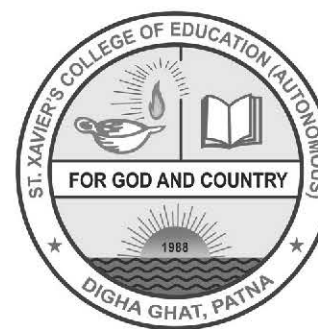


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## Study on Educational Implication of Social Media and Role of Teachers at Elementary Level

### Abstract

*The rapid integration of social media into daily life has extended into the educational sphere, significantly impacting both teaching and learning processes. This paper explores the educational implications of social media in school education, focusing on how it influences student learning, engagement, and collaboration. Additionally, it examines the role of teachers in guiding students through this digital landscape. The paper provides an overview of both the opportunities and challenges that social media presents in education, alongside a discussion on strategies for effective integration. It concludes with recommendations for educators to harness the potential of social media while mitigating its risks.*

*Social media has become an essential tool in modern education, offering numerous benefits for both students and teachers. It facilitates easy access to educational resources, enabling students to share information, ask questions, and collaborate on projects in real-time. Platforms like YouTube, Twitter, and Instagram provide visual and interactive content that can enhance learning, making complex topics more accessible and engaging.*



*However, it is important to balance the use of social media with traditional learning methods to ensure that students remain focused and avoid distractions. When used effectively, social media can be a powerful tool to enrich the learning experience and prepare students for the future.*

**Keywords:** Social media, teaching-learning, teachers, school students.

## Introduction

Social media has become a ubiquitous part of modern society, especially among young people. The educational implications of social media are profound, transforming the way students learn, collaborate, and communicate. While it brings numerous opportunities, it also presents certain challenges that need to be addressed for its effective use in education.

One of the major advantages is the accessibility to vast amounts of information. Platforms like YouTube, LinkedIn, and educational blogs offer students a wealth of learning materials, including tutorials, lectures, and interactive discussions. Social media breaks down the traditional barriers of time and location, allowing students to engage with experts, educators, and peers worldwide, thus broadening their perspectives and enhancing their global awareness.

Social media also fosters collaboration among students. Platforms like Google Classroom, Facebook groups, or Twitter allow students to work together on projects, share resources, and exchange ideas in a virtual environment. This promotes teamwork and helps develop communication skills, both of which are essential in today's interconnected world. Additionally, social media can encourage student engagement through gamified learning, live discussions, and Q&A sessions, making learning more interactive and student-centered.

However, there are some concerns about the overuse of social media. Distractions are a significant issue, as students may become more focused on socializing rather than on academic activities. Furthermore, there is the risk of cyberbullying, privacy violations, and exposure to inappropriate content, which could negatively impact students' well-being.

Teachers and educational institutions must carefully integrate social media into the curriculum to ensure its positive impact. By establishing clear guidelines, promoting responsible use, and offering digital literacy education, schools can harness the benefits of social media while mitigating its risks. Ultimately, when used responsibly, social media can serve as a valuable tool for enhancing learning experiences and preparing students for the digital age.

## Objectives

- To describe the different types of social media.
- To analyze the importance of popular social media.
- To understand the role of using social media at the elementary level.

Different platforms of social media like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube, and educational tools such as Google Classroom, social media has transformed communication, learning, and collaboration in schools. This digital shift brings both positive and negative implications for education. The role of teachers, therefore, becomes crucial in ensuring that social media is used as an effective educational tool. This paper investigates the different types of social media and their implications in school education and explores the responsibilities of teachers in navigating this new educational paradigm.

## Implication of Social Media in Education

Social networking makes kids more peer-based. Teenagers or young students are motivated to learn from their peers online. They interact and receive feedback from one another. They are motivated to learn more from each other than from adults. Teachers and adults are no longer the only sources of knowledge. It makes kids more networked than ever. It is easier for kids to make friends with people all over the world.

### ➤ Share Classroom Updates With Learners

Teachers can share their classroom learning online with the target group like students, parents, and any other stakeholders. Gone are the days when students checked the notice board to know the information relating to their admission, assignments, performance, achievements, results, examination schedule, vacation, etc. but now it is possible to share this information through social media platforms like Facebook, Whatsapp group, and Google Doc.

### ➤ Using Educational Social Media

There are thousands of social media apps, students could use for educational purposes. Teachers can ask students to use such apps that can help them in different subjects to identify the species, plant groups, digestive systems, function and structure of the eye, mathematical principles, solution of algebraic problems, historical evidence, geographical phenomenon, etc.



### ➤ Using for the Feedback

Teachers can also use such media to collect information and feedback on any content presentation while uploading to social media. Then it analyses based on the comments or feedback received from the Google formats.

### ➤ Extra Class Time

Teachers can also use the non-classroom situation to provide information or learning to the students. Tutorials, morning sessions, extra information on topics or contents are also helpful.

### Different Popular Social Media Platforms

Instead of using other purposes the following social media platforms are essential in education. The teachers and professional educators use these for sharing their learning aspects. Such popular media are LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, YouTube, etc.

#### Facebook

The world's most influential social platform with more than two billion users uses Facebook worldwide. Facebook is so popular network to take into account when considering how to use social media for professional development. While many people use Facebook for personal connections, teachers can also use it to develop their professional brand by connecting with influencers in their field and sharing professional accomplishments and interests.

#### Twitter

Twitter is another online popular social networking tool and micro-blogging service that enables its users to send and read text-based posts of up to 140 characters, known as tweets. It was created by Jack Dorsey in March 2006 and launched in July. The service rapidly gained worldwide popularity, with over 300 million users as of 2011. It has been described as the SMS of the Internet.

Through this media, a teacher can keep up with conversations among friends, influencers, and experts in real-time. It is a little bit more academic just in terms of conversation threads and being able to communicate with other teachers about certain ideas. There are lots of teacher Twitter chats for various subjects. It helps to share videos, resources, and talks with other professionals. Ramsden and Jordan, Parry (2008) identifies thirteen other ways to use Twitter in the educational field:

- **Class chatter:** This activity is educational and non-educational conversations that can keep students engaged inside and outside of the class. It keeps students connected all the time.

- **Classroom community:** Students develop a sense of oneness as a result of twittering as part of a class. This sense of community engages students in meaningful activities across academic and non-activities beyond the structured walls of the classroom and class time.
- **Get a sense of the world:** Getting students to look at the public timeline of Twitter, [http://twitter.com/public\\_timeline](http://twitter.com/public_timeline), where all public messages get posted gives them an opportunity to think globally. This is most useful for self-learning at any time and place.
- **Track a word:** Track a word allows students to subscribe to posts that contain the word. This activity could be used to search for information or just to understand the appropriateness of the use of the word.
- **Tracking:** Twitter can be used to track activities of international, national, state, and local activities of groups, educational institutions, non-profit organizations, businesses, and governmental activities or agencies.
- **Follow a professional or organization:** Students can follow someone else who is on Twitter, who interests them, or an organization to track their activities.
- **Follow a famous person:** Many celebrities, educationists, politicians, and other newsmakers are active on Twitter. Students can follow the activities of these individuals on Twitter as part of class activities and write about the knowledge gained.
- **Grammar:** Twitter is good for teaching grammar. Because of its short form those who tweet often abbreviate and abuse grammar rules, developing their own unique Twitter rules. This helps to demonstrate; both how all communication needs rules or structure and how important something like a comma or a period can be used without punctuation sign
- **Rule-Based Writing:** In written communication one necessarily changes the content of the utterance. Rules rather than hindering communication can actually be really productive. Because Twitter limits communication to 140 characters, it is surprising what develops out of this limit, and how quickly one starts to think in messages of 140 characters.
- **Maximizing the Teachable Moment:** Twitter promotes teachable moments from all participants. Since all participants have access to every tweet teachable moments from any participant happen frequently.



- **Writing Assignments:** Twitter promotes sequential writing activities or assignments. It allows different students to add on to existing tweets to build a story, a concept or an idea.

### Instagram

It is another platform of social media to share classroom transactions in short forms of videos with students or individuals. A teacher can use resources, and materials created by himself or developed by other educators and share these for enhancing teaching and student learning. Tools used for the Study

### Pinterest

Pinterest is another influential social media used particularly in science and mathematics subjects. It is helpful to get ideas for activities and look for visual charts to display in the classroom.

### You Tube

YouTube is designed just like any other social media platform. When anyone follows the relevant people and their channels on the site, he will get the most value out of it. YouTube is a popular short-form video-sharing platform in social media through which both the teacher and learners can engage to share their ideas, and content knowledge in different subjects making videos and uploading them to YouTube channels. It is a treasure trove of educational content that can transform the teacher's career for the better. It is a very interesting, interactive, and informative social media. Teachers and students can get a lot of informative videos on a wide range of academic subjects and use them in their classrooms and career management. A teacher can even make a side income as a Teacher-Creator and upload educational videos and create playlists around them.

### Linkedin

LinkedIn is a professional-related social networking site. Founded in December 2002 and launched in May 2003, it is mainly used for professional networking. The web is filled with social networks for educators. It is more for sharing articles and finding people within your network or within certain areas that you're either working in or conferences that you presented at and then connecting with them. This media is dedicated to professional networking. It's helpful not only for job hunters, but also for connecting with fellow experts in your industry, posting content that showcases your work or expertise, and

generating new leads.

### Impact of Social Media on Students

The social networking sites focus heavily on building online communities with common interests or activities relating to different sections of society. Social networking sites also can help students increase leadership skills, from low-level planning and organizing to behavior that promotes social change and self-governing engagement. Social media tools and networking sites encourage students to engage with each other and to express and share their creativity.

### Challenges of Using Social Media

There are many challenges that are being faced by the users of social media they are as follows: - Privacy, Health issues, Real friendship, and Other Challenges.

**Privacy:** Many of the students are engaged with social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter, and many more and make contact with other people, whom they never had met before or even had talked to earlier. They share their very personal information which may be used for wrong deeds also. Students start believing very easily in strangers and share their private talks which may be distorted. This is a very challenging task.

**Health Issues:** Due to the use of social networking sites for long hours creates multiple health issues. Because of continuous access to networking sites may create a perception difficulty, back pain because of sitting in the same position for long hours, and sometimes headaches, problems in eyesight, and many more.

**Real Friendship:** Through social networking, students have a lot of friends but the value and truthfulness of these friendships are not always true. On the other hand, data on these social- networking sites for a person is not always true and responsible, So, having many friends through social networking sites is likely to be more detrimental than good which affects in education.

**Other Challenges:** Some of our teenage students are very excited to join social media not to post their pictures but to find friends with whom they can share their opinions, and sometimes it goes wrong and they work jointly with bad people and such relations could lead to kidnapping. The Facebook-associated abductions are increasing and we can find too many such examples where Facebook helps the kidnappers.



## Positive and Negative Impact of Social Media on Education:

The use of Social media in education has both positive and negative impacts on Education:

### *Positive Impact*

- a) By spending so much time working with new technology and social media, students develop more acquaintance with computers, smartphones, and other electronic devices.
- b) With the increased focus on technology in education and business, this will help students build skills that will aid them throughout their lives.
- c) Talents got discovered faster, students who were good at programming got their name out easily, and student who are good at music got their videos.
- d) A lot of the students were able to inform the public about their issues - using social media which brought awareness and helped solve a lot of problems.
- e) The ease with which a student can modify their profile makes them more aware of the aspects of design and drawing that are not often taught in schools.
- f) The ease and speed with which users can upload pictures, videos, or stories has resulted in a greater amount of allocation of creative works. Being able to get on-the-spot feedback from friends and family on their imaginative outlet helps students process and develop their creative ability and can provide much-needed self-confidence or help them decide what career path they may want to pursue.

### *Negative Impact*

- a) The prime bad effect of social media is addiction. continuously checking Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn other social media updates. This addiction could negatively affect other valued activities like concentrating on studies, taking an active part in sports, real-life communication, and ignoring ground reality.
- b) The popularity of social media, and the speed at which information is published, has created a lax attitude towards proper spelling and

grammar. This reduces a student's ability to effectively write without relying on a computer's spell-check feature.

- c) Many students rely on the accessibility of information on social media and the web to provide answers which means a concentrated focus on learning and retaining information.
- d) Our ability to retain information has declined, and the enthusiasm to spend more time researching and looking up good information has concentrated, due to the fact that we got used to the ease of availability of information on social media.
- e) Students, who attempt to multi-task, checking social media sites while studying, show reduced academic presentation. Their ability to deliberate on the task at hand is significantly reduced by the distractions that are brought about by YouTube, Facebook, or Twitter.
- f) The more time students spend on social sites, the less time they spend socializing in person. Because of the lack of body signals and other nonverbal cues, like tone and inflection, social networking sites are not sufficient substitutes for face-to-face communication. Students who spend a great deal of time on social networking are less able to efficiently communicate in person.
- g) The degree to which private information is available online and the anonymity the internet seems to provide to the students. Most students don't evaluate the content before publishing it online, which can bring unhelpful consequences.
- h) Students are having a harder time getting to communicate face to face with people, and are losing their people skills, due to that they are spending more time talking from behind a screen.

### **Teacher's Role**

In using social media both students and teachers take responsibility to regulate it. The teacher acts as a secondary guide and students are encouraged to take active control. This allows them to achieve their learning goals. The students find communication with the teacher constructive and encouraging, and the teacher can support the students by setting the right tone for the discussion and contributing to developing a sense of community. The teacher's role in the Social networking system is defined as "rich and delicate".



- In this point of view using social media, teachers perform a balanced role in creating a suitable climate of openness and using pedagogical experience to create supportive structures for learning. It requires a lot of trust and sensitivity on the part of the teacher not to interfere with the activities of the learner immediately; it seems to help to build in a kind of subtle support framework for the group.
- The teacher to allow the group to be emergent in their learning.
- To allow the participants to seek their own rhythms and ways of working together.
- To keep a close watch on the group without interfering but being ready to assist.
- To use advanced organizers to build a pedagogical framework for participants to use when they are ready.
- To create specific scaffolding contexts social networking systems can become an incredible tool in collaborative work; the didactic possibilities afforded by these tools are almost endless when they are intended to promote interaction between the group, between the group and the teacher, and among teachers, all of which takes place outside the time and spatial constraints of a school environment.
- Teachers follow a few accounts of curriculum publishers and other companies from which they can acquire classroom resources. Never follow hundreds of accounts which can become overwhelming.
- Teachers should focus more on what they want to learn and get out of having a stronger online presence. After deciding the personal reasoning, start interacting with other accounts and engaging in relevant conversations.

### Recommendations

- Social media tools should be regulated by the school according to the age of the students.
- School should be well equipped with computers and trained teachers on networking.
- Teachers should inform students about the negative aspects of social media.

- Teachers should be fully aware of how sites work and what different settings and functions are available to use.
- Teachers must know how to reduce online risks and how to safeguard students from social media.

### Conclusion

After almost 20 years since Dr. Barnes Lee created the web; the idea of sharing has taken on a whole new dimension. Although it has some disadvantages for illiterate learners on networking, it is undeniable that social networking is hugely popular. The use of social networking by students opens up a great opportunity for educational researchers. The literature and anecdotal evidences seem to suggest that learners spend a lot of time on social networking sites. Social media is a very important tool to assist and facilitate the teaching and learning process. It provides the tools for learners to be in contact with peers and teachers outside the classroom. It also empowers learners to manage their own learning, reading, watching, exploring, researching, interacting, communicating, collaborating, discussing, and sharing their own knowledge and experiences. Learning through social media, learners can have access to a wide range of learning resources and learning can occur anywhere, anytime, and there are no longer any geographical constraints to learning.

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