

## Strategies to Improve Student Attendance and Engagement

- Create effective Blended Learning to enhance student learning experience and provide opportunities for students to improve their understanding. Blended Learning is the application of holistic design to create a blend of digital and physical learning that enables meaningful, flexible, and inclusive learner experiences. A model of blended learning that can be used is flipped approach. The flipped classroom reverses the traditional class structure of listening to a lecture in class and completing homework activities at home. Students in flipped classes engage in preparatory activities that may include reading, watching videos/micro-lectures, and completing pre-class tasks independently before a face-to-face session. The face-to-face session is active and learner-centred, with class time used for collaborative work, projects, problem-solving, group discussion, peer and teacher feedback, and other learning activities that can increase social learning experiences.
- Integrate authentic assessment characteristics in the learning activities that will be introduced in the class. Aim to introduce tasks that reflect real life settings beyond the educational environment. These could include critical investigation of a project, case studies where students are required to apply their skills, the use of Think-Pair-Share technique to allow students to identify a problem and share and discuss ideas around a content with their choice of topic, project-based activities, role play, and group discussions. Also, performance-based activities that enable students to demonstrate knowledge and skills required in the profession may encourage attendance and engagement.
- Ensure that course learning outcomes are effective, explicit and purposeful and that learning activities during the lecture or tutorials are developed in alignment with these outcomes. Explain the importance of attending class in helping the students to develop the skills and knowledge to achieve the learning outcomes and perform well in the assessments. Aim to introduce activities that are varied and suited to the level of the course and are aligned with the learning outcomes.
- Deliver high quality lectures that promote dialogues, ask for student understanding, allow them to ask questions about the content and clarify confusions, and avoid merely a transfer of information. Introduce engagement activities using Mentimeter, Padlet or Kahoot, Diigo, or Coggle, to test student's understanding of a topic or encourage sharing ideas. This will also help develop strong teacher-student and student-student relationships and enhance students' sense of belonging and connection.
- Unpack or provide further explanation about aspects of the assessment tasks in the class and the relevance of class discussion and learning activities to the assessments. This may encourage more students to attend the class.
- Although attendance is not mandatory and will not obtain any marks, recording student attendance may improve their attendance and engagement in class activities.