Possibilities and barriers for e-learning in primary school in Denmark - DTU Orbit
(21/10/2019)

Possibilities and barriers for e-learning in primary school in Denmark

How much are we using e-learning in primary school in Denmark? What are the barriers? What are the benefits? Why do
we not use e-learning even more? These questions have been the focus for a one year national investigation conducted
by ATV, The Danish Academy of Technical Sciences. The investigation included interviews with Danish researchers,
persons from the ministry, teachers, students, and e-learning companies. The overall purpose was to make
recommendations on how to accelerate the digital transformation of the Danish primary and high schools education
system. In this paper, we combine some of the preliminary findings from the interviews with answers to a small
questionnaire sent out to 19 Danish e-learning companies. We also add our own observations and visions for how e-
learning could be used and which potentials we see for the near future. One major observation is that generally the
attitudes to e-learning is positive: Denmark has political goals about access to machines, infrastructure, and internet at
every school. There is dedicated substantial funding for schools buying e-learning material, and local successful e-learning
companies such as Area9, EduLab, and Clio Online with international footprint and covering 90% of all schools in
Denmark. Despite the many positive factors, which contribute to accelerating the use of e-learning, we also found others,
which slow down the transformation: Lack of evidence of the benefits from e-learning tools, doubt about whether it is
possible to gather evidence in learning, and higher demands for evidence for e-learning tools than for other educational
tools. There is also a missing trust and missing communication among stakeholders. We also observed a lack of vision on
how digitalization can go beyond "PDFing" a book, and, finally, we met a fear that using Big Data for personalization of the
teaching/learning process will be used to stereotype education, or will only be used to save costs

General information
Publication status: Published
Organisations: Department of Applied Mathematics and Computer Science, Statistics and Data Analysis, University of
Copenhagen
Contributors: Alstrup, S., Rootzén, H.
Publication date: 2016
Peer-reviewed: Yes
Research output: Contribution to conference > Paper – Annual report year: 2016 > Research > peer-review