

ACTIVE LEARNING FRAMEWORK CONSULTATION FORM

The consultation is part of the Novigado project's O2 "Active Learning Reference Framework".

How should active learning look like in a school? What would you recommend to teachers?

By Fernando Manuel Franco, former teacher and member of the Directorate-General for Education, Portugal

Innovative Educational Environments / Learning Environments are workspaces thought and designed for the development of active learning, centred on students and where technology can play a decisive role in the enrichment of these same spaces.

The IEE (Innovative Educational Environments) or Learning Environments (LE), were born from a concept created by European Schoolnet (EUN), in 2014, the Future Classroom Lab (FCL) and aimed, at the time, to promote technological and pedagogical modernization traditional classrooms, where teaching styles, generally focused on the transmission of knowledge, prevailed.

In order to continue the work developed over four years, and taking into account the current educational policies of the Ministry of Education, namely, what is enshrined in the "Profile of Students leaving compulsory schooling" and which refers to the skills development, such as Creativity, Communication, Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, among others, the Directorate-General for Education (DGE), through its Educational Technologies and Resources Team (ERTE), created, Learning Labs (LL) Initiative, whose objective is to support teachers in the use of methodologies appropriate to IEE or LE and, as already mentioned, focused on the development of active learning by students, in contexts enriched by technology.

The growing number of schools that intend to create innovative spaces, more than 100 registered now, for teaching and learning, it has been the mission of DGE's ERTE, through the LL Initiative, to provide guidelines for the dynamization of these spaces, fundamentally at the level of teacher training in methodologies and pedagogical practices appropriate to the goal of educating in a society of information and knowledge where digital prevails.

For the dissemination of the dynamics underlying the IIE / LE, DGE's ERTE team has been supported by the network of ICT Competence Centres and by the LL Ambassadors, which promote training and practical work sessions focused on methodologies suitable for collaborative, project work and problem solving.

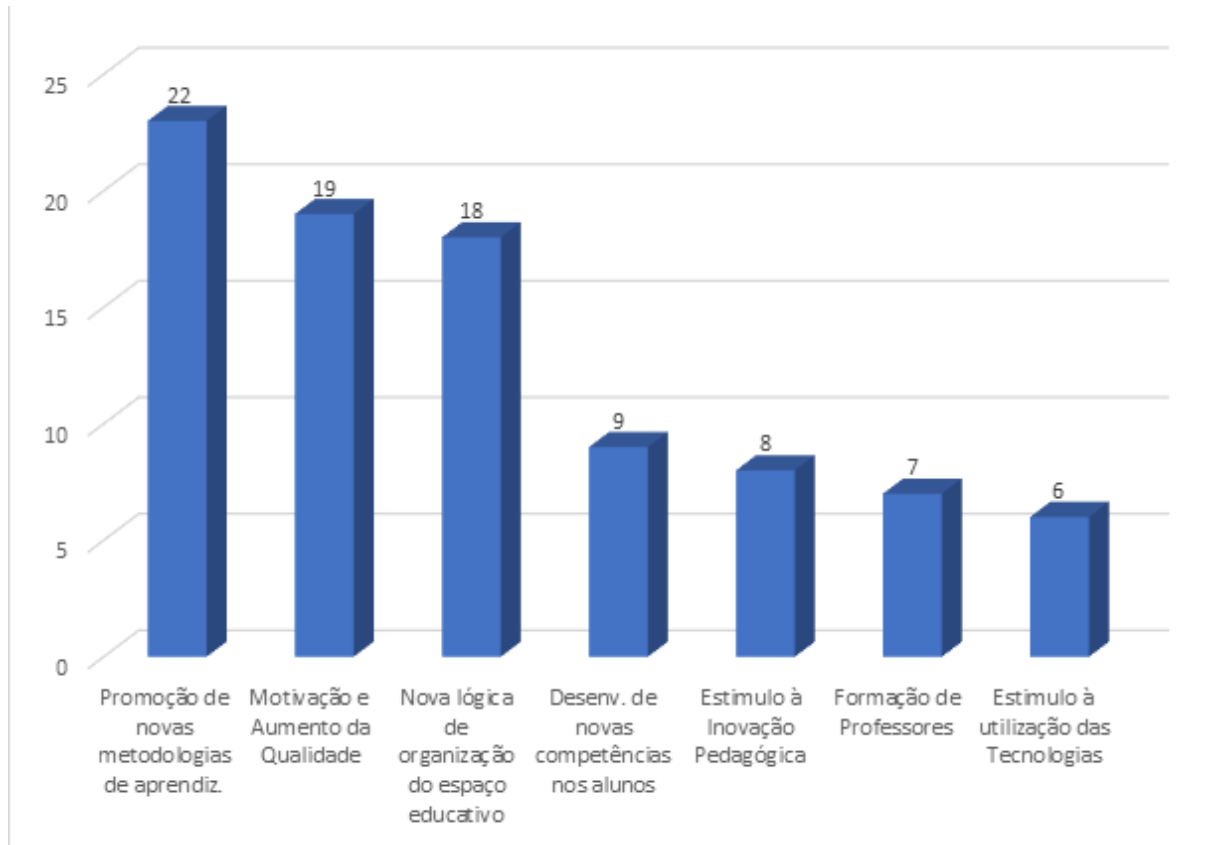
As the IIE / LE are innovative spaces, naturally enhancing transversal skills of the students who work in them, digital tools assume a determining role and become unique resources capable of promoting, on the one hand, the pedagogical and methodological changes that are desired and on the other, the significant learning of the students.

A study carried out by the Lisbon Institute of Education (IE), which questioned a group of Directors and Teachers responsible for creating IIE / LE spaces in their schools, made it possible to understand the reasons underlying the creation of these spaces:

- promotion of new learning methodologies;

- motivation and increasing the quality of education;
- a new logic for organizing the classroom space (Graph 1)

What is the reason for creating an IEE / LE



Graph 1 - Reasons for creating an IEE / LE

In the genesis of these environments, the following stand out:

- work with information and communication
- develop critical thinking and creative thinking
- develop reasoning and problem solving
- promote scientific, technical and technological knowledge
- promoting personal development and autonomy,

in different areas of knowledge and in a different way, while adopting new methodologies and pedagogies, centred on students, with the presence of technology, in a transparent and transversal way.

The IIE / LE will be more promoters of change, as they allow that in a classroom, whatever it may be, the trinomial - space, methodology and technology - can be implemented for more and better learning.

AUTHOR BIO:

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