



THE ESSENTIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF NEXT-GEN TEACHING AND LEARNING

Education leaders around the world are grappling with the plethora of new ICT tools and trends in learning space design, all which promise to revolutionise teaching and learning. However, amidst the rush to modernisation, many schools are overlooking the developments in pedagogy and culture that must accompany such changes.

To help focus your education modernisation strategy, we examine the teaching and learning styles that students actually want, the opportunities that modern learning spaces should provide and the essential characteristics next-gen teachers need to possess today.



Students Want Next Generation Learning Techniques to be:

- 1 Personalised to my needs and learning goals.
- 2 Flexible so that I can try different ways to learn.
- 3 Interactive and engaging to draw me in.
- 4 Relevant to the life I'd like to lead.
- 5 Paced by my own progress measured against goals I understand.
- 6 Constantly informed by different ways of demonstrating and measuring my progress.
- 7 Collaborative with faculty, peers, and others, unlimited by proximity.
- 8 Responsive and supportive when I need extra help.
- 9 Challenging but achievable, with opportunities to become an expert in an area of interest.
- 10 Available to me as much as it is to every other student.

Reference:

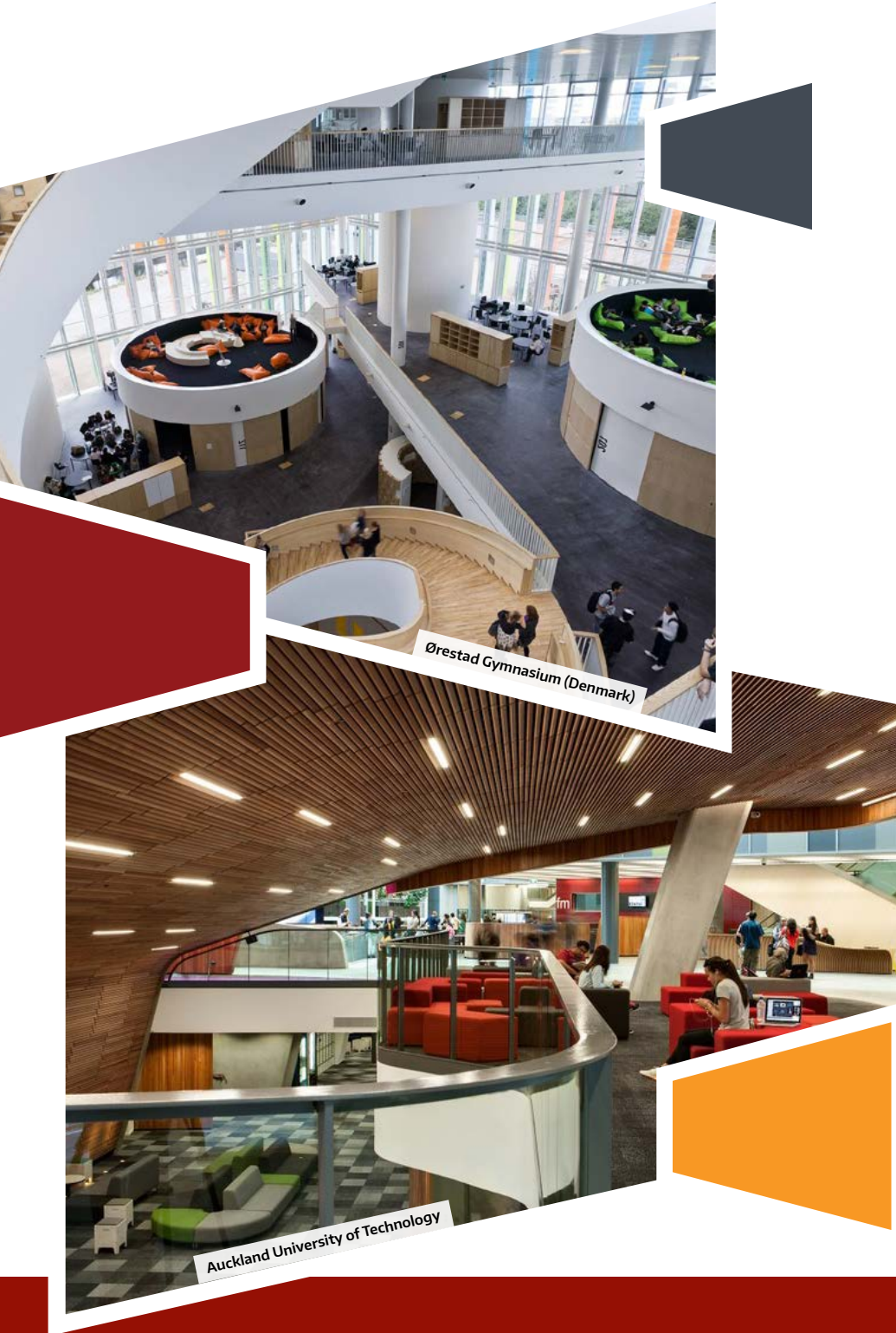
Calkins, A. and Vogt, K. (2013). *Next Generation Learning: The Pathway to Possibility*

Next Generation Learning Spaces Should Facilitate Teaching and Learning Opportunities that:

- 1 Fosters student centred activities (meaning making).
- 2 Provides rich and challenging learning environments (authentic tasks).
- 3 Provides constructive feedback from multiple sources.
- 4 Facilitates connected, collaborative learning in a social context.
- 5 Facilitates student choice to explore while the teacher focuses learning on desired outcomes.
- 6 Encourages selective and critical engagement.
- 7 Encourages creative problem solving.

Reference:

Ling, P. and Fraser, K. (2014). *Pedagogies for Next Generation Learning Spaces*. In Fraser, K. (Ed.) *The Future of Learning and Teaching in Next Generation Learning Spaces*



The Essential Characteristics of a Next Gen Teacher:

- 1** Changes the role of the teacher from a distributor of information, into one that empowers learners.
- 2** Experiments with innovative teaching methods, ICT tools and learning space designs.
- 3** Looks for manageable, practical and cost-effective ways to trial new techniques.
- 4** Provides spontaneous learning environments that promote encounters and unplanned collaborations.
- 5** Encourages and facilitates student learning to continue outside the classroom, leveraging e-learning platforms and social media channels.
- 6** Uses multiple methods to uncover students' understanding of topics and tailors classes to address students' misconceptions/incomplete conceptions.
- 7** Schedules time for informal meetings between peers, to share ideas and view one another in action.
- 8** Seeks out learning opportunities to develop their teaching methods and resources to challenge and engage students, both in class and online.
- 9** Links innovative teaching techniques and learning space designs with student learning objectives to demonstrate effectiveness.
- 10** Drives and manages cultural change within an organisation to create more dynamic, more engaging, better place to learn.



Educational ICT tools and trends in learning space design are just two components of a complex ecosystem in which learning takes place. At its core are the education leaders and the pedagogical techniques they use to drive their next generation learning strategy. Education leaders must focus on developing the way they and their colleagues use the tools and spaces around them, otherwise risk being left with impressive, but under-utilised, show pieces.

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