Trends in Learning Technology

Key findings from the 2021 Annual Survey

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ALT supports the Open COVID Pledge for Education. 23 February 2022
**Trends in Learning Technology**

**Key Findings at a glance**

- **Student engagement** is the **No. 1** driver for use of Learning Technology.
- **Blended and hybrid models** are becoming the main mode of learning, for **66%** of our Members.
- The Top 10 popular EdTech tools reflect **a shift in practice** away from relying on Teams and Zoom to a bigger range of **collaborative tools**.
- **Video Conferencing** Collaborative tools and VLEs ranked as most important by **76%**.

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Focus on: professional practice
What are enablers and drivers for your use of Learning Technology?

- Changing administrative processes: 16.07% Strongly Agree, 22.62% Agree, 27% Neutral, 18% Disagree, 12% Strong Disagree, 5% Don't know
- Organisational structure: 16.67% Strongly Agree, 24.40% Agree, 26% Neutral, 20% Disagree, 9% Strong Disagree, 4% Don't know
- Professional incentives: 24.40% Strongly Agree, 19.64% Agree, 20% Neutral, 15% Disagree, 17% Strong Disagree, 3% Don't know
- Recognition for career development: 26.19% Strongly Agree, 19.05% Agree, 24% Neutral, 13% Disagree, 15% Strong Disagree, 2% Don't know
- Existing infrastructure: 25.00% Strongly Agree, 29.17% Agree, 23% Neutral, 13% Disagree, 5% Strong Disagree, 5% Don't know
- Staff development opportunities: 32.14% Strongly Agree, 27.38% Agree, 20% Neutral, 9% Disagree, 10% Strong Disagree, 1% Don't know
- Support staff: 34.52% Strongly Agree, 25.60% Agree, 21% Neutral, 9% Disagree, 8% Strong Disagree, 2% Don't know
- Institutional culture: 35.12% Strongly Agree, 25.60% Agree, 20% Neutral, 8% Disagree, 8% Strong Disagree, 3% Don't know
- Strategy and leadership: 33.93% Strongly Agree, 32.14% Agree, 13% Neutral, 10% Disagree, 10% Strong Disagree, 2% Don't know
- Dedicated time: 43.45% Strongly Agree, 23.81% Agree, 18% Neutral, 5% Disagree, 7% Strong Disagree, 2% Don't know
- Colleagues' commitment: 40.48% Strongly Agree, 27.98% Agree, 15% Neutral, 7% Disagree, 6% Strong Disagree, 4% Don't know
- Colleagues' knowledge/expertise: 38.69% Strongly Agree, 27.98% Agree, 15% Neutral, 7% Disagree, 6% Strong Disagree, 4% Don't know
- Engagement from students/learners: 54.17% Strongly Agree, 23.81% Agree, 15% Neutral, 2% Disagree, 2% Strong Disagree, 4% Don't know
What is your favourite digital tool or app you find really useful in your job/role?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 10</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teams/Microsoft</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Padlet</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoom</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moodle</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Menti</td>
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<td>Canva</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>Google</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trello</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackboard/Collaborate</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panopto</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Do you feel your colleagues' perception of technology enhanced learning (TEL) has changed in response to COVID-19?

- Increased negative perception of TEL: 6%
- Increased positive perception of TEL: 83%
- No change: 11%
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Focus on: tools and technologies
What is the main mode of learning at this time?

- Hybrid: Some online learning and some (synchronous) in person learning - 44%
- Blended: Learners are on campus or in the classroom and learn through a blended offering including online elements - 22%
- Distance: Learners are learning away from a physical campus/classroom - 16%
- In person: Learners learn in the classroom, on campus, in the workshop... - 10%
- Other - 8%
Is the current mode a temporary measure or a long-term one?

- Don't know: 11%
- Temporary for a few months: 12%
- Temporary for this academic year: 31%
- Long term: 46%
How important have the following been to your work in the past year?

- Collaborative tools (e.g., Office365/Teams, Google Workspace/G Suite, Padlet etc.)
- Content Management Systems and VLEs
- Blended Learning
- Electronic assessment, submission & feedback tools
- Lecture capture tools
- Media production (e.g., podcasting, video interviews)
- Plagiarism detection
- Data and Analytics (incl. Learning Analytics)
- Learning Space Design
- Digital repositories
- Blogs
- Assistive technologies
- Social networking (e.g., Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn)
- ePortfolios
- Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)
- Open Education (Practices, Policy & Resources)
- MOOCs, SPOCs, TOOCs etc.
- Augmented and Virtual Reality
- Game-based/playful learning
- Digital and Open Badges
- One-to-One Device initiatives

Colors indicate different levels of importance: Very important, Important, Neutral, Unimportant, Not at all important, Don't know.
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Resources

Key Findings Download

Annual Survey 2021
Full Report

Annual Survey 2015-2021
Full open data set

alt.ac.uk/annual-survey
About our Annual Survey

This survey was established in 2014 in order to:

- Help map professional practice and development in Learning Technology;
- Chart how Learning Technology is used across sectors;
- Understand current practice to better meet the needs of and represent our Members.

The survey is open to all ALT Members, both individuals and organisations. We also welcome responses from all with an interest in Learning Technology.

The full anonymised data set of all survey data is available openly https://alt.ac.uk/annual-survey.

Who responded this year?

For the 2021 survey we received 217 responses in total and over 90% of respondents are Members of ALT.

We received responses from all parts of the UK, and all sectors we represent, and the majority of responses where from Members working in UK Higher Education.

60% of respondents identify themselves as female, 36% as male and 4% identify as non-binary/preferred not to say.