

7 Ways an LMS Can Prepare Students for College and Work

One of a school district's main objectives is to help its students be successful in the future. An effective education, then, is one that sets up students for life after high school, whether that includes college or work or another pathway. A learning management system (LMS) can support crucial skills that ensure students are able to thrive after they leave the K-12 classroom. Below are seven ways that an LMS can prepare students for life beyond high school.

HOW AN LMS PREPARES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND WORK



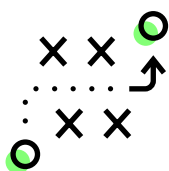
1. Improves Students' Self-management Skills by Developing Autonomy

An LMS helps put students in the driver's seat of their education. It allows for the creation of personalized learning paths, which encourage learners to think outside the box and pursue topics that they're interested in. They become responsible for managing their deadlines, working offline and collaborating outside of the classroom, prompting them to take control of their own learning. This autonomy prepares students for the independence required in college and at work.



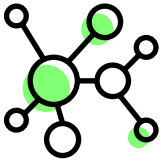
2. Equips Students With Soft Skills

In addition to fostering collaboration, an LMS prepares students with in-demand soft skills such as active listening, critical thinking, social perceptiveness and problem solving. According to [Hanover Research](#), a global market research and analytics firm, all those skills can play a role in students' success in higher education. They're also among the most in-demand skills that employers look for in prospective employees.



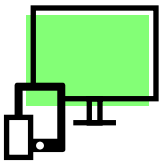
3. Prevents Students From Missing Class Due to Disruption

Whether it's due to public health policy, extreme weather or school infrastructure, we know that in-person learning can be disrupted at any given time. The same goes for work as more companies embrace flexible hybrid models: if a parent has an ill child at home, many employees have the flexibility to make last-second work-from-home arrangements. By using an LMS and implementing a blended learning environment, students gain an understanding of continuing their in-person work virtually, even with little notice.



4. Familiarizes Students with Asynchronous Learning

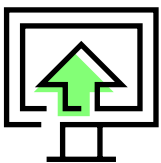
Similarly, blended learning introduces students to asynchronous work. After a discussion in the classroom, students can work on assignments at their own pace and collaborate using an LMS. This is good preparation for college, where students often attend lectures and then work on their own outside of the classroom. It also prepares them for working in a global economy, which has been hastened by the rise of remote work. According to a 2,000-person survey by Buffer, a fully distributed software company focused on social media management, 38% of employees said their companies had an asynchronous-first work policy, while 52% of employees said they wanted one.



5. Prepares Students to Use Tech at School and Work

Getting familiar with using technology in K-12 schools equips students with the technological know-how to succeed after high school. Many colleges are continuing to operate in a hybrid model that uses technology and most students want that, according to an article by U.S. News & World Report.

The story is similar in the workforce. According to a report by Zippia, a personalized career advancement platform, 74% of U.S. companies are using or plan to implement a permanent hybrid work model. And 84% of employees want a hybrid work model in the future. Yet according to a study by Salesforce, just 31% of Gen Z respondents said they felt “very equipped” for a digital-first job.



6. Develops Students' Digital Literacy Skills

The next generation of learners are growing up in a digital world and they'll enter one that's even more digital after high school. They will continue to navigate everything from fake news and email scams to online workplaces and relationships. Digital literacy skills are crucial to their success. An LMS supports these skills by familiarizing students with technology, helping to foster their ability to intelligently use technology in their day-to-day lives.



7. Helps Students Find Passion Through Personalized Learning

For longevity's sake, personalized learning also prepares students to succeed at the next level. By building an environment where students have choice around their school content and pace at which they learn, they have the freedom to explore their passions. According to research cited in a 2021 Forbes article, more than half of Americans are dissatisfied with their jobs. Could the freedom to discover what students are truly passionate about reduce future job dissatisfaction?



EQUIP YOUR K-12 STUDENTS FOR THE FUTURE

Help ensure your district's students have a bright future ahead by choosing the right learning management system (LMS). Download our free LMS Evaluation Guide today to decide which one is right for your district.