

Personalized Learning and Well-being

The goal

Personalized Learning means every student is supported to learn in a way that suits their needs. According to the OECD, it has the potential to overcome the socio-economic, time and space limitations of traditional learning.¹ By maximizing educational opportunity through much more motivated, engaging and relevant experiences for learners, Personalized Learning can ensure that every student matters.

Why now?

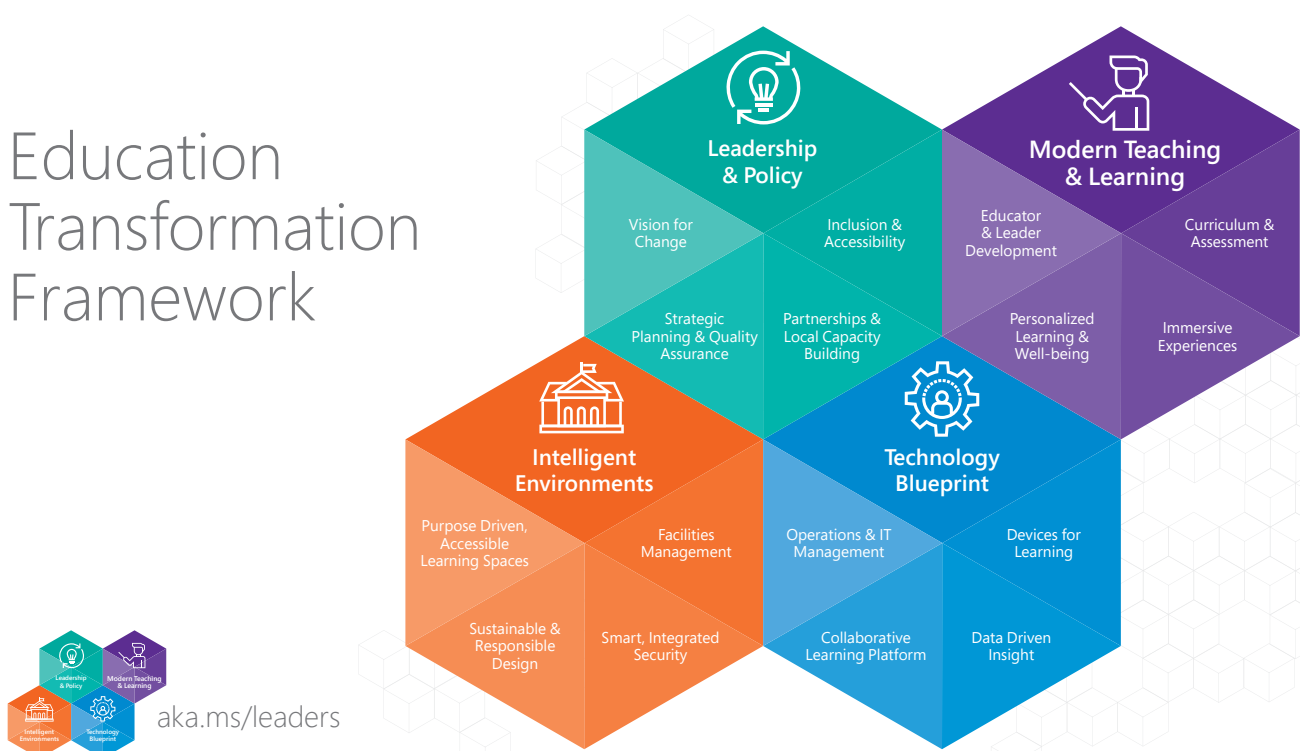
Despite its recent surge in discussion, Personalized Learning is neither a new concept nor a radical departure from established education practice. Great teachers have always tried to personalize learning if only superficially. They notice when students aren't responding, and try new approaches or interventions. They also pick up on students' emotional and social needs. Technology has the potential to allow teachers to notice and intervene with each child earlier, better share knowledge across the educator team and to respond with more diverse and engaging tools.

What goes into personalized learning?

UNESCO has laid out the twelve key elements of Personalized Learning that can help schools, teachers and students succeed.² These include:

- Applied learning inspires creativity, self-reliance, problem-solving, and decision-making in learners³
- Participation in the social life of the school is strongly related to self-efficacy, respect for diversity, self-confidence, collaborative skills, avoidance of risk behaviors, and resilience⁴
- Activities that are perceived to be useful in real life and are culturally relevant allow for more authentic learning and better transfer of knowledge⁵
- Learners need to be able to plan and monitor their learning, set their own learning goals and correct errors⁶
- Children learn best when their individual differences are taken into consideration⁷
- Allowing students to choose their own path, or have choice in their learning, motivates their learning.⁸

Education Transformation Framework



Guiding questions

How do learning environments and pedagogy adapt the pace of learning?

How do learner needs, interests, and choices influence the learning experience?

What tools and learning resources are available for students to use in self-directed and self-paced learning?

How is learner well-being, engagement and independence enhanced?

How are students and teachers enabled to become collaborative, creative and productive learners?

How can technology help Personalized Learning?

Schools across the globe are using technology in creative ways to help personalize learning and support student well-being.

- Technology can help teachers recognize when and how students are inspired, engaged and support teachers to keep students in a state of flow for longer
- Teachers can keep track of an individual student's engagement through class by viewing their work in a OneNote Class Notebook
- Students are engaging in project-based learning with Minecraft: Education Edition and develop their collaborative skills using Microsoft Teams.

Resources

Whitepaper: Personalized Learning for Global Citizens

This paper is joint-authored by a team from the Michigan Virtual Learning Institute at MVU: Senior Researcher Kathryn Kennedy, Executive Director Joe Friedhoff and Researcher Kristen DeBruler. It highlights research, leading examples and guiding principles on Personalized Learning.

The complete version is available at aka.ms/leaders

Additional Support Materials

- 21st Century Learning Design course
- School Transformation Toolkit

To learn more or request information in your region, visit aka.ms/leaders

References

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