

How to choose the right online platform for your classroom

Choosing an online teaching platform depends on the students you teach and the kind of activities you want to use, so it's important to think carefully about what you want from them.

Here are four things you should think about before you choose:

Does your chosen platform allow you to share ...?

- Your screen: browser window, documents and slides
- Documents for collaborative work
- Your computer sound for audio and video



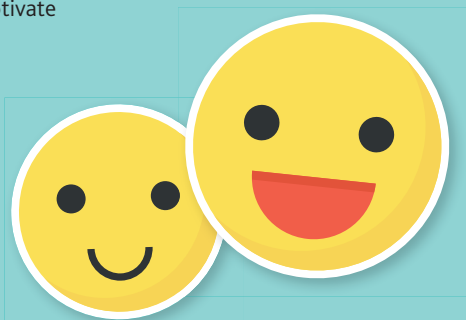
Can you and your students use a whiteboard to ...?

- Write, draw, spotlight, erase, undo, redo
- Paste in and annotate images and activities
- Save your whiteboard



Can you and your students use the chat features to ...?

- Share written instructions
- Ask questions and get a response
- Use symbols to indicate when they're ready or when there's a problem
- Share documents and links
- Use stickers and emojis to enhance interaction, praise and motivate



How does your platform facilitate pair and group work? Is it easy to ...?

- Choose how to group your learners
- Set a timer to automatically bring students back to the main room
- Move from group to group to monitor conversations
- Communicate with individual groups and all groups
- Access chat, the whiteboard and documents from breakout rooms
- Display what was done in breakout rooms to the rest of the class

