As educators open the web to learners, there is an increased responsibility to ensure student safety. The challenge is - is this accomplished by locking down access and policing learner browsing, or through supervised self-monitoring and a gradual release of responsibility?

A B C

The Evolution of Monitoring

Where do you fall in the evolution of monitoring?





Locked-down learning

Learners are limited to very specific web pages and sites that are provided for them.

Educators monitor constantly to make sure learners don't get off task.

Inappropriate tabs are closed without warning in order to refocus



Educators rely on Focused Browsing sessions to limit distractions.

Hand-held learning

Learners are limited in what websites and pages they can use, but occasionally find resources on their own when appropriate search engines and databases are provided.



Monitoring is used throughout class to ensure learners are on task.



Warnings are provided to off task students before intervention. Off task or inappropriate internet use is heavily documented.



Focused Browsing is used frequently to limit distractions.



Structured learning

Learners are provided with a mix of independent and hand-held digital learning tasks.



Monitoring is used frequently to ensure learners are on task and engaged, as well as to provide feedback on the work being done.

If necessary, warnings and reminders are provided to off task students.

Focus Browsing is primarily used for assessments, while Filter Browsing allows learners to explore more freely, with some limits.

Semi-independent learning



Learners can largely be trusted to work independently and stay on task. They can locate resources and information with support.



Monitoring is used periodically to check that learners are engaged and to offer feedback.

Focus Browsing is sometimes used for assessments and Filter Browsing is used to provide some limits, as needed.

Independent learning

Learners know what is expected of them and can be trusted to go online and primarily stay on task. They can independently locate resources and information.

Monitoring tools are used to check learner progress and offer formative feedback.

Focus Browsing is only used during online assessments.

Hāpara enables educators to assist their learners on a progressive evolution toward autonomy and learner agency.

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