



Leaping Forward with Resilience

Resilience is one of our most important life skills. For many - hardship is an inescapable truth, and having the ability to process, cope with and overcome the obstacles we face is fundamental to a healthy and successful life.

One of the principle objectives of The Digital School is to support and empower those who are all too familiar with life's hardships: marginalised communities around the world, those that live in war zones, who have survived natural disasters, refugees, people living in extreme poverty, and who exist in the gaps forged by inequality of healthcare, water, education, energy, opportunity, and even access to the internet.

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, individuals and governments alike had to learn how to build resilience. Whether that meant moving to remote work, focusing more on localization than globalization, collaborating efforts to find solutions, creating new policies, protocols, and more. Covid-19 undeniably changed the way we work, communicate, care for each other, and educate our children - adapting to build resilience in a time of crisis.

The Digital School was conceived during the global pandemic: as schools began to see the value of using technology to offset the physical remoteness imposed by social distancing, The Digital School saw an opportunity to address the unattended need to support marginalized communities. The Digital School created the first fully integrated digitally enabled school providing remote and hybrid learning models to serve students who need it the most, wherever they are. In a stroke of inspiration, The Digital School became the embodiment of what resilience in the face of adversity can look like.

The Digital School is built on a model which is designed to facilitate a learning-centric approach and the development of core life skills. Students who are taught how to learn, who are inspired to be curious and equipped with problem-solving skills, are empowered with the basic elements of resilience.

Those who are resilient are able to learn how to navigate life's challenges, to see hope at the end of the tunnel, and cope with strategies that help them not only survive, but thrive – setting them up for lifelong success.

By engaging and interacting with licensed educators, students will develop life-long autonomous learning skills. And by working cohesively with multi-dimensional elements, The Digital School is able to resiliently create impact on an individual, community, national and global level.

Through our training programs, teachers and education facilitators – all of whom are members of the community – are also given the tools and skillsets needed to help themselves, and their students. Creating fundamental resilience at a core individual level ripples from students, to teachers, to the community as a whole. That in turn promotes overall well-being and cohesiveness that strengthens the social infrastructure and creates resilient communities able to withstand their challenges and fosters a sense of community recovery crucial on the path to sustainable development.

“When you show people that you can overcome a problem with a little innovation, it gives them hope. It teaches them that there is a solution. It inspires them to think outside the limitations they’ve been dealt. It shows them that there is a way out. And that is at the heart of resilience. It’s about learning to stand back up. To keep going. To be motivated by hope for a better future. When you teach that to a child, that child can change their own life, their families lives, and the world.”

Dr. Waleed Al-Ali, Secretary General of The Digital School

At The Digital School, we live by the ethos of 'teaching by doing'. Resilience is one of the values of The Digital School, and we strive to embody our values in everything that we do – from who we are, to how we function, and what we hope to provide to students and communities around the world.

Our vision is to drive the frontiers of digital learning to empower underserved communities toward a brighter future. In a time when humanity has collectively experienced unforeseen disasters upending life as we know it, we understand now more than ever the importance of building resilience in ourselves and for others, especially for those already at a disadvantage. And we also know that collectively, we can make a change.

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