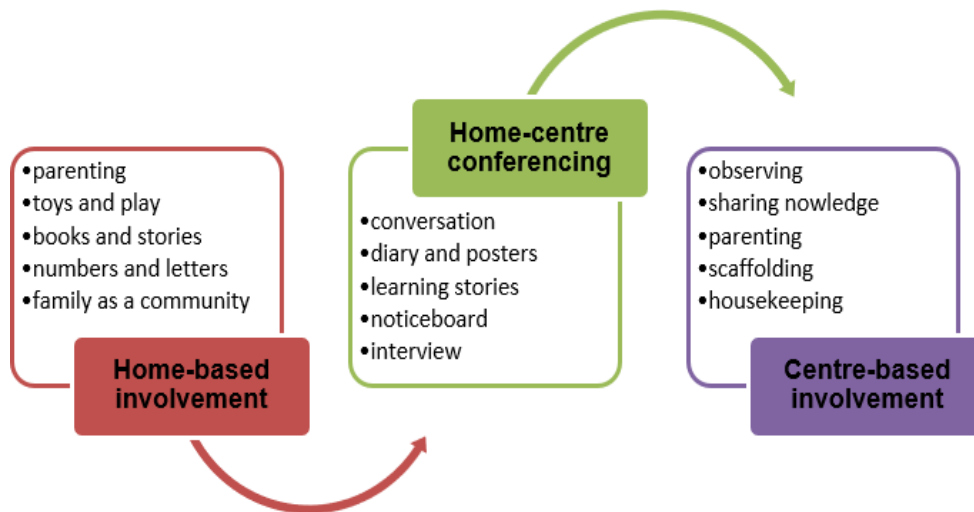


Fig. 6. Different features which appear in different educational environments

Among the disadvantages created by online training, for a summative look, without going into too many technical details, we can mention:

- Not every material can be delivered through e-Learning platforms;
- Preparing an online material (courses, seminar, laboratory, etc.) is more expensive than preparing a traditional course if you use sophisticated applications that are most often not available in open-source mode;
- Requires a certain skill and experience in the field of computers, especially in the case of students;
- Students must be extremely motivated to participate in online courses, boredom and abandonment can be installed at any time;
- The lack of high-performance technological resources and optimal network connections, low performance in terms of sound, images, and certain graphics, make the support of the material difficult to achieve;

- The possibility of the appearance, on a human level, of the reduction of the verbal expression capacity of the examinee, accompanied by a loss of presentation-argumentation-counter-argumentation capacity and the accentuation of the degree of dehumanization, paradoxically even in conditions when technique and technology provided new tools and techniques for interpersonal communication.
- There are some problems related to face-to-face contact, often essential for Socialization, which can be aggravated even leading to non-integration in the community, in case of returning to the traditional training scenario;

4. CONCLUSION

The key to pursuing excellence is to embrace an organic, long-term learning process, and not to live in a shell of static, safe mediocrity. Usually, growth comes at the expense of previous comfort or safety. Therefore, it is important to step out of the comfort zone and challenge yourselves. Virtual classroom training is one of the ways through which you will boost your development.

As technologies constantly change and develop, your role as a teacher or as a parent is to find balance, as well as to encourage your child to be curious and to gain new knowledge through different resources. Virtual classroom trainings are a great option for you as a parent to support your child during their education and for them to become, in time, a happy and responsible adult.

Observing the much greater number of advantages than disadvantages, we can say that the use of e-Learning platforms is an opportunity offered to those who want to obtain continuous training, even in non-pandemic conditions. This does not exclude classical education, in which real objects are used as a source of information but adds virtual resources. As such, according to the information presented, a combination of classical teaching-learning-assessment and e-Learning methods is indicated to obtain performances in terms of developing students' skills, for the professional development of teachers and the pedagogical development of parents.

We considered this subject essential in the current environment, especially now that our country isn't considering in person education a viable approach. Researching the benefits of the educational system in its online variation made us aware of how much positive impact this form of education can be in a greater context. We are also aware that with the online educational process challenges as well as benefits arise. Highlighting those benefits to the parties involved can be used as both a promoting force for online educations even beyond a pandemic.

CONSENT AND ETHICAL APPROVAL

As per international standard or university standard guideline participant consent and ethical approval has been collected and preserved by the authors.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

REFERENCES

1. Anonymous. Online learning - advantages and disadvantages, DidactForm, Spiru Haret National Society Association for Education, Science and Culture, 2018. Accessed on 10.09.2020. Available:www.didactform.snsh.ro/campanie-online/invatarea-online-avantaje-si-dezavantaje. Romanian.
2. Vinătoru M (coord.), Journal of the Technological High School of Car Transports, Craiova, 2020. Accessed on 10.09.2020. Available:www.autocv.ro/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/REVISTA-%C8%98COLII-2020.pdf. Romanian.
3. Botez S, The 6 most important trends related to vocational training in 2020, EPALE - Electronic platform for adult education in Europe, 08.04.2020. Accessed on 12.10.2020. Available:www.autocv.ro/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/REVISTA-%C8%98COLII-2020.pdf. Romanian.
4. Anonymous. Computer-assisted training in the European Education Agenda. The case of Slovakia and Moldova, International Conference in Chișinău, 25.04.2013, Institute of Public Policy, Chișinău. Accessed on 12.10.2020.

- Available: https://ipp.md/old/public/files/Publicatii/Materialele_Conferintei_Eng Rom.pdf. Romanian.
5. Richardson J, Milovidov E, Schmalzried M, Internet Education handbook - Supporting users in the online environment, Council of Europe. Accessed on 12.11.2020. Available: <https://rm.coe.int/internet-handbook-ro/16809f0b11>. Romanian.
 6. Cioruța B, Luran A, Computer Aided Training - a variable of the modern Romanian educational process in the Information and Knowledge Society, Asian Journal of Education and Social Studies (AJESS®), 2020;13(4):1-8. Available: <https://www.journalajess.com/index.php/AJESS/article/view/30336>
 7. Anonymous. Peculiarities of Adult Education. Learning styles, Faculty of Computer Science, Iași. Accessed: 05.11.2020. Available: http://consilr.info.uaic.ro/uploads_it4el/resources/htmlromParticularitati%20ale%20Educatiei%20Adultilor.html. Romanian.
 8. Căpiță C, Teaching styles - Learning styles, innovation and performance in the professional development of teachers in urban areas, Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports, Bucharest; 2011. Accessed on 06.11.2020. Available: http://menturaturban.pmu.ro/sites/default/files/ResurseEducatonale/Modul%202%20Stiluri%20de%20predare_0.pdf. Romanian.
 9. Cioruța B, Luran A, From hypotheses and working scenarios to arguments aimed at alternating traditional training with computer-assisted training, Asian Journal of Education and Social Studies (AJESS®), 2020;13(4),33-43. Available: <https://www.journalajess.com/index.php/AJESS/article/view/30340>
 10. Zdrava S, What are the benefits of e-learning for teachers. Vedamo, 31.05.2018. Accessed: 10.10.2020. Available: <https://www.vedamo.com/knowledge/benefits-of-e-learning-for-teachers>
 11. Zdrava S, Benefits of virtual classroom training for students. Vedamo, 31.08.2018. Accessed on 10.10.2020. Available: <https://www.vedamo.com/knowledge/benefits-virtual-classroom-training-students>
 12. Zdrava S, benefits of virtual classroom training for parents. Vedamo, 30.09.2018. Accessed: 10.10.2020. Available: <https://www.vedamo.com/knowledge/benefits-virtual-classroom-training-parents>
 13. Zdrava S, Homeschooling Trends - Benefits of the virtual classroom for parents. Vedamo, 21.09.2018. Accessed: 10.10.2020. Available: <https://www.vedamo.com/knowledge/homeschooling-trends-benefits-of-the-virtual-classroom-for-parents>
 14. Floroiu D, Advantages and disadvantages of using eLearning platforms for learning and assessment, EDICT - Education Magazine, Ion Ghica Theoretical High School, Răcari (Dâmbovița), Romania, 22.03.2019. Accessed on 01.11.2020. Available: <https://edict.ro/avantajele-si-dezavantajele-utilizarii-platformelor-elearning-pentru-activitatea-de-invatare-si-evaluare>. Romanian.
 15. Ghilic-Micu B, E-learning - advantages, implementation and forms of expression, Economic Informatics Magazine, Department of Economic Informatics, A.S.E. Bucharest. 2003;1(25):14-19. Accessed:03.11.2020. Available: <http://revistaie.ase.ro/content/25/ghilic-ie25.pdf>. Romanian.
 16. Anonymous. Advantages and disadvantages of e-Learning, Blogspot. 18.03.2015. Accessed: 10.10.2020. Available: psiacroscag.blogspot.com/2015/03/avantaje-si-dezavantaje-ale-e-learning.html. Romanian.

© 2021 Cioruța et al.; This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Peer-review history:
 The peer review history for this paper can be accessed here:
<http://www.sdiarticle4.com/review-history/65544>