

The future of language education in the light of Covid - Lessons learned and ways forward

Case study on experiences of foreign language teaching during the Covid pandemic by
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- A. *Please write briefly about a memorable language teaching experience, either particularly challenging or especially successful, as an example of your practice during the pandemic:*

Who were the learners?

Students from 1st grade to 3rd grade primary

What were the aims of the session/lesson?

Developing their own creativity, as well as expressing their feelings in English.

Please write a brief description – the ‘story’ - of what you did/what happened that made this an especially memorable experience:

This was the first activity that students did in lockdown. It consisted of creating a poster whose main picture was a rainbow. This rainbow was the symbol of the lockdown period. Afterwards, they recorded themselves showing their creations and expressing, in English, how these posters had been created and what special sensation they had felt about it. It was very emotional.

- B. *What lessons might there be in your experience for language teaching in general beyond the pandemic?*

- The technological gap is huge in some areas, and it should be overcome.
- CLIL methodology in subjects like Arts and Crafts is crucial in order to enable students to disconnect from their day-to-day routine.
- The emotional aspect must be developed in every single subject.
- Language teachers are at the top of their game because linguistic exchanges are crucial all over the world, not only for personal relationships between people from different countries, but also for their professional horizons.
- Language teaching enriches our relationships in this globalised world.

- C. *In your context, how have teachers and other colleagues supported each other’s professional practice during the pandemic?*

We formed small groups, one per educational level. It became an easy way to team up with your colleagues. In addition we had meetings by Teams week after week.

- D. *It is now several months since you responded to the survey. What additional thoughts, experiences or insights have you had about language education during the Covid pandemic?*

The possibility of learning a new language opens our borders, no matter where you are or the way you earn a living. This enables enriching exchanges between worldwide citizens.
