Debaters
Association of Victoria

That technology has been harmful to learning at school
Junior Secondary Program: Round 2

Technology, like computers, tablets, the internet, and artificial intelligence, is used in many schools to help students learn. While technology has made it easier to access information and learn new things, there is a debate about whether it is actually helpful or harmful to learning in schools.

Some people believe that technology can be distracting and make it harder for students to focus on their schoolwork. They argue that too much screen time can lead to problems with attention and that students might spend more time playing games or using social media instead of studying. Others worry that students might become too dependent on technology and not develop important skills like handwriting or solving maths problems without a calculator.

On the other hand, many people think that technology can be a great tool for learning. They believe that it makes learning more engaging and fun, helps students access a wide range of information, and allows for personalized learning at their own pace. Technology can also help students with different learning needs and make education more accessible.

Questions
A couple of key ideas to consider:
- How does technology help or hinder learning at school?
- What are some examples of technology being used in classroom?
- Can too much screen time be harmful to students? How?
- How can teachers and parents help students use technology responsibly?
- What skills might students miss out on if they rely too much on technology?
- Are there ways to use technology that can improve learning without causing distractions?

Resources

the educator - What Australian teachers really think of AI and its impact on learning:
https://www.theeducatoronline.com/k12/news/what-australian-teachers-really-think-of-ai-and-its-impact-on-learning/284067

eSchool News - The Impact of Technology on Education:
https://www.eschoolnews.com/it-leadership/2023/12/11/the-impact-of-technology-on-education/

Psychology Today - Does Technology in the Classroom Help or Harm Students?
https://www.psychologytoday.com/au/blog/think-act-be/201808/does-technology-in-the-classroom-help-or-harm-students

SmartLab - Exploring the Benefits of Technology in Education:
https://www.smartlablearning.com/benefits-of-technology-in-education/