



# The Influence of social media on Learning Mathematics

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**Abstract:** Social media has become a vital component of today's generation's everyday life. As a result, it is critical that such a technology be used as an educational tool, particularly in the field of education. Mathematics, as a prerequisite for pursuing a postsecondary education, should be at the forefront of utilizing the many social media platforms that allow for 24/7 anytime anywhere interaction between the teacher, student, and instructional material. As a result, the purpose of this study is to look at how social media may be utilized to teach and learn mathematics.

**Keywords:** Social media, education, younger generation

## I. INTRODUCTION

Young people are seen as tomorrow's leaders. Generation Z is digitally literate and adept at understanding and using ICT-enabled gadgets, with social media serving as their playground. In the long term, social media has both good and bad aspects. Several studies have found that teenagers who have unfettered access to and use of social media are at risk for academic underachievement and substantial health risks, particularly in math. As a result, it is necessary to investigate the influence of social media as a tool of education for the younger generation on student academic progress, particularly in mathematics [1].

Social media is an electronic type of communication that allows people to communicate based on their shared interests and qualities. Social media are tools for social engagement that make content easily accessible and expandable. A social network can alternatively be defined as a map of predefined links between the nodes being investigated, such as friendship. The widespread use of educational mobile technologies in online teaching and learning, particularly at tertiary institutions, has gained traction in recent years, especially in developed countries, and it provides students with more options and opportunities in the context of online instruction. Furthermore, social media is seen to be one of the numerous technologies that arose from education, whether in or out of the classroom. The advancement of technology has also altered internet software, resulting in "social media" talking sites. With social networking sites, messages may be sent and received virtually instantly. However, the internet's lack of control has contributed to its overuse [2].

It is clear that the level of interest in social media for learning will be determined by how teachers promote techniques. Some studies emphasize the importance of developing a set of skills and technological competencies; overcoming a "digital dissonance" by emphasizing technologies that have positive effects on learning and must be adaptable to students' socio-cultural contexts; and, finally, designing support activities through the scaffolding of learning experiences using technology [3].

The advantages of utilizing social media have also been scientifically verified. Listed below are some of the numerous advantages mentioned by these researchers regarding how social media improves the learning process.

1. Students' communication and teamwork abilities have improved (when they work as groups)
2. Students learnt how to manage their time and acquire the best results possible.
3. Using social media to improve student motivation and urge them to study hard and review early, resulting in greater exam scores.

Because of its sensitive nature, none can be considered to have been developed to facilitate successful mathematics education. In writing equations and creating shapes and diagrams, special characters are required in certain Mathematics courses. The majority of social networking networks lack these unique characteristics. Mathematics lessons, on the other hand, can be produced using Microsoft Office products (e.g., Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and so on) and shared via social networking sites. Google Forms, in particular, is one of the most widely used online evaluation platforms. However, it currently lacks the ability to type formulae or create shapes.

**II. INNOVATIVENESS OF THE WORK**

Social media can enhance the learning experience by fostering collaboration and discussion, creating meaningful dialogue, exchanging ideas, and increasing student interaction; social media is an effective way to increase student engagement and improve communication skills; social media such as Facebook and Twitter can help students and teachers communicate more effectively. Educators can respond to students' questions.

As a result, a math teacher can benefit from social media's instant messaging feature, as it has been discovered that social media can provide the building blocks for a learning environment powered by multiple forms of support, allowing learners to connect, interact, and share ideas in a fluid manner. Also, according to some study, students who used social media for academic purposes had a higher GPA than those who did not. The teacher can employ the following tactics in his experiment on using Facebook as an instructional environment in mathematics:

- (1) Models for using social networking sites in mathematics education; historical mathematicians and mathematical phenomena;
- (2) Using the sites' social potential, as well as the cultural aspects of mathematical phenomena and mathematics history, to encourage, facilitate, and move toward mathematical discourse;
- (3) The importance of pre-service and in-service teachers being prepared to teach utilizing social networking sites;
- (4) The significance of incorporating kids in math learning on social media platforms.

**III. CONCLUSION**

In practically every way, the world has gone digital. Most nations across the globe have begun to implement a digitised education system, and Nigeria, especially at this time of democratisation of education and accompanying admittance conundrum, cannot afford to fall behind and watch the rest of the world as their education system becomes digital. As a result, WhatsApp and Telegram, as technical breakthroughs, must be completely welcomed in Nigerian schools for effective electronic teaching and learning. In order to keep up with the times, the educational system as a whole must supply what is required; raise sufficient awareness and provide enough training to improve electronic education delivery in this area of the world. Despite the fact that the majority of professors and students have Internet-enabled mobile phones, they are not designed only for academic reasons, according to the report. One of the most advantageous ways to study has been discovered to be via the use of mobile application technologies such as WhatsApp and Telegram.

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