Creating Effective Learning Environments

cognia

The Best School

1. In what environments (eleot items) is this school demonstrating strong practices?
2. What opportunities exist for improvement?
3. What can we understand about this learning environment within the school?
4. From what types of PD would the teachers benefit?
5. How can the results inform the leadership team as they develop improvement strategies?

Learning Environment	Notes
A. Equitable Learning Environment	
B. High Expectations Learning Environment	
C. Supportive Learning Environment	
D. Active Learning Environment	
E. Progress Monitoring and Feedback Learning Environment	
F. Well-managed Learning Environment	

G. Digital Learning Environment

Effective Learning Environments Observation Tool (eleot®)

The purpose of this tool is to help you identify and document observable evidence of classroom environments that are conducive to student learning. Results of your observations will be used to corroborate information obtained from interviews, artifacts and student performance data. Please circle the number that corresponds with your observation of each learning environment item descriptor below. As needed and appropriate, briefly make inquiries with students

Date _____ School _____ City _____ State or Province _____ Country _____ Grade Level _____

Time In _____ Time Out _____ Check ALL that apply: Lesson Beg. _____ Lesson Middle _____ Lesson End _____ Subject Observed _____ Observer Name _____

Student-focused Observations	Very Eviden	Evident	Somewhat	Not Observe
A. **Equitable Learning Environment:**				
1. Learners engage in differentiated learning opportunities and/or activities that meet their needs	4	3	2	1
2. Learners have equal access to classroom discussions, activities, resources, technology, and support	4	3	2	1
3. Learners are treated in a fair, clear and consistent manner	4	3	2	1
4. Learners demonstrate and/or have opportunities to develop empathy/respect/appreciation for differences in abilities, aptitudes, backgrounds, cultures, and/or other human characteristics,	4	3	2	1
B. **High Expectations Learning Environment:**				
1. Learners strive to meet or are able to articulate the high expectations established by themselves and/or the teacher	4	3	2	1
2. Learners engage in activities and learning that are challenging but attainable	4	3	2	1
3. Learners demonstrate and/or are able to describe high quality work	4	3	2	1
4. Learners engage in rigorous coursework, discussions, and/or tasks that require the use of higher order thinking (e.g., analyzing, applying, evaluating, synthesizing)	4	3	2	1
5. Learners take responsibility for and are self-directed in their learning	4	3	2	1
C. **Supportive Learning Environment:**				
1. Learners demonstrate a sense of community that is positive, cohesive, engaged, and purposeful	4	3	2	1
2. Learners take risks in learning (without fear of negative feedback)	4	3	2	1
3. Learners are supported by the teacher, their peers and/or other resources to understand content and accomplish tasks	4	3	2	1
4. Learners demonstrate a congenial and supportive relationship with their teacher	4	3	2	1
D. **Active Learning Environment:**				
1. Learners' discussions/dialogues/exchanges with each other and the teacher predominate	4	3	2	1
2. Learners make connections from content to real-life experiences	4	3	2	1
3. Learners are actively engaged in the learning activities	4	3	2	1
4. Learners collaborate with their peers to accomplish/complete projects, activities, tasks and/or	4	3	2	1
E. **Progress Monitoring and Feedback Learning Environment:**				
1. Learners monitor their own learning progress or have mechanisms whereby their learning progress is monitored	4	3	2	1
2. Learners receive/respond to feedback (from teachers/peers/other resources) to improve understanding and/or revise work	4	3	2	1
3. Learners demonstrate and/or verbalize understanding of the lesson/content	4	3	2	1
4. Learners understand and/or are able to explain how their work is assessed	4	3	2	1
F. **Well-Managed Learning Environment:**				
1. Learners speak and interact respectfully with teacher(s) and each other	4	3	2	1
2. Learners demonstrate knowledge of and/or follow classroom rules and behavioral expectations and work well with others	4	3	2	1
3. Learners transition smoothly and efficiently from one activity to another	4	3	2	1
4. Learners use class time purposefully with minimal wasted time or disruptions	4	3	2	1
G. **Digital Learning Environment**				
1. Learners use digital tools/technology to gather, evaluate, and/or use information for learning	4	3	2	1
2. Learners use digital tools/technology to conduct research, solve problems, and/or create original works for learning	4	3	2	1
3. Learners use digital tools/technology to communicate and/or work collaboratively for learning	4	3	2	1