

# EDUPULSE

MAGAZINE

APRIL 1st to JUNE 30th, 2024

Enhance Student Success  
Through Strong Educator-  
Parent Communication

## WAYS TO FOSTER EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN EDUCATORS AND PARENTS

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FROM THE EDITORS  
**NAVIGATE THE  
POTENTIAL OF  
PROFESSIONAL  
CERTIFICATIONS**

**JONATHAN ZHANG**

Welcome to our latest issue, where we explore key themes shaping education today. We discuss strategies for adapting to change and meeting new challenges as schools prepare for the new academic year. We also offer engaging summer activities to keep students' minds active and highlight top online courses for teachers' professional development. Effective communication between educators and parents is crucial, and we provide tips on building strong relationships to support students' growth. Join us for guidance and resources to empower educators, parents, and students.

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## WAYS TO FOSTER EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN EDUCATORS AND PARENTS

WRITTEN BY: Anna Nowak – Peer Evaluator – POLAND REGION

Effective communication between educators and parents is a cornerstone of a successful educational experience. It enhances student achievement, fosters a supportive community, and nurtures student well-being. Strong communication builds trust, promotes parental involvement, and ensures students receive cohesive support both at home and at school. This article delves into comprehensive strategies to strengthen communication between educators and parents, providing detailed insights on fostering a collaborative environment that supports student success.

## 1. Audit Parent Engagement

Conducting an audit of current parent engagement practices is a critical first step in optimizing communication strategies. This involves a thorough examination of how and when communications are sent and received. Modern technology, such as email tracking systems and communication analytics, can monitor unread and unanswered emails, identify popular communication methods, and highlight critical times in the academic year when messages are often missed. For example, a school might discover that emails sent in the early evening are more likely to be read than those sent in the morning. Schools can also conduct online surveys to gather data on parents' preferred communication methods and times. Understanding these preferences allows schools to tailor their communication strategies more effectively, ensuring messages reach parents in a timely and convenient manner.

## 2. Use Findings to Optimize Communications

Data from engagement audits can refine and optimize communication practices. For example, schools can adjust email schedules based on when they are most likely to be read. During COVID-19 lockdowns, some schools benefited from releasing home learning tasks on Friday afternoons, allowing parents to review materials over the weekend. Aligning communication with parents' work patterns and using technology for accessibility ensures important messages are not overlooked, involving every parent in the learning process.



### 3. Adopt a Supportive, Non-Judgmental Attitude

Maintaining a supportive and non-judgmental attitude in communications with parents is crucial for building a positive and collaborative relationship. Many parents may have had negative experiences with schools in the past, which can impact their current level of engagement. Using encouraging language and framing suggestions as collaborative efforts rather than directives can make parents feel valued and empowered. For example, instead of saying, "You need to ensure your child completes their homework," a more supportive approach would be, "Let's work together to create a homework routine that suits your family's schedule." Viewing school communication as a two-way, mutual partnership rather than a one-way broadcast fosters a more positive and productive relationship with parents, encouraging them to engage more actively in their child's education.

### 4. Take Diversity into Account

Recognizing and accommodating the diverse backgrounds, working lives, languages, and cultures of parents is vital for effective communication. Flexible scheduling for parent-teacher meetings and offering online video meetings can help accommodate parents with different needs and commitments. For instance, providing options for evening or weekend meetings can be beneficial for working parents who may not be able to attend during regular school hours. Utilizing communication platforms that provide translation services can bridge language barriers, ensuring that all parents have access to essential information and feel included in the school community. Providing culturally relevant resources and being sensitive to various cultural norms and practices demonstrates respect and inclusivity, which is essential for building trust and fostering a strong partnership with parents. For example, a school with a significant population of Spanish-speaking parents might offer translated newsletters and bilingual staff at parent meetings.



## 5. Communicate Consistently

Consistency in communication builds trust and ensures that parents are always informed and engaged. Schools should adopt a yearly view, planning and scheduling communications around key calendar events such as parent-teacher conferences, examinations, and school activities. Regular updates, such as weekly newsletters and termly reports, keep parents informed without overwhelming them with information. Modern technology can help filter and target emails to ensure relevance, reducing the likelihood of parents missing important updates. Establishing a predictable communication routine helps parents know when and where to expect information, enhancing their engagement and trust in the school. For instance, sending a weekly email every Friday afternoon that recaps the week's events and outlines important dates for the coming reliable source of information for parents.



## 6. Enlist Parental Support from the Outset

The beginning of the school year is an ideal time to establish good communication habits and enlist parental support. Schools should use this period to promote a collaborative approach, clearly communicating how parents can support their child's education. Early positive interactions with parents can pave the way for more effective communication, especially during challenging times.

Schools can hold orientation sessions or workshops at the start of the year to set expectations and provide parents with the tools and resources they need to support their children effectively. For instance, a school might host a "Welcome Back" night where teachers and administrators outline the year's objectives, explain how parents can stay involved, and introduce available resources.

## **7. Outline Clear Expectations for a Learning Partnership**

Parents often want to support their child's education but may not know how to do so effectively. Schools should provide clear expectations and guidelines on how parents can contribute to their child's learning. This includes establishing routines, goal-setting, and time-management practices. For instance, schools can provide resources and templates for setting academic goals with their children, which can help parents support their child's academic journey effectively. Additionally, providing easy access to timetables, resources, and exam specifications helps parents stay informed and actively involved. Workshops or informational sessions on effective study habits, time management, and creating conducive study environments at home can further empower parents to support their child's education.

## **8. Lead with Purpose**

Communications should always be purposeful, highlighting the school's achievements and fostering a sense of community. Messages should be clear, concise, and structured to ensure important information is easily accessible. Schools can enhance readability by using bullet points, bold text, and including visuals like photos and infographics. Establishing a house style for communications can save time and maintain consistency across all messages. Purposeful communication not only keeps parents informed but also builds a positive narrative around the school, celebrating successes and fostering a sense of pride and belonging among students and their families. For instance, a monthly newsletter might include a section celebrating student achievements, updates on school events, and opportunities for parent involvement, thus creating a cohesive and positive school culture.

## 9. Utilize Technology Effectively

Modern technology offers numerous tools to facilitate effective communication between educators and parents. Schools can use platforms like school management systems, mobile apps, and social media to provide timely updates and information. Virtual meetings and webinars can be used to accommodate parents' schedules and increase participation in school events. For example, schools can hold virtual parent-teacher conferences or webinars on educational topics, making it easier for parents to participate regardless of their location. Technology can also be used to send reminders about important dates, assignments, and meetings, ensuring that parents stay engaged and informed. Providing training and support to parents on how to use these technologies can further enhance their effectiveness, making it easier for parents to stay connected and involved in their child's education.

## 10. Encourage Two-Way Communication

Effective communication is not just about transmitting information; it also involves actively listening to parents' feedback and concerns. Schools should create channels for two-way communication, such as suggestion boxes, surveys, and regular parent forums. Encouraging parents to share their thoughts and experiences helps schools address issues proactively and make improvements based on real feedback. For instance, schools can conduct regular surveys to gather feedback on various aspects of school life, such as teaching methods, extracurricular activities, and school policies.





Building a culture of open communication where parents feel their voices are heard and valued fosters a stronger partnership and greater trust. Regularly reviewing and acting on feedback demonstrates to parents that the school values their input and is committed to continuous improvement.

Some examples of such effective strategies include:

## **EXAMPLE 1:** **WEEKLY NEWSLETTERS**

A middle school implemented a weekly newsletter that is emailed to all parents every Friday afternoon. The newsletter includes sections on upcoming events, important dates, highlights of student achievements, updates on classroom activities, and reminders about homework and assignments. The school also includes a "Parent Tip of the Week" section that offers practical advice on supporting children's education at home. This consistent communication keeps parents informed and engaged, reducing the number of missed messages and fostering a stronger school community.



## **EXAMPLE 2:** **PARENT WORKSHOPS**

At the start of the school year, an elementary school holds a series of workshops for parents. These workshops cover topics such as effective homework strategies, understanding the curriculum, and using the school's online portal. By providing parents with the tools and knowledge they need to support their children, the school fosters a collaborative environment where parents feel confident and empowered to engage in their child's education.





### EXAMPLE 3: VIRTUAL PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

A high school implemented virtual parent-teacher conferences using video conferencing technology. This approach allows parents who have difficulty attending in-person meetings due to work commitments or transportation issues to still participate in meaningful discussions about their child's progress. The school provides step-by-step instructions and technical support to ensure all parents can access the virtual meetings, thereby increasing overall parent participation and engagement.



### EXAMPLE 4: MULTILINGUAL COMMUNICATION

In a diverse community, a school district ensures all communication is available in multiple languages. They use translation services for newsletters, emails, and during parent-teacher meetings. Additionally, they hire bilingual staff to assist with parent communications. This inclusive approach ensures that all parents, regardless of their language background, have access to important information and feel included in the school community.





## EXAMPLE 5: PARENT FEEDBACK SURVEYS

At the end of each term, a school sends parents an online survey asking for feedback on various aspects of the school experience, including communication effectiveness, academic support, and extracurricular activities. The results are analyzed, and the school holds a town hall meeting to discuss the findings and action plans. This process not only gathers valuable insights from parents but also shows that the school values their input and is dedicated to making improvements based on their feedback.

## CONCLUSION

Effective communication between educators and parents is essential for creating a supportive educational environment that enhances student learning and development. By conducting audits of parent engagement, optimizing communication strategies, adopting a supportive attitude, considering diversity, maintaining consistency, enlisting parental support, outlining clear expectations, leading with purpose, utilizing technology effectively, and encouraging two-way communication, schools can foster stronger relationships with parents. These efforts not only enhance the educational experience but also contribute to the overall well-being and success of students. Through ongoing collaboration and communication, educators and parents can work together to ensure every child's potential is realized, building a brighter future for all. By prioritizing effective communication, schools can create a positive and inclusive community that supports every student's academic and personal growth.



### Anna Nowak

PEER EVALUATOR – POLAND REGION

*With a background in education and academics, Anna Nowak offers valuable insights into student psychology and career counselling. Her expertise helps our magazine stay ahead of the curve in the ever-evolving landscape of student academia.*

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## **ENGAGING EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS DURING SUMMER BREAK**

**WRITTEN BY: Dr. Elena Petrov – Peer Evaluator – UNITED KINGDOM**

Summer break is a wonderful opportunity for students to relax and recharge after a long school year. However, it's also an ideal time to engage in activities that stimulate their minds, foster creativity, and promote learning in a fun and relaxed environment. By incorporating a variety of educational activities, students can avoid the summer slide, where academic skills and knowledge may diminish. These activities can also help cultivate new interests, reinforce existing knowledge, and build valuable life skills. This comprehensive guide explores engaging educational activities that can enrich students' summer break, ensuring that they return to school with renewed enthusiasm and a broadened horizon.

## 1. STEM Projects

### *Science Experiments*

Home science experiments are an exciting way for students to learn scientific principles. Activities like a baking soda and vinegar volcano, making oobleck, or building a homemade weather station illustrate concepts such as chemical reactions, states of matter, and meteorology. These hands-on projects teach scientific concepts and promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills.



### *Nature Exploration*

Exploring nature can deepen students' understanding of biology and ecology. Activities like nature hikes, bird watching, and documenting plant species teach about biodiversity, ecosystems, and conservation. Apps for identifying plants and animals add a tech-savvy twist, blending outdoor exploration with technology.

### *Robotics Kits*

Robotics kits like LEGO Mindstorms, VEX Robotics, and Arduino offer students a hands-on introduction to robotics and programming. They can build and program their robots, learning engineering, coding, and problem-solving skills crucial for STEM fields.





## 2. Reading Challenges

### *Summer Reading Lists*

Creating a summer reading list tailored to different age groups and reading levels can motivate students to read more. Curate a diverse selection of books that span various genres and topics to keep their interest piqued. Encourage students to set reading goals, such as reading a certain number of books or chapters per week, to foster a love for reading.

### *Reading Rewards*

Incentivizing reading with a rewards system can be very effective. Set up a program where students earn points for each book they read, which can then be redeemed for prizes or privileges. This gamified approach makes reading more engaging and rewarding.

### *Book Clubs*

Organizing a book club adds a social and interactive element to reading. Students can meet in person or virtually to discuss books, share thoughts, and engage in meaningful discussions, improving comprehension, critical thinking, and communication skills.



### 3. Creative Arts

#### *Art Projects*

Art projects can be a wonderful way for students to express themselves creatively. Provide a variety of materials such as paints, markers, clay, and fabric for different types of projects. Assign themes or let students create freely, which helps in developing their artistic skills and imagination.



#### *Writing Contests*

Encourage students to participate in writing contests where they can submit stories, poems, or essays. This not only hones their writing skills but also boosts their confidence and provides a platform for recognition. Local libraries, schools, and online platforms often host such contests.



#### *Music and Drama*

Summer is a great time for students to explore music and drama. Learning a new instrument or participating in a theater program can be both fun and educational. These activities improve memory, coordination, and public speaking skills, while also fostering creativity and teamwork.





## 4. Educational Trips

### *Museums and Zoos*

Visiting museums, zoos, and aquariums can offer a wealth of learning opportunities. Many institutions provide educational tours and interactive exhibits that cover history, science, and art. These outings can make learning more tangible and exciting.



### *Historical Sites*

Exploring local historical sites can bring history lessons to life. Students can learn about significant events, cultures, and figures by visiting landmarks and participating in guided tours. This hands-on approach helps in retaining historical knowledge more effectively.

### *Science Centers*

Science centers and planetariums offer interactive exhibits and educational programs that cover various scientific fields. From astronomy shows to hands-on experiments, these visits can ignite a passion for science and technology in students.





## 5. Online Learning

### *Educational Platforms*

Utilizing educational platforms such as Khan Academy, Coursera, and Duolingo can provide structured learning opportunities. These platforms offer courses in a wide range of subjects, allowing students to learn at their own pace and explore new topics of interest.

### *Virtual Field Trips*

Virtual field trips can take students to places they might not be able to visit physically. Online tours of museums, historical sites, and even outer space can provide immersive learning experiences. These virtual excursions can complement and enhance traditional learning.

## 6. Gardening and Ecology

### *Gardening Projects*

Starting a garden can teach students about plant biology, ecosystems, and sustainability. They can learn about different plant species, their growth conditions, and the importance of environmental stewardship. Gardening also provides a hands-on experience in nurturing and responsibility.



### *Recycling Projects*

Educating students about recycling and environmental conservation can be very impactful. Engage them in projects that transform recycled materials into art or useful items, teaching them about sustainability and creativity in the process.



## 7. Technology and Coding

### *Coding Camps*

Coding camps can introduce students to the world of programming. These camps offer courses in various programming languages and software development, helping students build problem-solving and logical thinking skills. Learning to code can open up numerous future career opportunities.

### *App Development*

Challenge students to design and develop their own simple apps or games. This project-based learning approach helps them apply coding skills creatively and practically. It also encourages innovation and entrepreneurship.



## 8. Physical Activities

### *Sports Camps*

Enrolling in sports camps can help students stay active and healthy during the summer. These camps often teach the fundamentals of various sports, teamwork, and discipline. Physical activity is crucial for overall well-being and can also improve concentration and academic performance.

### *Outdoor Adventures*

Organizing outdoor adventures like camping, hiking, or fishing can be both fun and educational. These activities teach survival skills, orienteering, and an appreciation for nature. They also provide a break from screens and promote physical fitness.

## 9. Life Skills

### *Cooking Classes*

Cooking classes can teach students about nutrition, measurements, and following instructions. Involving them in meal planning and preparation can instill healthy eating habits and life skills. Cooking also provides a platform for practicing math and reading skills in a practical context.



### *Financial Literacy*

Introducing basic financial literacy concepts can be highly beneficial. Teach students about budgeting, saving, and understanding money through interactive activities and simulations. This knowledge can set the foundation for responsible financial behavior in the future.

## 10. Community Service

### *Volunteer Work*

Engaging in volunteer work helps students develop empathy and a sense of community. Activities such as helping at a local food bank, participating in neighborhood clean-ups, or assisting at animal shelters teach responsibility and social awareness.

### *Service Learning*

Integrate educational elements into volunteer activities by teaching students about the social or environmental issues they are addressing. This approach helps them understand the broader impact of their actions and fosters a sense of purpose.



## CONCLUSION

Incorporating a variety of educational activities during summer break can transform it from a period of potential academic regression into a time of enrichment and growth. By blending fun with learning, students can develop new skills, deepen their knowledge, and foster a lifelong love of learning. Whether through STEM projects, creative arts, reading challenges, or community service, these activities provide valuable experiences that can prepare students for future academic success and personal development. As they embark on these adventures, they will return to school not only refreshed but also with a wealth of new knowledge and skills to share.



### **Dr. Elena Petrov**

PEER EVALUATOR – UNITED KINGDOM

*With a Ph.D. in Environmental Science and years of experience in academia, Dr. Elena Petrov brings a deep understanding of sustainability issues to our publication. Her research focuses on climate change mitigation strategies and environmental policy development.*

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## ADAPTING TO CHANGE: HOW SCHOOLS CAN PREPARE FOR THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

WRITTEN BY: Lori Gaskin, Chair – Peer Evaluator – SPAIN REGION

As the landscape of education continues to evolve, schools must adapt to a rapidly changing environment to ensure that students receive a high-quality education. The new academic year presents an opportunity for schools to implement transformative changes that can enhance the learning experience. This involves not only adopting new teaching methods and technologies but also fostering a supportive and inclusive school culture. By prioritizing flexible learning models, strengthening digital infrastructure, focusing on health and safety, supporting mental health, enhancing communication, adapting curriculum and assessment methods, investing in professional development, engaging the community, building resilience, and ensuring equity and inclusion, schools can create a robust and dynamic educational environment.

In this comprehensive guide, we will explore in detail how schools can prepare for the new academic year by implementing these strategies. These efforts will not only address the immediate challenges posed by the current global situation but also pave the way for sustained growth and improvement in education.

# 1. Implement Flexible Learning Models

## *Blended Learning:*

Blended learning combines online and in-person instruction to create a more flexible and personalized learning experience. Schools can use digital tools to deliver content, conduct assessments, and provide interactive learning opportunities. For instance, teachers can use video lectures, online discussion forums, and interactive simulations alongside traditional classroom activities. This approach allows students to learn at their own pace and access resources anytime, anywhere.



## *Hybrid Schedules:*

Blended learning combines online and in-person instruction to create a more flexible and personalized learning experience. Schools can use digital tools to deliver content, conduct assessments, and provide interactive learning opportunities. For instance, teachers can use video lectures, online discussion forums, and interactive simulations alongside traditional classroom activities. This approach allows students to learn at their own pace and access resources anytime, anywhere.







## 2. Strengthen Digital Infrastructure

### *Technology Upgrades:*

Ensuring all students and staff have access to reliable devices and high-speed internet is crucial. Schools can invest in laptops, tablets, and other digital devices, and provide support for families who may not have access to these resources. Partnering with local businesses or organizations to secure funding or donations can help bridge the technology gap.

### *Training Programs:*

Teachers and staff need comprehensive training on using digital tools and online platforms effectively. Professional development sessions can cover topics such as virtual classroom management, digital content creation, and online assessment methods. Schools can also provide ongoing technical support to address any issues that arise.



### 3. Focus on Health and Safety

#### *Sanitation Protocols:*

Rigorous cleaning and disinfection in classrooms and common areas are essential. Schools should regularly clean high-touch surfaces, restrooms, and shared equipment, provide hand sanitizing stations, and promote good hygiene among students and staff to prevent the spread of illnesses.

#### *Health Screenings:*

Regular health checks, such as temperature screenings and symptom assessments, can help manage health risks. Schools should provide medical resources, including PPE, isolation rooms for symptomatic individuals, and clear guidelines for responding to health concerns.



### 4. Support Mental Health and Well-being

#### *Counseling Services:*

Expanding access to mental health resources is crucial. Schools can hire more counselors, train teachers to address mental health issues, and create a supportive environment for students to express concerns.

#### *Well-being Programs:*

Promoting mental and emotional well-being helps students and staff manage stress. Schools can offer mindfulness sessions, fitness programs, and stress management workshops. Encouraging healthy relationships and a positive school climate fosters a culture of well-being.





## 5. Adapt Curriculum and Assessment Methods

### *Flexible Curriculum:*

Adjusting the curriculum to focus on essential skills creates adaptable learning paths. Schools can prioritize core subjects and include interdisciplinary projects, helping students develop critical thinking and collaboration skills.

### *Alternative Assessments:*

Using various assessment methods, such as projects and portfolios, provides a comprehensive view of student progress. These approaches complement traditional tests and allow for diverse demonstrations of understanding. Digital tools can facilitate timely feedback and grading.

## 6. Enhance Communication

### *Clear Communication Channels:*

Keeping communication open with students, parents, and staff is vital for managing change. Schools can use emails, newsletters, social media, and dedicated platforms for updates. Regular virtual and in-person meetings also support effective communication.



### *Feedback Mechanisms:*

Creating feedback systems ensures community concerns are addressed. Schools can use surveys, suggestion boxes, and focus groups. A transparent response process shows commitment to improvement.

## 7. Professional Development

### *Ongoing Training:*

Continuous professional development for teachers is essential for adapting to new methods and technologies. Schools can offer workshops and online courses on topics like differentiated instruction and digital literacy. Encouraging advanced certifications can also support teachers' growth.



### *Peer Collaboration:*

Encouraging collaboration among educators fosters a supportive teaching environment. Schools can create professional learning communities (PLCs) for lesson planning and resource sharing, while regular team meetings and peer observations promote continuous learning.



## 8. Community and Parental Involvement

### *Engage Parents:*

Involving parents in planning and communication builds trust and support. Schools can host informational sessions, form advisory committees, and use digital platforms. Offering workshops on digital literacy empowers parents to support their children's learning.

### *Community Partnerships:*

Partnering with local organizations and businesses provides valuable resources for students and families. Schools can collaborate with health and social services to offer enrichment programs and tutoring. Strong community connections enhance the educational experience and create a support network for students.



## **9. Resilience Building**

### *Emergency Preparedness:*

Regularly updating emergency plans for disruptions, such as natural disasters or pandemics, is vital for continuity. Schools should develop plans for evacuation, remote learning, and communication strategies, while conducting drills to prepare staff and students for emergencies.

### *Resilience Programs:*

Implementing programs that build resilience in students prepares them for future challenges. Schools can offer workshops on problem-solving and coping skills, while promoting a growth mindset and a supportive culture to help students navigate change and adversity.

## 10. Focus on Equity and Inclusion

### *Equitable Access*

Ensuring equal access to learning resources and opportunities is essential for educational equity. Schools should identify barriers like socioeconomic disparities and language issues, providing targeted support such as tutoring, mentoring, and financial assistance to level the playing field for all students.



### *Inclusive Practices:*

Promoting an inclusive school environment that respects and celebrates diversity involves implementing policies and practices that support all students. Schools can offer cultural competency training for staff, create inclusive curricula that reflect diverse perspectives, and provide support for students with special needs. Fostering a sense of belonging and respect among the school community helps create a positive and inclusive learning environment.

# CONCLUSION

In conclusion, preparing for the new academic year requires a holistic and proactive approach. Schools must embrace change and innovation to meet the evolving needs of students, staff, and the broader community. By implementing flexible learning models, enhancing digital infrastructure, and prioritizing health and safety, schools can create a resilient framework that supports continuous learning under various circumstances.

Supporting mental health and well-being is crucial for fostering a positive and productive school environment. Enhancing communication and involving parents and the community in the educational process strengthens the support network around students. Adapting curriculum and assessment methods to focus on essential skills ensures that students are well-prepared for future challenges, while ongoing professional development equips educators with the tools and knowledge they need to succeed.

Building resilience through emergency preparedness and resilience programs helps schools navigate unforeseen disruptions with confidence. Lastly, focusing on equity and inclusion ensures that every student has the opportunity to succeed, regardless of their background or circumstances.

By adopting these comprehensive strategies, schools can create an adaptable, supportive, and engaging learning environment. This approach not only addresses the challenges of the present but also builds a foundation for a future where education is dynamic, inclusive, and resilient.



## Lori Gaskin, Chair

PEER EVALUATOR – SPAIN REGION

*Dr. Lori Gaskin, serving since 2016, holds a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of Nevada, an M.A. in Geography, and a B.A. in Geography from the University of California, Los Angeles. Previously Superintendent/President of Santa Barbara City College, she also led West Valley College and Lake Tahoe Community College. Her career began as faculty at Barstow College, and she possesses expertise in planning and fiscal oversight.*

ARTICLE 04

## BEST PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES FOR TEACHERS IN SUMMER 2024

WRITTEN BY: Prof. Sofia da Silva – Peer Evaluator – PORTUGAL

Today, teachers play multifaceted roles that go beyond traditional classroom instruction. They are mentors, counselors, curriculum designers, technology integrators, examination experts, and more, all in a bid to support students' holistic development. To meet students' diverse needs and navigate the intricacies of modern education systems, teachers must embrace professional development (PD).

Professional development courses offer pathways for teachers to continually refine their skills, adapt to emerging trends, and ultimately provide superior learning experiences for their students. These courses help educators stay current with evolving educational methods, technology, and pedagogical research.

In this comprehensive guide, the best professional development courses for educators are explored, empowering teachers at every stage of their careers.



# WHAT ARE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES?

Professional development (PD) courses encompass a wide range of structured learning experiences designed to enhance a teacher's proficiency in various aspects of education. PD courses go beyond traditional academic training, focusing on practical skills, pedagogical strategies, and innovative approaches that can be directly applied in the classroom.

Professional development can take various forms, including workshops, seminars, online courses, conferences, and mentorship programs. The goal is to equip educators with the knowledge and tools they need to foster a conducive learning environment and support the academic growth of their students.

Professional development is not a one-size-fits-all endeavor. It is highly adaptable and can be tailored to suit individual teachers' specific needs and aspirations.

## BENEFITS OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES?

Whether you're a seasoned educator looking to stay at the cutting edge of educational practices or a novice teacher eager to build a strong foundation, there's a professional development course suited for you. PD courses can be taken online, through in-school programs, alongside work, or even during a break from the classroom.

Taking a professional development course offers benefits beyond your teaching career, including:

- ✔ Enhancing teaching skills and becoming more effective in the classroom, leading to better student outcomes.
- ✔ Becoming more adaptable to new technologies and innovative practices.
- ✔ Achieving personal and professional growth, leading to a sense of accomplishment and fulfillment.
- ✔ Networking and collaborating with peers, gaining better insights, resources, and best practices in education.

Professional development requirements can vary significantly from one state or school district to another. It's essential to familiarize yourself with your preferred state's requirements for professional development. Additionally, you should note that completing professional development courses differs from completing a certification. Research licensure and certification requirements to ensure you're on the right path toward achieving your professional aspirations.

## THE NEED FOR SUMMER 2024 **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Summer vacations present an ideal time for educators to engage in professional development. Without the daily demands of teaching, teachers can focus on enhancing their skills and knowledge, preparing them for the upcoming school year. Investing in PD during the summer can lead to:

- ✔ **Renewed Energy and Focus:** Summer courses can provide new perspectives and methods, revitalizing teachers' approaches to instruction.
- ✔ **Advanced Preparation:** Gaining new skills and strategies over the summer ensures teachers are well-prepared to implement them from the first day of the new school year.
- ✔ **Continuous Improvement:** Regular engagement in PD fosters a habit of lifelong learning, which is essential for staying current in education.



# BEST PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES FOR SUMMER 2024

Selecting the right professional development course can be daunting given the abundance of options available. To ease your decision-making process, here are ten highly recommended professional development courses for teachers to consider during the summer break.



## 1. Simple K12

Simple K12 is a leading provider of online professional development skills for educators, offering a diverse range of courses covering topics such as technology integration, classroom management, and differentiated instruction.

### **Key Features:**

- ✔ Accessible PD courses available online.
- ✔ Certificates upon completion.
- ✔ Specialization in education technology, crucial in today's digital age.
- ✔ Wide range of topics catering to different expertise levels and subject areas.
- ✔ Experienced instructors and experts in the field of education.
- ✔ Interactive learning experiences such as webinars, forums, and discussions.
- ✔ A vibrant community for networking, sharing ideas, and collaborating with peers.

Simple K12 offers over 1,500 on-demand training courses, including classroom management, gamification & game-based learning, and career and technical education.

## 2. 40 Hour Teacher Workweek

Created by Angela Watson, a former classroom teacher, the 40-Hour Teacher Workweek program focuses on time management and productivity strategies for educators.

### **Key Features:**

- ✔ Teacher-centric approach addressing modern teaching challenges.
- ✔ Emphasis on work-life balance, a critical issue in the teaching profession.
- ✔ Proven strategies from an experienced educator.
- ✔ Community support from educators sharing their experiences.

The course offers training in PDF and audio formats, including resources like printable materials and templates. Skills taught include time-blocking, stress-reduction strategies, and classroom organization.

## 3. EdWeb

EdWeb offers a vibrant online community and professional learning network for educators, hosting a wide array of webinars, discussions, and courses on diverse educational topics.

### **Key Features:**

- ✔ Collaborative learning environment for connecting with global educators.
- ✔ Flexible EdWebinars that can be viewed live or as recordings.
- ✔ Training options include webinars, courses, workshops, and professional learning communities.
- ✔ Notable courses on EdWeb include "Creating a Positive School Culture" and "Innovative Strategies for Student Engagement."

## 4. Negotiating Learner Differences

Offered by Dr. William Cope of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, this course focuses on inclusive teaching strategies to address diverse learning needs in the classroom.

### **Key Features:**

- ✔ Short duration of 15 hours, making it easy to complete.
- ✔ Online format allowing self-paced learning.
- ✔ Certificate upon completion.

The course covers practical tools and techniques for creating an inclusive and supportive learning environment. It is available on Coursera.

## 5. Teaching Practical Science in Secondary/High School

This course is a valuable resource for science teachers, enhancing the delivery of practical science lessons and helping create engaging and memorable science experiences.

### **Key Features:**

- ✔ Focus on practical science to enhance student understanding.
- ✔ Strategies for improving student engagement with hands-on experiments.
- ✔ Aligned with the global STEM skills gap.
- ✔ Peer-to-peer learning environment for sharing insights and best practices.

The course covers effective lab management, hands-on experiments, and strategies to foster a love for science among secondary/high school students.



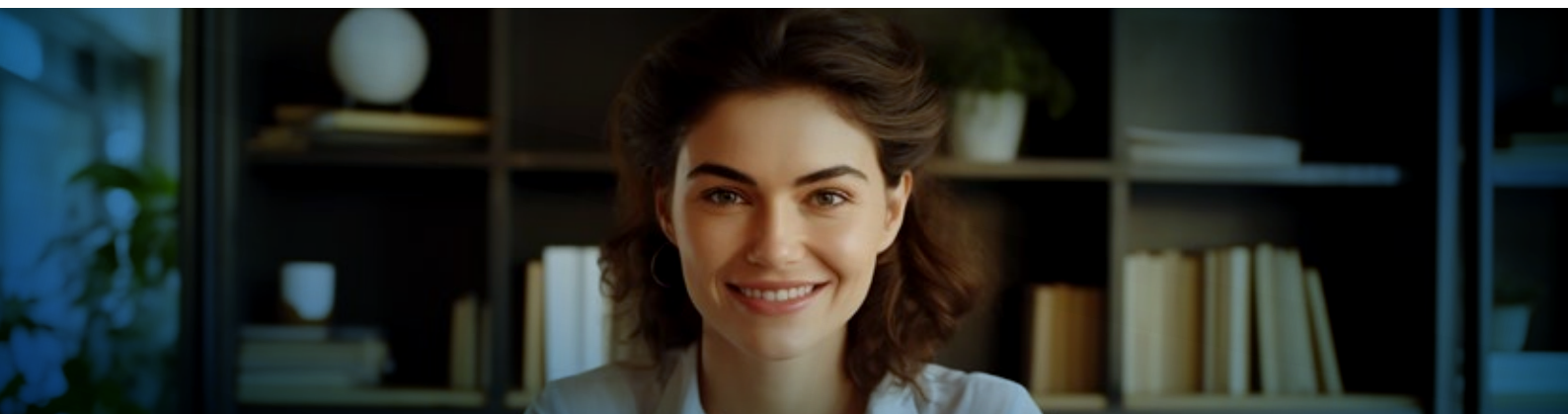
## 6. Becoming a Better Teacher

Offered by the British Council, this course is designed to empower educators with comprehensive teaching skills, covering pedagogical techniques, classroom management strategies, and innovative approaches to instruction.

### **Key Features:**

- ✔ Flexible online format, making it easily accessible.
- ✔ Emphasis on community building among educators.
- ✔ Collaboration with reputable institutions like the British Council and UCL Institute of Education.
- ✔ Focus on reflective practice for continuous improvement.

The course takes about 6 weeks to complete and provides a certificate upon completion.



## 7. Teaching in University Science Laboratories

This specialized course focuses on improving science laboratory teaching in higher education, providing insights into effectively managing laboratory sessions and promoting a safe learning environment.

### **Key Features:**

- ✔ Comprehensive content covering various aspects of laboratory teaching.
- ✔ Practical strategies to enhance student engagement and understanding.
- ✔ Developed by the European Chemistry Thematic Network, making it highly relevant.

The course is available on Coursera, offering video content and reading materials.

## 8. Class Central

Class Central is a platform that aggregates a wide range of online courses from various providers, including renowned universities and educational organizations.

### **Key Features:**

- ✔ Diverse courses tailored to specific interests and expertise.
- ✔ Personalized course recommendations.
- ✔ Convenient management of multiple courses from different providers.
- ✔ Aggregated content from authentic sources.
- ✔ Notable PD courses on Class Central include "Uncommon Sense Teaching" and "Bridging Distance and In-School Learning – Blended Learning."

The course takes about 6 weeks to complete and provides a certificate upon completion.

## 9. Ed2Go

Ed2Go is an online education platform offering a comprehensive selection of professional development courses, from instructional design to classroom technology integration.

### **Key Features:**

- ✔ Instructor-led courses providing guidance and expertise.
- ✔ Wide course selection.
- ✔ Interactive learning with quizzes, assignments, and discussions.
- ✔ Flexible and convenient learning schedules.

Noteworthy courses include "Effective Classroom Management Strategies" and "Integrating Technology in the Classroom for Beginners."

## 10. The Foundation of Teaching for Learning

Offered by Professor John Macbeath, this foundational course covers the principles of effective teaching, including lesson planning, assessment strategies, and student engagement techniques.

### **Key Features:**

- ✔ Comprehensive coverage of core teaching elements.
- ✔ Emphasis on creating positive and impactful learning experiences.
- ✔ Available on Coursera with pre-recorded content.
- ✔ How to Choose the Right Professional Development Course

Professional development is a continuous process that helps refine your skills, adapt to new educational paradigms, and make a lasting impact on your students. Here are tips for choosing the right PD course:

- ✔ **Identify Your Professional Goals:**  
Narrow down to the most relevant courses and programs based on your career aspirations.
- ✔ **Consider Your Teaching Context:**  
Factor in grade level, subject area, and unique challenges in your teaching environment.
- ✔ **Look for Reviews and Recommendations:**  
Seek feedback from peers and trusted sources.
- ✔ **Examine Course Content and Format:**  
Ensure it resonates with your learning preferences.
- ✔ **Verify Accreditation and Certification:**  
Check if the course is recognized by your state's board of education.
- ✔ **Evaluate Instructor Expertise:**  
Choose courses led by knowledgeable educators or subject matter experts.
- ✔ **Consider Accessibility and Flexibility:**  
Ensure the course fits your schedule and is user-friendly.
- ✔ **Compare Cost with Value:**  
Assess the comprehensiveness and level of expertise offered by the course.



# CONCLUSION

Investing in professional development during the summer vacations demonstrates a commitment to personal growth and dedication to providing students with the best learning experiences. By actively seeking out and engaging in PD courses, teachers can enhance their skills, stay updated with emerging educational trends, and improve their overall job satisfaction.

Investing in professional development during the summer vacations is a powerful demonstration of a teacher's commitment to personal growth and their dedication to providing students with the best possible learning experiences. By using this time to engage in PD courses, educators are not only enhancing their skills but also staying current with emerging educational trends and methodologies. This proactive approach ensures that they are well-prepared to meet the evolving needs of their students, fostering a more dynamic and effective learning environment.

Moreover, this investment in professional development has broader benefits that extend beyond the classroom. Teachers who take the initiative to grow and refine their expertise often experience increased job satisfaction and a renewed passion for their profession. By staying engaged and continually improving, they position themselves as leaders in education, capable of inspiring and motivating both their students and colleagues. In the long run, this dedication to ongoing learning not only enhances their teaching practice but also contributes to a richer, more fulfilling career.



## **Prof. Sofia da Silva**

PEER EVALUATOR – PORTUGAL

*With a background in education and instructional design, Prof. Silva brings expertise in curriculum development and pedagogical best practices. Her insights help shape our articles on education and lifelong learning.*

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A photograph of two young men sitting at a table in a library or study area. They are looking at an open book together. The man on the left is wearing a red jacket over a checkered shirt. The man on the right is wearing a purple and blue plaid shirt and glasses. The background shows bookshelves filled with books.

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## FEATURED INSTITUTES

The Global Standardization and Accreditation Agency is proud to announce the successful accreditation of several esteemed educational institutions across the globe. These institutions have met our rigorous accreditation standards, demonstrating their unwavering commitment to delivering top-tier education. We are honored to present these institutions as prime examples of educational excellence, each having earned our valued certification this quarter. Their dedication to maintaining high academic standards and continuously improving their offerings reflects their deep commitment to their students and the global educational community.

Receiving global certification from GSAAA is a testament to an institution's steadfast dedication to quality and continuous improvement. These accredited institutions have undergone a thorough evaluation process, ensuring they meet the strict quality requirements set by GSAAA. By achieving this recognition, they have not only solidified their reputation for educational excellence but also positioned themselves as leaders in the global academic landscape.



## ERAM TECHNOLOGIES

ERAM Technologies, a prominent Indian training company and a subsidiary of the multinational ERAM Group, excels in providing industry-focused skill development programs. Located at the ERAM Skills Academy in Kunnampulam, Kerala, ERAM Technologies offers a diverse range of courses, including supply chain and logistics management, certified nursing assistance, hospitality management, and customer relationship management. These programs are meticulously designed to bridge the gap between academic knowledge and industry requirements, ensuring participants acquire practical, job-ready skills.

The company's success is highlighted by its international accreditation from the Global Standardization and Accreditation Agency (GSAAA), which underscores its training programs' global recognition and credibility. ERAM Technologies emphasizes hands-on training, practical experience, and industry relevance, which enhances participants' employability and aligns their career goals with market demands.

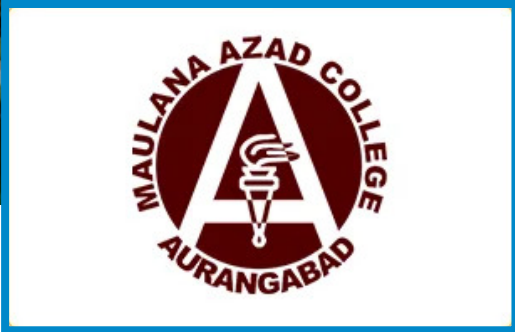


==== American Institute  
**AIPD** of Professional  
==== Development

## **AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (AIPD)**

The American Institute of Professional Development (AIPD) is a leading organization dedicated to enhancing career development through specialized training and certification programs. AIPD offers a range of industry-relevant courses that address skill gaps, providing students with practical, hands-on experience directly applicable to their fields. The institute's certifications are widely recognized, adding credibility to students' qualifications and improving their competitiveness in the job market.

AIPD supports students with personalized career counseling, resume and interview preparation, and networking opportunities, helping them navigate their career paths effectively. By offering flexible learning options, including online and self-paced courses, AIPD accommodates diverse schedules, allowing individuals to balance education with other commitments.



## **MAULANA AZAD COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCE AND COMMERCE**

Maulana Azad College of Arts, Science, and Commerce, located in Aurangabad, offers a rich blend of historical legacy and modern education. It provides diverse academic programs, including undergraduate degrees, master's programs, and PhDs in fields like Computer Studies, Chemistry, and Zoology. The college supports learning with state-of-the-art classrooms, well-equipped laboratories, and an extensive library. Complementing its academic offerings, the college boasts robust extracurricular facilities, including a gymnasium, stadium, and arts and music rooms. Student clubs, societies, and community engagement programs foster holistic development. The college's emphasis on educational excellence and personal growth contributes significantly to the local economy and social mobility, preparing students for successful careers and active community involvement.



## GLOBAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SCIENCE

The Global Institute of Health Science is a leading institution in online health education, offering a diverse array of programs, including Health Management Training, Clinical Research Courses, Paramedical Courses, and specialized Ayurvedic and Homeopathic programs. These courses provide individuals with advanced skills, certifications, and practical knowledge essential for career advancement in the healthcare sector. By offering flexible online learning options, the institute makes high-quality education accessible globally, supporting both professional development and academic pursuits. Opportunities for entrepreneurship, interdisciplinary learning, and community impact further enhance the value of its programs. The institute's comprehensive approach equips students to excel in their fields and contribute meaningfully to healthcare innovation and community health.



## INDRASHIL UNIVERSITY

Indrashil University, located in India, stands out for its commitment to academic excellence and holistic student development. The university offers various programs across multiple disciplines, including engineering, technology, management, science, and applied sciences. Its curriculum is designed to be comprehensive and industry-relevant, incorporating interdisciplinary courses, practical training, and cutting-edge research opportunities. Integrating industry collaborations ensures students are well-prepared for real-world challenges and career success.

Beyond academics, Indrashil University provides robust extracurricular opportunities that enhance the overall educational experience. Students can engage in various student clubs and societies, participate in sports and recreational activities, and participate in cultural events and competitions. The university also emphasizes professional development through skill-enhancing workshops, career counseling, and entrepreneurial support, including startup incubation and innovation labs.



# MEET OUR CERTIFIED PROFESSIONALS

Our certified professionals are awarded with prestigious credentials to stand out in today's competitive landscape.

These credentials come with a range of exclusive benefits, including personalized cover letters and resume revisions, a dedicated webpage on our platform, and listing recognition. These resources are designed to enhance their visibility and marketability, making it easier for employers and collaborators to connect with them.

Additionally, our certified professionals gain membership in our exclusive PowerClub, a network of like-minded individuals who are leaders in their fields. This membership offers opportunities for continuous learning, networking, and collaboration, significantly boosting their career prospects. Through these benefits, we ensure that our certified professionals are well-equipped to excel and advance in their careers.

# OUR FEATURED CERTIFIED PROFESSIONALS



**Said El Haouasli (MOROCCO)**  
GSAAA Certified Community Manager

*Said Elhaouasli is a seasoned Senior Executive with 20+ years of experience in Strategic Business Development, Operations Management, and Project Management in the GCC region. With a background in Electromechanical Engineering and an MBA in Strategic Facilities/Operations Management, he excels in transforming Community and Facilities Management operations. Fluent in four languages, his leadership roles include Executive Director of Community Management and VP of Facilities Management. He is recognized as the Best GCC Facilities Manager and Visionary Leader of IRECMS*



**Aditya Sharma (UAE)**  
GSAAA Certified Training Manager

*Aditya Sharma, Head of Mathematics at ATP STEM Education and Training Services in Dubai, is a skilled Training Manager with over four years of experience. He develops curriculum content for IB, GCSE, AP, CBSE, and ICSE programs and trains new teachers. Previously, he led JEE preparation at Byju's and Career Point Education. Aditya holds an MSc in Mathematics and a BTech in Mechanical Engineering and is pursuing a Postgraduate Certificate in Education. He is fluent in English and Hindi and passionate about chess, movies, and reading.*



## **Dr. Ahlam Badreldin Ibrahim Mukhtar El Shikieri (SUDAN)**

**GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional**

*Dr. Ahlam Badreldin Ibrahim Mukhtar El Shikieri is an Associate Professor and Consultant Clinical Nutritionist with over 19 years of experience. She holds a Ph.D. in Clinical Nutrition and a Postgraduate Diploma in Community Nutrition. Recognized as Outstanding Dietitian of the Year by the American Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, she leads the Clinical Nutrition Department at Taibah University. Known for her patient-centered approach and evidence-based practice, she advances global nutrition education and public health initiatives.*



## **MD. Amir Khan Shojal (BANGLADESH)**

**GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional**

*MD. Amir Khan Shojal, is a highly skilled Mathematics Teacher with over 8 years of experience and a Master's degree in Mathematics from Jagannath University, Dhaka. He currently serves as a Senior Mathematics Lecturer at Bangladesh School Muscat (BSM) in Oman, where he excels in creating engaging lesson plans and delivering effective instruction. His teaching career spans roles at Milestone School & College and various coaching centers in Bangladesh, where he has consistently improved student outcomes and earned recognition from the Principal of BSM. Proficient in Bengali, English, and Hindi, and skilled in software tools such as Microsoft Office, C Programming, and MATLAB, MD. Amir Khan Shojal demonstrates strong communication, problem-solving, and time-management abilities. Active in professional and community activities, he has held leadership roles such as Vice President of the Student Welfare Association at Jagannath University and volunteered with organizations like BADHAN. His dedication to teaching, diverse skill set, and commitment to continuous improvement make him a valuable asset to any educational institution.*



## **Randall Kleinbooi** (SOUTH AFRICA) GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional

*Randall Kleinbooi, is a dedicated and multilingual ESL educational specialist with extensive experience across diverse teaching environments. Holding a Bachelor's Degree in Biomedical Technology from The Cape Peninsula University of Technology and advanced certifications in TEFL and TESOL, Randall merges his educational passion with a solid academic background. His career includes designing and delivering engaging ESL lessons in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Malaysia, and South Korea, where he has earned recognition for tailoring instruction to student needs and achieving outstanding results. Randall's professional excellence is highlighted by awards such as the Best English Teacher Award and Certificates of Teaching Excellence. His commitment to teaching extends beyond the classroom through volunteer work and contributions to educational projects. With diverse interests, including website design, cycling, and cultural research, Randall's enthusiasm for education and lifelong learning enhances his effectiveness as an ESL educator. His expertise and dedication make him a valuable asset to any educational institution or teaching environment.*



## **Jeena Pauline Joseph** (SOUTH AFRICA) GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional

*Jeena Pauline Joseph, a seasoned English teacher with over 12 years of experience, currently teaches at Birla Public School in Doha, Qatar. Known for fostering student development and creating inclusive learning environments, she excels in using online platforms and multimedia strategies. Holding a Master's in English Language and Literature, a Bachelor's in English Education, and TESOL certifications, Jeena has a track record of excellent exam results and strong parent relationships. Her passion for teaching and commitment to student success make her a remarkable educator.*



## **Humera Banu (INDIA)**

### **GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional**

*Humera Banu is a creative English teacher with extensive experience in classroom administration and project planning. Holding an M.A. and M.Ed. in English Literature, along with TEFL/TESOL certifications, she brings deep expertise in language and child development. At Unity Public School in Chennai, she excelled in lesson planning, assessments, and individualized instruction. Known for her student-centric approach and effective communication, Humera's passion for education and continuous growth make her a valuable asset to any institution.*



## **Ameena Rasheed (UAE)**

### **GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional**

*Ameena Rasheed is an Information Science Engineer turned primary teacher with over 5 years of experience in education. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Information Science Engineering from PA College of Engineering, Mangalore, India, graduating with first-class honors. Ameena began her teaching career as a Home Tutor, providing personalized support to students from kindergarten to grade 8, before serving as a School Teacher at MES Public School in Kerala, India, from 2019 to 2023. In this role, she excelled in classroom management, curriculum development, and student engagement, creating innovative lesson plans and coordinating extracurricular activities. Fluent in English and Malayalam, Ameena is known for her practical communication skills and dedication to student success, making her a valuable asset to any educational institution.*



## **Arshad Gulab** (SAUDI ARABIA) GSAAA Certified Occupational Safety And Health Management Professional

*Arshad Gulab is a Certified Occupational Safety & Health Management Professional with qualifications equivalent to an MS in Business Administration. His diverse career includes managerial roles at APEX Public School and GLOBAL College of Commerce, as well as experience in media and public relations. With expertise in safety management, office automation, and project management, and international experience in Saudi Arabia with Naseer S Al Hajri Corporation and The Jaso Contracting, Arshad is also active in community welfare through AG WELFARE SOCIETY ABBOTTABAD and PAK KAWISH Foundation.*



## **Asma Abubaker Suliman** (EGYPT) GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional

*Asma Abubaker Suliman is a dedicated Certified Teaching Professional with a diverse background in both accounting and education. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration in Accounting from Abu Dhabi University and has furthered her expertise with an Advanced Certificate in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) from Notting Hill College and an International Diploma in Primary Education from the Institute of International Teachers Training. Asma is committed to lifelong learning, with plans to pursue CIMA certification, a Master's in Education, and a Ph.D. in Education. Her professional experience includes roles as Teacher Assistant and Class Manager at Excellence Junior School in Egypt and as a Teacher Assistant at Little Hands Nursery and School, where she honed her skills in early childhood education and classroom management. Asma's extracurricular interests in swimming, basketball, badminton, and reading reflect her well-rounded personality and commitment to personal growth. Proficient in Arabic and English, Asma excels in collaboration, adaptability, and time management. Her strong work ethic and passion for education make her a valuable asset to any educational or professional setting.*



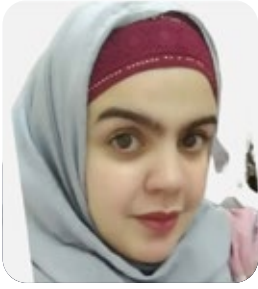
## **Shugufta Shereen (SAUDI ARABIA)** GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional

*Shugufta Shereen is a seasoned Certified Teaching Professional with over 10 years of experience in education. Holding a Master's in Mathematics from Osmania University and certifications from GSAAA and the British Council, she has taught at Al Majd International School and Victory International School in Saudi Arabia. Her expertise includes innovative lesson planning, educational technology integration, and curriculum development. Fluent in English, Urdu, Hindi, Telugu, and basic Arabic, Shugufta excels in creating inclusive learning environments and engaging students from diverse backgrounds. Her dedication and diverse skills make her an influential academic expert.*



## **Shubham Kumar Singh (INDIA)** GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional

*Shubham Kumar Singh is a seasoned Social Science teacher and curriculum developer with over 4 years of experience. He holds a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in History, a Master of Arts in Medieval History, and a Bachelor of Education in Social Science. Currently, Shubham teaches at Gems Education Group in Dubai, UAE, where he instructs Grades 6 to 10 in Social Science and leads the Moral, Social, and Cultural Studies program. He also manages the Model United Nations Club and serves as the Timetable In-Charge. Previously, he worked as an Academic Lead - History at Reliance Jio Embibe in Bengaluru, India, focusing on curriculum development and personalized learning using AI and Data Science. His teaching experience includes a role at GD Goenka Signature School in Gurugram and community service in New Delhi, where he prepared students for CBSE Board Examinations. Shubham's dedication to modern teaching methods and professional development underscores his commitment to enhancing educational practices and student success.*



## **Tanzeela Mukhtar (SAUDI ARABIA)**

### **GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional**

*Tanzeela Mukhtar is a dedicated Science Teacher with over 5 years of experience in developing and implementing comprehensive science curricula. She specializes in general science concepts, chemistry, and biology, adeptly conveying complex ideas in an engaging manner. Tanzeela holds a Higher Secondary Certificate in Pre-Medical and a Bachelor's degree in Science from Hazara University, Pakistan. She also earned a Bachelor of Education from Sarhad University, enhancing her pedagogical skills. Currently, she teaches at Manar International School in Hafar al Batin, Saudi Arabia, where she establishes structured learning environments and employs diverse teaching methods such as lectures, discussions, and demonstrations. She effectively prepares and administers assessments to gauge student progress. Previously, at Tameer-e-Watan Public School & College in Abbottabad, Pakistan, she showcased strong organizational skills, created engaging lesson plans, and maintained open communication with parents to address student concerns. Her commitment to educational excellence and her proficiency in science instruction and classroom management make her a valuable asset to any institution aiming for academic success and student development.*



## **Taruna Raghav (UAE)**

### **GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional**

*Taruna Raghav is a dedicated Physical Education Teacher and Rhythmic Gymnastics Coach with over six years of experience. Based in Dubai, she works at Star Sports Academy, promoting health and wellness through physical activities. Holding a Bachelor of Physical Education and a Bachelor of Arts, Taruna previously developed gymnastics skills at Pathways World School in India and led successful teams at Sportyze Academy and Presidium Rhythmic Gymnastics Academy. Her commitment is demonstrated through workshops, medals in competitions, and her dynamic skills in Zumba, aerobics, and choreography. Fluent in English and Hindi, Taruna excels in creating positive learning environments.*





## **Fowziya Ahamed** (SAUDI ARABIA) GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional

*Fowziya Ahamed is an experienced teacher with expertise in curriculum development for Mathematics, English, Science, Social Studies, Hindi, and Urdu. Holding a Bachelor's in Mathematics from Madras University and pursuing a Master's from Osmania University, she currently teaches at Justice Basheer Ahmed Syeed School in India and has experience at Future Generation International School in Jeddah. Fowziya excels in classroom management, lesson planning, and individualized instruction, earning multiple "Teacher of the Month" awards. Fluent in English, Hindi, and Urdu, with basic Arabic proficiency, she is recognized as an International Teacher by GSAAA. Her dedication and skills make her a valuable asset to the educational community.*



## **Fariya Azmin Afraha** (OMAN) GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional

*Fariya Azmin Afraha is a dedicated educator with a Bachelor of Engineering in Electronics and Telecommunications from Middle East College, Oman. Transitioning into education, she has two years of experience teaching physics and general science. From January 2021 to April 2023, she was a Physics Teacher at Bangladesh School Muscat in Oman, where she employed diverse instructional strategies to engage Middle School students aligned with the Edexcel Curriculum. Additionally, she served as a Class Teacher and Mentor, contributing significantly to students' academic and personal growth. Her previous roles as a Technical Sales Engineer and Data Entry Officer have enriched her professional background. Fariya's commitment to professional development is evident through her participation in training programs and her adept use of educational technology tools like Google Classroom, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams. Her focus on fostering critical thinking and encouraging student engagement underscores her dedication to helping students achieve their fullest potential.*



## **Mehvish Jabeen (OMAN)**

### **GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional**

*Mehvish Jabeen is a dedicated biomedical science professional with First Class Honours in Biomedical Science from the University of East London (2022). Her expertise includes medical microbiology, clinical biochemistry, and immunology, with proficiency in techniques like spectroscopy and ELISA. Mehvish has also worked as a retail assistant, domiciliary carer, and home tutor, receiving awards such as the 1st Winner Prize in the Health and Safety Quiz. Her hobbies include reading, writing, gardening, and cooking. Her commitment to patient care and professional development makes her a valuable asset in biomedical science.*



## **Krishnamurthy Balajee (OMAN)**

### **GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional**

*Krishnamurthy Balajee is a seasoned professional based in Durgapur, West Bengal, with extensive experience in business development, customer service, and material management. He holds an MBA in Human Resources from Sikkim Manipal University, graduating with an 'A' grade and a BSc in Mathematics from Vinoba Bhave University. Krishnamurthy's recent role as a Business Development Executive at Incogeek (OPC) Pvt. Ltd. involved handling US customers, cold calling, sales, lead generation, and training new candidates. His previous position as a Lead Generator at Seclore Pvt. Ltd. saw him generating a hundred leads per day using Zoom info. With over seven years at Graphite India Limited as an Assistant Officer, Krishnamurthy excelled in vendor and supplier management, logistics, procurement operations, and material management using SAP. His earlier roles include Senior Team Leader at Global Impact Pvt. Ltd., Business Development Executive at Pinnacle Infotech Solutions, and Customer Relationship Officer at Hinduja Global Solutions. Krishnamurthy's core competencies include effective communication, an assertive approach, strong, convincing power, and sound knowledge of HR practices and labor laws.*



## Lewis Taylor (SAUDI ARABIA)

### GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional

*Lewis Taylor is a dedicated academic professional with nearly a decade of experience in education and student engagement. As the Academic Director at the National Construction Academy in Al-Qassim, Saudi Arabia, he oversees curriculum development, accreditation processes, and strategic financial resource management, significantly contributing to the academy's expansions and projects. Lewis holds multiple degrees, including a Postgraduate Diploma in TEFL from i-to-i, London, and is pursuing an MA in Islamic Studies at the International Open University in Qatar and a BA in Shariah at the Islamic University of Madinah. He also holds a BA in Arabic Language and Islamic Studies from the International Open University, Qatar, and a BA in Sports and Physical Education from the University of Bedfordshire, UK.*

*His career includes managing leisure facilities at Greenwich Leisure Limited in London and teaching Sports and Physical Education at the University of Bedfordshire. Currently, he is enhancing his expertise with a Postgraduate Diploma in Education Management and Leadership at Anglia Ruskin University, UK. Lewis's diverse academic credentials and extensive operational management experience make him a highly influential academic leader and manager committed to fostering educational excellence and innovation.*



## Sughra Zaid (BAHRAIN)

### GSAAA Certified Teaching Professional

*Sughra Zaid is a seasoned HR professional in Bahrain with over a decade of experience in HR strategy, employee relations, and training. She began as an HR & Admin Assistant at Scope Production & Distribution and progressed to HR & Training Manager at Al Areen Leisure & Tourism. Sughra has an MBA from Malaysia Open University, a Bachelor's from The Kingdom University, and CIPD certification. Fluent in English and Arabic, she focuses on enhancing organizational success and employee satisfaction.*

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