Innovation Policy

At DePS, we believe that students should think critically and collaborate with peers to develop team spirit leading to innovation and leadership, thus preparing them for life. Innovation and innovative practices are central to our work as educators, and we work towards high standards in teaching, putting learning at the center in all that we do. This policy ensures that everyone is committed to achieving a high-quality consistent approach to innovation. All staff are expected to adopt innovative approaches to teaching and learning, by designing Innovation, research, science, and technology and form the pillars of a knowledge-based, highly productive, and competitive economy, driven by entrepreneurs in a business-friendly environment where public and private sectors form effective partnerships.

Innovation involves creating the conditions and giving meaningful opportunities across all subjects and phases. Students, teachers, and leaders can develop their creativity, resilience, high order thinking, courage to take risks and incubate, deliver and use new ideas and approaches.
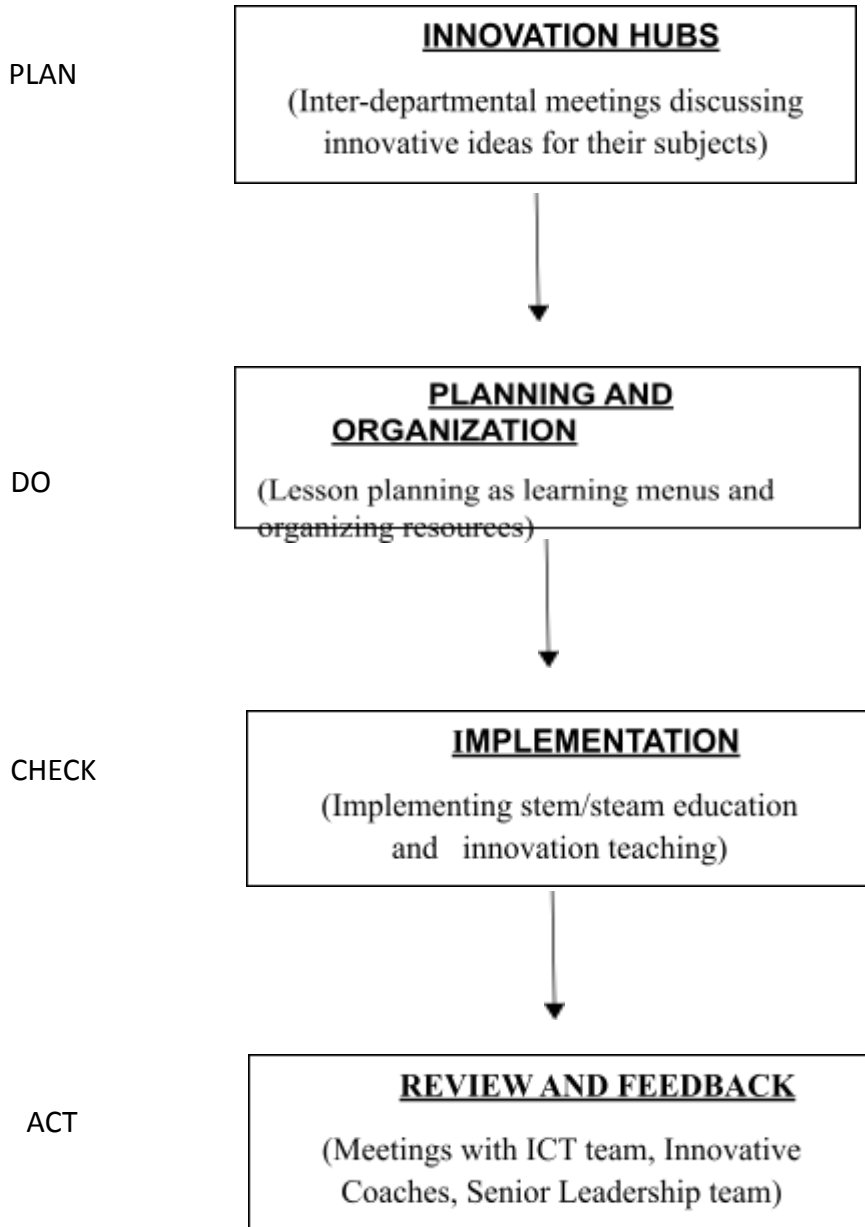
Forms of innovation include:

At Deps, our aim is to establish Innovation as a culture across the school. Creating new ideas and the use of new or improved approaches. Stimulating entrepreneurship and enterprise as effective drivers of economic growth in the modern era.

1. Innovation in the development of Arabic and Islamic Studies for which there is a group-wide collaboration focused on implementing standards as driving pedagogies more closely aligned to modern language teaching
2. Integrate high-level digital technology with the curriculum throughout all the subjects by use of desktops and interactive panels for students at different phases. Supporting this vision, Deira Private School proposes to integrate high-level digital technology and embed it completely with the curriculum in all subjects. BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) iPads/Tabs in primary school are some of our initiatives.
3. Under our Innovation Program, we focus on ensuring that our 21st-century skills are well incorporated into lesson plans, teaching, and learning.
4. The curriculum is designed in a manner to cater to students with different learning abilities.
5. Digital library is introduced to enhance and advance e-learning and reading especially in the primary students. E-learning platforms will be created and promoted across the school.
6. Access to e-learning portals and online stimulation for all students excite curiosity and invite interaction using different platforms.
7. Incorporating hands-on education in the curriculum emphasizes specifically critical thinking skills central to "good science"–questioning, investigating, forming hypotheses, interpreting data, analyzing, developing conclusions, and solving problems.
8. Implementation of STEM/STREAM/ coding education across the school through platforms like LEGO Education, PITSCO Education, PASCO Scientific, SAM Labs, XYZPrinting.
9. Enhancing immersive learning through AR/VR as innovative digital solutions.
10. Classroom setup that fosters curiosity and investigation to develop higher-order thinking.
11. Formative assessment is not limited to written tasks but should be extended to hands-on and verbal assessments as well to cater to all forms of Multiple Intelligence.
12. Innovation in lesson planning to cater to the ability of Multiple intelligence and individual

need in each student through Learning Menus.

13. Learning walks to ensure an effective teaching-learning process in school.

14. Provision of alternative learning spaces as SOUL ROOM, well-equipped outdoor learning areas as ECO Labs, and Grow your own food to enhance critical thinking and help students to work in a real-life environment.A flexible approach by the school to be witnessed. Transformable learning spaces, student-centeredness, problem-based learning facilities, or provision for students with physical, learning, or behavioral difficulties or for "at-risk" students.

15. Real-life examples of innovation in the UAE will be explored, including field trips when possible. Examples include yacht races in Dubai, the use of solar energy in the UAE, factories, and transport using hybrid energy sources, and other uses of UAE sustainable energy.

16. Training sessions and CPDs will be organized to train teachers to think critically, apply their knowledge to unfamiliar problems, and to be able to come up with new ideas.

17. Students are developing skills of innovation, enterprise, and entrepreneurship through a range of programs and activities.

18. Teachers provide students with models of innovative practice and opportunities to use advanced learning technologies. Skills that support innovative outcomes are consistently developed through practical application.

19. In teaching and learning approaches, such as the ways in which learning technologies are used; classroom design including virtual spaces; assessment; timetabling; partnerships to promote effective learning and engagement in the economy; and the ways in which teachers and leaders are recruited, trained, developed and rewarded.

20. The Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS) learning activities outside of school and additional opportunities, such as World Scholars enrich the curriculum and provide students with opportunities to think innovatively.

21. The principal and senior leaders will actively promote innovation across the school.

The pedagogies and teaching models, such as problem-based learning or metacognitive strategies will be incorporated into the daily lesson plans which will help develop the skills for innovation in students.

PDCA (Plan Do Check Act)

PLAN

> **INNOVATION HUBS**
>
> (Inter-departmental meetings discussing innovative ideas for their subjects)

DO

> **PLANNING AND ORGANIZATION**
>
> (Lesson planning as learning menus and organizing resources)

CHECK

> **IMPLEMENTATION**
>
> (Implementing stem/steam education and innovation teaching)

ACT

> **REVIEW AND FEEDBACK**
>
> (Meetings with ICT team, Innovative Coaches, Senior Leadership team)

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Date written	April 2021
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