

Impact of Covid-19 on staff's teaching skills and students' learning abilities in primary and secondary schools

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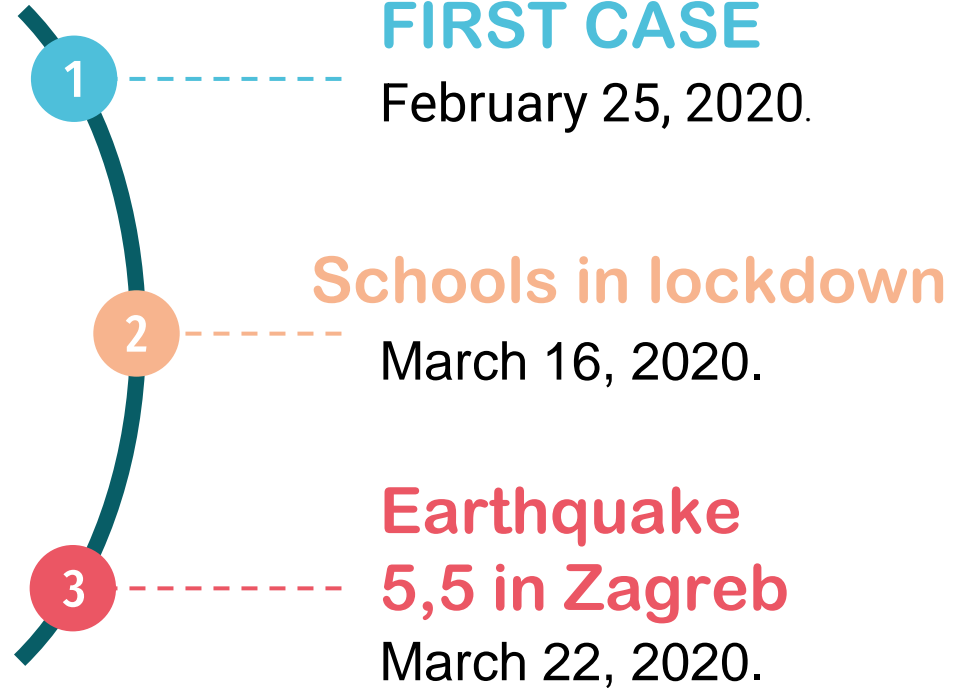


DAAD Workshop
September, 4th 2023.

Content

- About the Covid – 19 epidemic in Croatia
- How it reflected on primary and secondary education
- How it reflected on our primary school
- National research about impact of the epidemic
- Conclusion

COVID-19 in Croatia



Meanwhile...

National e School project

- from 2019 until 2022 the project was to be implemented in all primary and secondary schools in Croatia
- carried out by Carnet and Ministry of science and education with support of Croatian government

National project School for life

- from 2018
- education for teachers
- changes in curriculum
- creating educational resources
- applying ICT in class



Goal

development and growth of digital technologies in schools

Finance

European funds cover 85% of overall value 40,7 million €

What's going on in schools?

March – June 2020.



Primary school

- The youngest students (6-10 yo) follow classes on national tv
 - Students (10-14 yo) are given tablets for online classes
 - Teachers are given laptops
-

Online classes

- Telecommunications companies provide sim cards for all tablets to students without Internet connection (no wi-fi at home)
 - Every school chooses its own online tool
-

Secondary school

- Students are entirely at home, online classes
- Teachers are given laptops

Which tools did we use?

- Every school decided for itself what technology to use
- The mostly used were:



Google Classroom

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Our experience

- unable to receive a lot of users and groups - crashes
- no distinction between students and teachers – led to misuse from students
- easy to communicate
- private and „public” space
- live chat and video calls



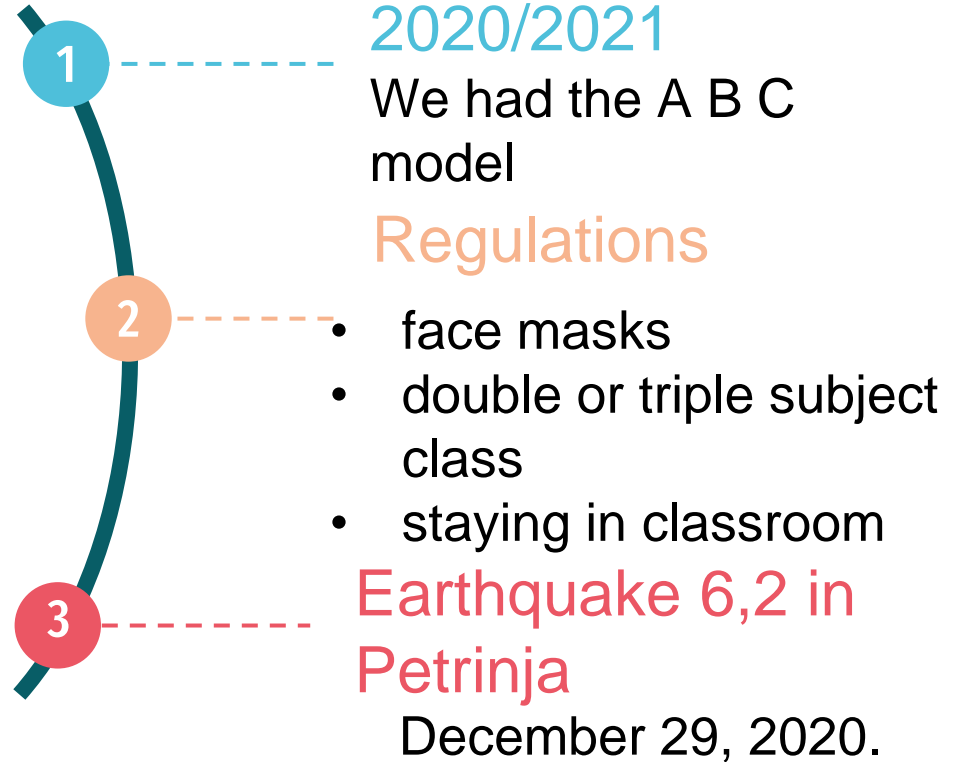
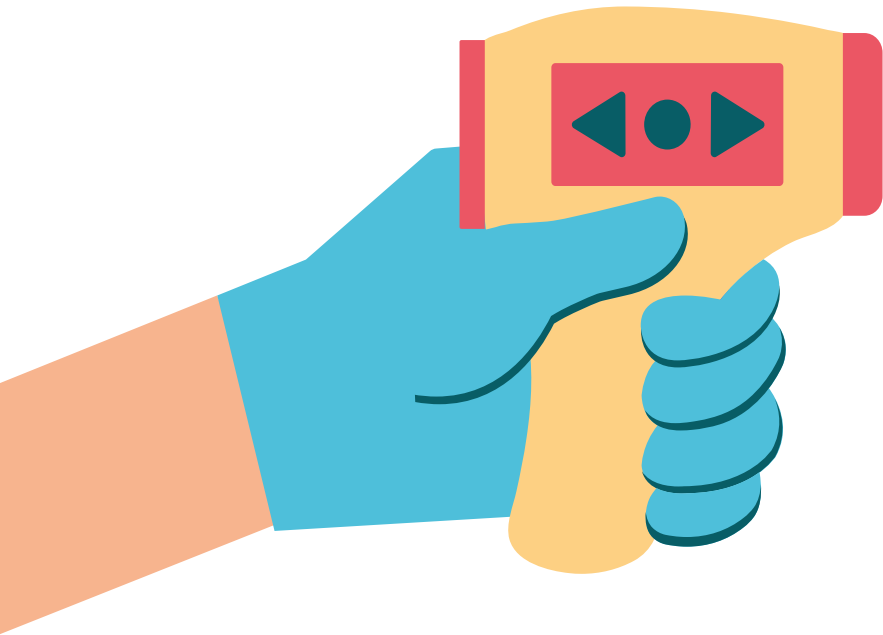
- stable for our use
- familiar to part of our students
- has distinction between student and teacher authority
- no video calls
- becomes slower with more users, chat delay
- stopped working on September 2022



Where are we as teachers?

- as an ICT teacher I'm supporting both students and other teachers
- many technical issues, forgotten passwords
- keeping pace with new features in educational programs
- as a headroom teacher dealing with mental wellbeing of my students
- lots of contact (phone calls, messages, chat, e-mails) with students and parents

COVID-19 in Croatia



How did it impact the ICT teachers?



1

Adjustment was necessary

2

Learning new technical skills

3

Changing the way we teach



4

Changing the expectations from students

5

Lowering the criteria

6

No working hours Available all the time



How did it impact the students?

1

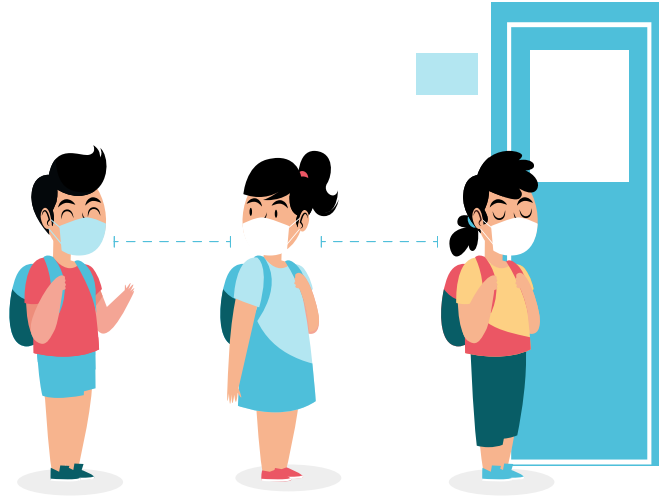
Tendency to use digital devices but not managing more than one or two platforms

2

Lack of motivation and work ethics

3

Changing the way they learn



4

Being more independent or rely more on parents' help

5

Time management – time for school and work without distractions

6

Mental issues

Impact of Covid -19 on staff's teaching skills and students' learning abilities

- Our experience, primary school E. Kumičića, Velika Gorica:
- Teachers:
 - more time needed to manage new technology
 - adopt new ways of teaching and new criteria for evaluation
 - no appropriate tools for students with disabilities

Students:

- easily accept new technology
- less motivated for learning
- new cheating techniques
- often forget passwords

Croatian national research



- Financed by Ministry of science and education and carried out from March 2021 till December 2021
- In the next phase from August 2021 till February 2023 financed by Croatian foundation for science
- The goal of the project was to record consequences of pandemic and earthquake on the system of education

National research: First wave 20/21



27 023 students

4796 teachers

165 primary and
secondary schools

National research: Second wave 21/22



43 495 students

8 861 teachers

167 primary and
secondary schools

TESTED STUDENTS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS— second wave (June, 2022)

5th grade students— **3728**, our school: **122**

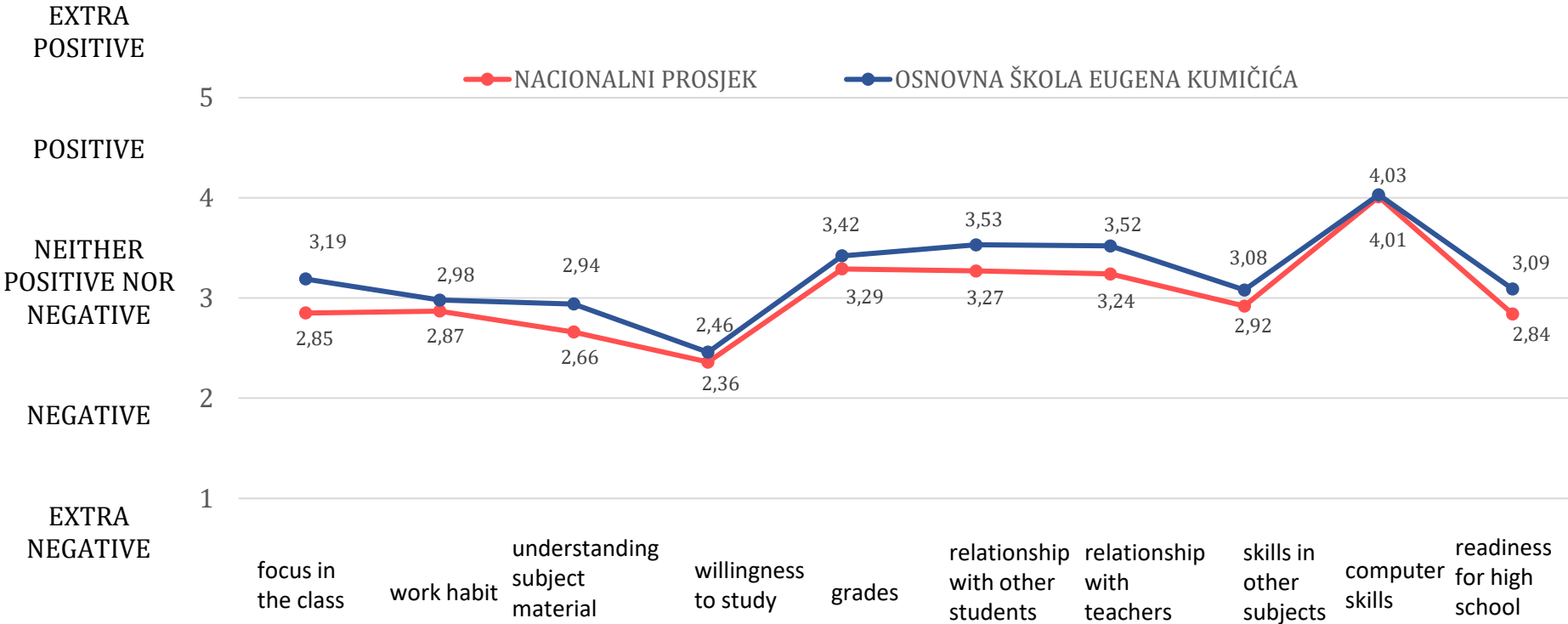
7th grade students — **3899**, our school: **92**



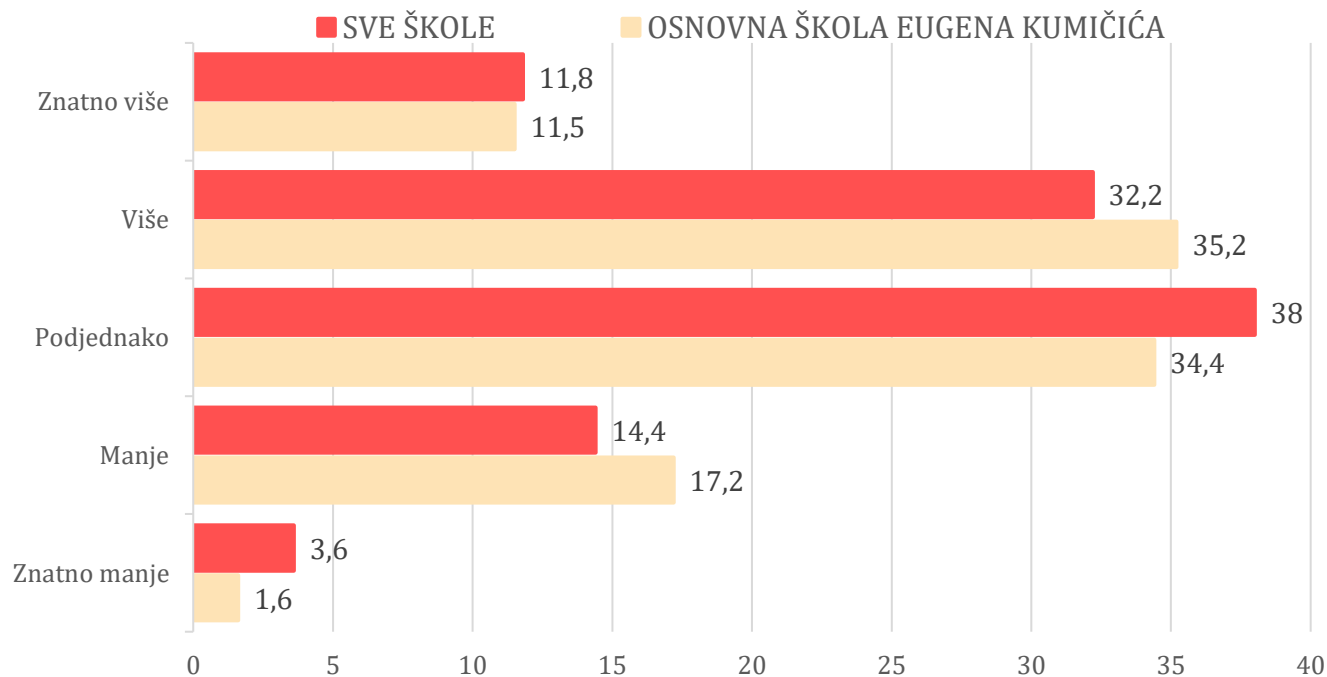
In every school

- teachers and students filled out a survey
- sample of teachers and students had face to face interview
- primary schools – 5th and 7th grade
- secondary schools – 3rd grade

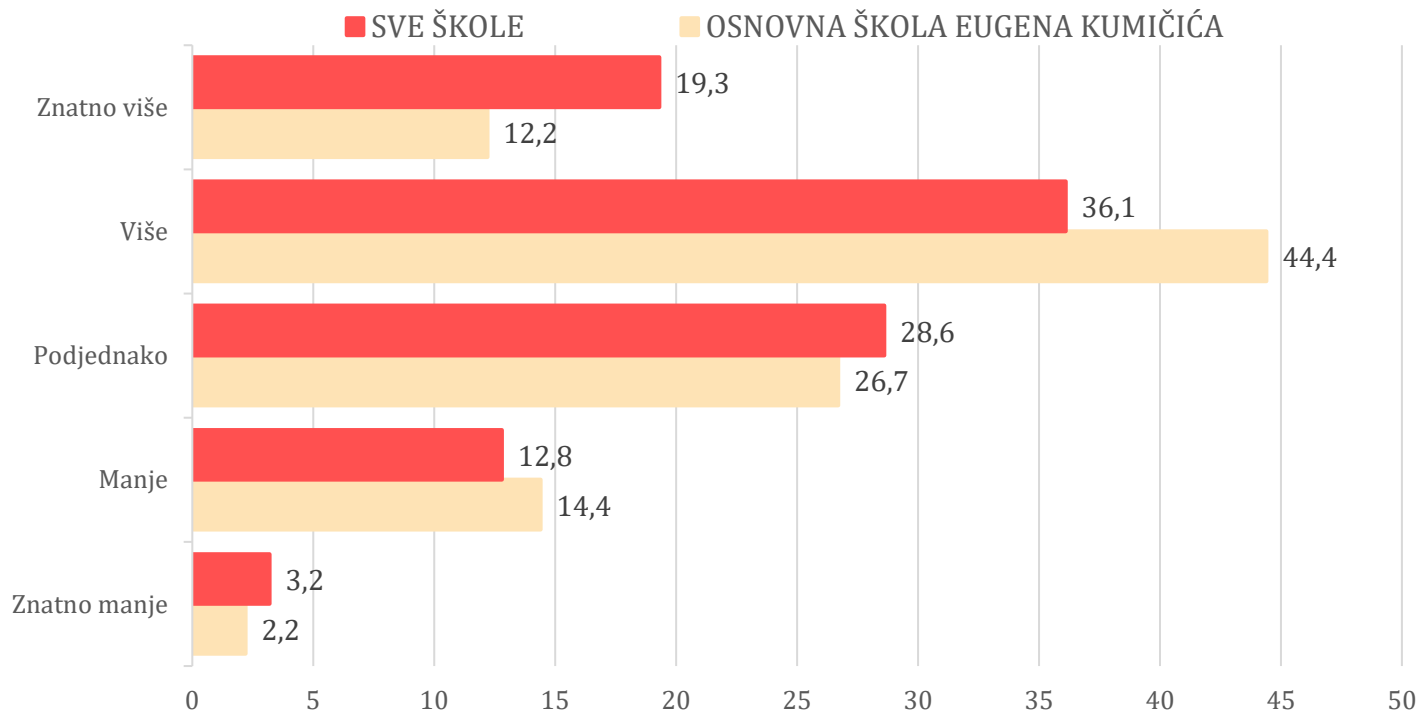
IMPACT OF CHANGES IN TEACHING AND SCHOOL ORGANIZATION ON FACTORS IN PROCESS OF EDUCATION- RESULTS OF OUR SCHOOL COMPARED TO NATIONAL AVERAGE IN YEAR 2021/2022., 7th grade



TIME SPENT IN FRONT OF SCREEN IN YEAR 2021/2022 COMPARED TO PERIOD BEFORE PANDEMIC– RESULT OF OUR SCHOOL COMPARED TO NATIONAL AVERAGE: 5th grade



TIME SPENT IN FRONT OF SCREEN IN YEAR 2021/2022 COMPARED TO PERIOD BEFORE PANDEMIC – RESULT OF OUR SCHOOL COMPARED TO NATIONAL AVERAGE: 7th grade



Impact of the pandemic for students:

- positive impact:
- Computer skills

6th grade 2021	7th grade 2022	2nd grade 2021	3rd grade 2022
81,8%	73%	61,9%	59,9%



Impact of a pandemic for students:



- negative impact:
- **Work habits**

6th grade 2021	7th grade 2022	2nd grade 2021	3rd grade 2022
22,4%	37,8%	50,2%	46,1%

- **Motivation for studying**

6th grade 2021	7th grade 2022	2nd grade 2021	3rd grade 2022
41,8%	55,9%	63,4%	59,8%

- **Understanding of studying materials**

6th grade 2021	7th grade 2022	2nd grade 2021	3rd grade 2022
26,6%	43,8%	49,1%	44,3%

Conclusion



STUDENTS

More than half of the students are experiencing a negative impact because of the epidemic



NEGATIVE IMPACT

Organization changes and restrictions decrease motivation for studying



POSITIVE IMPACT

Increase of digital skills



LONG TERM NEGATIVE IMPACT

Mental health issues, lack of outside school activities, less sport activities

Conclusion



01

Most teachers can apply new tools and technology

02

In online class teachers need more control over students

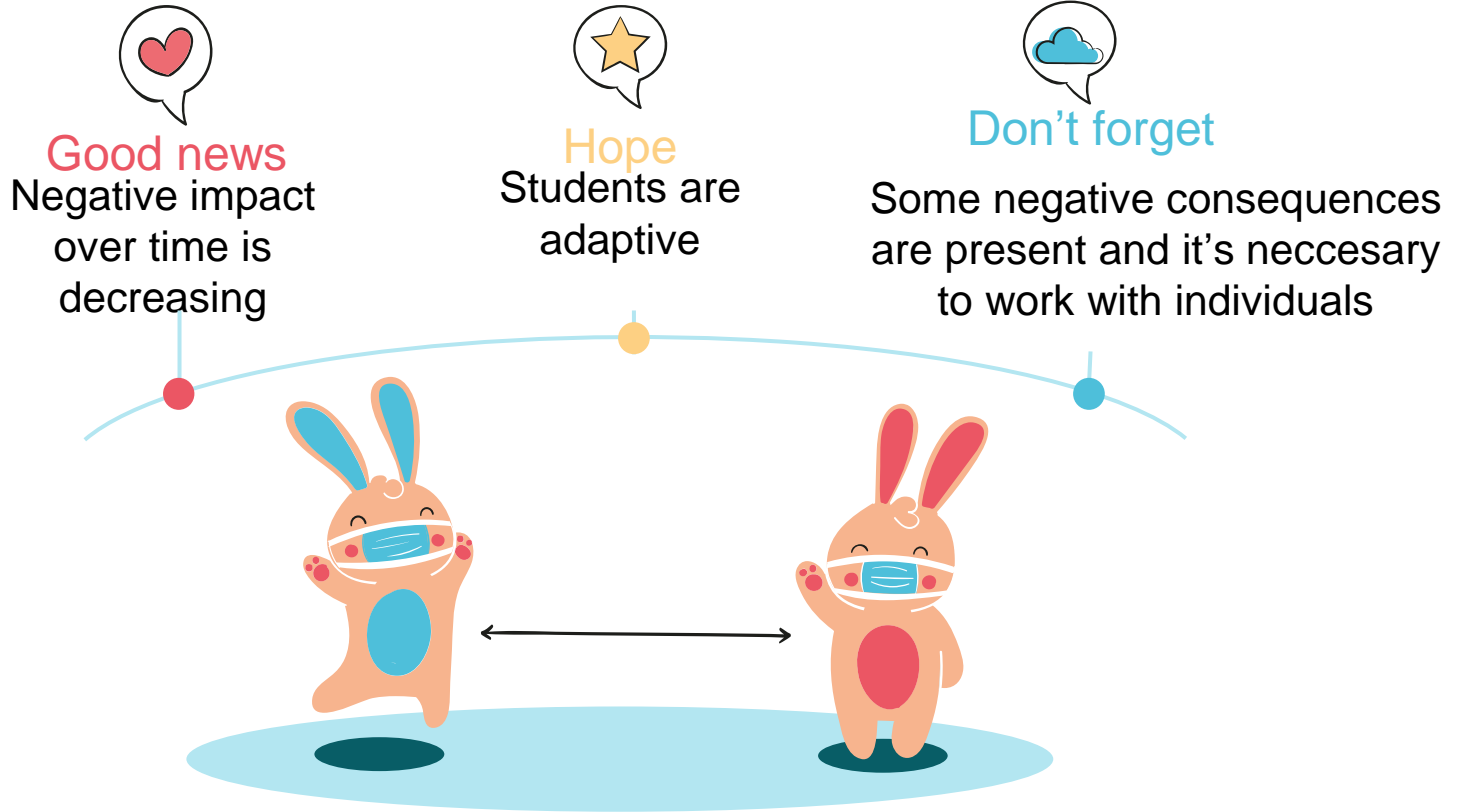


03

Teachers use ICT tools but prefer face to face teaching



Silver lining



Future potential for ICT education

- We've made big progress to push teachers into technology – we need to build on those foundations
- We (as a school) need to choose few programs to use
- Most students can't manage multiple teaching programs
- Student are often looking for shortcuts
- Students love technology but need guidance, rules and limitations
- It is claimed that in primary school the best way to learn is face to face – so we can develop students soft skills

Thank you

- Questions?

Literature:

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Literature:

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