Vocational technology education innovation: building a generation of experts in the digital age

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Article Info

ABSTRACT

This article discusses the importance of innovation in vocational technology education as an effort to build a generation of experts who are competent in facing the challenges of the digital era. In the context of rapid technological development, vocational technology education needs to adapt to remain relevant to the demands of modern industry. This article highlights several key aspects of vocational technology education innovation, including curriculum adaptation relevant to industry developments, the application of practical and project-based learning, the utilization of technology in the learning process, collaboration with industry, as well as the development of soft skills. Through this innovative approach, it is expected that vocational technology education is able to produce graduates who not only have strong technical skills, but are also able to adapt, innovate, and contribute significantly in the ever-evolving world of work. With a focus on building a generation of experts in the digital era, this article.

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Introduction

In recent decades, technological developments have fundamentally changed the educational and industrial landscape. The digital revolution has brought significant changes in the way we learn, teach and operate in various industry sectors. In this era, vocational technology education has a central role in preparing individuals for success in an increasingly digital and complex world.

The integration of technology in education has enabled the adoption of more interactive, personalized and adaptive learning models. Tools such as online learning platforms, mobile devices, augmented reality (AR), and virtual reality (VR) have enriched students' learning experience. These not only facilitate access to various resources and content, but also encourage active and collaborative participation.(Alexander et al., 2019), (Qushem et al., 2021), (Mota et al., 2018), (Kurdi, 2021).

Industry has also moved towards the digital age with the development of the Industrial Revolution 4.0. Technologies such as the Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence (AI), and automation have changed the way production, supply chain management, and interaction with customers. This creates new demands for a workforce that has skills relevant to advanced technologies.(Özdemir & Hekim, 2018),(Nahr et al., 2021),(Djamaludin, 2021)
Technological developments in the industry affect the dynamics of work and the skill requirements needed by future professionals. Therefore, vocational technology education is key in building bridges between industry needs and graduate readiness. Innovations in learning methods and curricula that integrate relevant technologies are key in ensuring that the emerging generation of experts has skills that match the demands of the job market.(Anisimova et al., 2020), (P. Verma et al., 2018), (Baird & Parayitam, 2019)

In this context, the adaptation of vocational technology education to changing technologies and industry needs is becoming increasingly important. Educators, education professionals and industry stakeholders have a shared role in developing and implementing relevant innovations to ensure that students are prepared for the opportunities and challenges of the fast-changing digital age.(Iturbe et al., 2009), (De los Ríos-Carmenado et al., 2015), (Hasanefendic et al., 2016), (Voogt et al., 2018),(Indarta et al., 2022)

The context of technological developments in education and industry creates a dynamic and opportunity-filled landscape. Innovation in vocational technology education is key to shaping a generation of experts who are able to face the demands of the digital era with confidence and competence.(Johansen, 2012), (March, 1994), (Bartlett, 2020)

Vocational technology education plays a crucial role in preparing individuals for the increasingly complex and technological world of work. In an era where technological developments are happening so fast, innovations in educational methods and approaches are important to ensure that students gain skills and knowledge that are relevant to the demands of future industries.(Kanwar et al., 2019), (Haleem et al., 2022), (Salmon, 2019)

Today’s industries are experiencing dramatic changes due to technology. Innovation in vocational technology education allows educational institutions to be in tune with the latest technological developments and industry trends. This allows students to learn about the latest technologies and working methods that they will encounter in the real world.(López-Carril et al., 2020), (Herrera-Aliaga & Estrada, 2022)

Innovation in education brings opportunities to improve learning effectiveness. The use of technologies such as online learning platforms, simulations and specialized software can enable students to learn in a more interactive and practical way, accelerating the understanding of concepts and their application.(Bueca-Manea-Tonis et al., 2020), (Hernandez-de-Menendez et al., 2020)

Innovation in vocational technology education enables the development of skills that are more relevant to industry demands. This involves integrating more advanced technical skills, such as programming, 3D design, device maintenance and data analysis. As such, graduates will be better prepared to face jobs in complex technological environments.(Lund & Karlson, 2020), (González-Pérez & Ramírez-Montoya, 2022),(H. Singh & Miah, 2020)

Innovation in education can also stimulate students’ creativity and their ability to solve problems. Through technology-based projects and real-world challenges, students can develop critical thinking, analysis and innovative solution skills.(Ghoniem & Ghoniem, 2022), (Sigit et al., 2022), (Mashudi, 2021)

Students who have access to innovations in vocational technology education have an advantage in career competition. They have been trained in the latest technologies and have skills relevant to industry needs, thus increasing their chances of getting a good job and thriving in the technology field.(Kasneci et al., 2023), (Spöttl & Windelband, 2021)

Innovation in vocational technology education is key to ensuring that education remains relevant, effective, and prepares students to face the challenges and opportunities in an ever-evolving digital age. By adopting innovation, educational institutions can make a real contribution in shaping a generation of experts who will have a positive impact on industry and society.(Mathivanan et al., 2021), (Morawska-Jancelewicz, 2022), (Khan et al., 2021)

The aim of this article is to provide valuable insights for practitioners, researchers and policymakers in their efforts to prepare a generation of experts in the digital age. With this aim, this article can provide valuable insights for practitioners, researchers, and policymakers in their efforts to prepare a generation of experts for the digital age.

Method

The literature research method (literature review) is an approach used to identify, analyze, and compile relevant literature on a particular topic. This method is useful for presenting a comprehensive understanding of the status of existing research, comparing previous research results, identifying gaps in knowledge, and

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formulating theoretical foundations for further research. (Snyder, 2019), (Linnenluecke et al., 2020), (Kumar & Alok, 2020), (Ridwan et al., 2021), (Widiasih et al., 2020)

The literature research approach is a systematic method for collecting, identifying, evaluating, and synthesizing information from various literature sources relevant to a particular research topic. This approach allows researchers to comprehensively and deeply understand the topic by utilizing existing knowledge.

Results and Discussions

Innovation in Vocational Technology Education

Different types of innovations in vocational technology education have emerged in response to technological developments and changing industry needs. Here are some examples of the types of innovation:

1. Project-Based Learning
   This method emphasizes learning through real projects that reflect workplace situations. Students work on projects that simulate real-world situations, integrating technical skills with problem solving and collaboration. (Sutaphan & Yuenyong, 2019), (Fajra & Novalinda, 2020)

2. Online and Blended Learning
   With the development of digital technology, vocational technology education is increasingly utilizing online-based learning. It involves virtual learning platforms, online classes and online learning resources to deliver course content to students, either fully or in combination with face-to-face learning (blended learning). (Yustina et al., 2020), (Chiemeke & Imafidor, 2020)

3. Simulation and Virtual Reality (VR)
   Simulation and VR are used to create realistic and interactive learning experiences. Students can engage in simulations of real situations such as machine assembly or handling hazardous materials without any real physical risks. (Pottle, 2019), (So et al., 2019), (Makransky & Petersen, 2019)

4. Application of Augmented Reality (AR) in Learning
   AR combines the physical world with digital elements through devices such as smartphones or tablets. In vocational technology education, AR can be used to provide visual guidance as students practice technical skills. (Iatsyshyn et al., 2020), (Arkhypov et al., 2020), (Sulistianingsih & Kustono, 2022), (Sutopo, 2023)

5. Use of Data Processing Technology (Big Data) for Curriculum Development
   The use of big data in educational analytics allows institutions to track student progress in detail and identify areas that need strengthening in the curriculum. This can facilitate the development of a more adaptive curriculum. (Alam, 2022), (Chen et al., 2020), (Alam, 2021), (Sugandini et al., 2022)

6. Game-based Training (Gamification)
   This approach integrates game elements in learning to increase student motivation and facilitate better understanding of concepts. Students can be given real challenges or scenarios that they need to solve in a game format. (Saleem et al., 2022), (Jääskä & Aaltonen, 2022), (Martua, 2022)

7. Virtual Classroom with Video Conference Technology
   Video conferencing technology allows students to participate in virtual classes guided by instructors or industry professionals remotely. This allows access to a wider range of knowledge and experience without having to be physically in the same place. (Mason et al., 2019), (Chylinski et al., 2020), (Haryiadi et al., 2023)

8. Use of Technology Tools and Devices in Practice
   Innovation can also be the use of new technological tools or devices in hands-on practical processes. For example, the introduction of robotics in automation lessons or the use of design software in graphic design lessons. (Pang et al., 2022), (Zanin et al., 2022), (Benis et al., 2021)

9. Industry-Oriented Curriculum Development
   The curriculum is developed based on inputs from industry and the world of work, ensuring that the skills and knowledge taught are in line with industry needs. (M. Ali et al., 2020), (Adeosun et al., 2022)

10. Use of Online Resources
    Online resources such as video tutorials, articles, and learning modules that can be accessed online expand students' access to information and learning materials. (Haryiadi et al., 2023), (Candra et al., 2023), (Idris, 2018)

11. Soft Skills Approach
    In addition to technical skills, innovation can also include the development of interpersonal skills, communication skills and creativity required in the world of work. (Prabhu & Aithal, 2021), (J. P. Verma et al., 2019)

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The high demand for technological skills in the world of work has driven the development of various types of innovations in vocational technology education. Each innovation has the potential to enhance student learning and prepare them for the challenges of an ever-evolving digital age.

Impact of Innovation on the Generation of Experts

Innovation in vocational technology education has a number of significant positive effects on the formation of a generation of experts who are ready to face the challenges of the digital age. Here are some of those positive effects:

1. Enhancement of Relevant Technical Skills
   Innovations in vocational technology education allow students to develop technical skills that match industry needs. They are trained in the use of tools and technologies that they will actually use in the workplace. This gives them a competitive edge in an increasingly sophisticated job market. (Jacobs & Worth, 2019) (Wu & Liu, 2021) (B. Nainggolan et al., 2020)

2. Deep Practical Experience
   Through innovations such as simulation, VR, or hands-on practice with technological devices, students gain in-depth practical experience. This helps them develop a better understanding of how technology works and how to cope with it. (Ogegbo & Ramnarain, 2022) (Ponamon et al., 2023)

3. Improved Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills
   Innovations such as project-based learning or gamification encourage students to think critically and creatively in solving problems. They are encouraged to apply their technical skills to complex challenges and find innovative solutions. (Bühler et al., 2022) (DeCoito & Briona, 2023)

4. Improved Collaboration and Team Skills
   Many innovations lead students to work in teams or collaborate on projects. This reflects real-world dynamics where collaboration is key to achieving optimal results. Students learn to work with others, share ideas and solve problems together. (Zubaidah, 2016) (Hero & Lindfors, 2019)

5. High Motivation in Learning
   Innovations often involve elements of games or simulations that make learning more engaging and fun. This can increase students' motivation to learn, as they feel engaged and challenged to achieve goals in an interactive environment. (Trinova, 2012) (Landers & Sanchez, 2022) (Muntenan et al., 2019)

6. Better Preparation for Industry 4.0
   Innovations in vocational technology education help students understand the underlying technological concepts behind the Industrial Revolution 4.0, such as IoT, AI, and automation. They will be better prepared for the changes taking place in various industry sectors. (Kosim, 2020) (Amirulloh et al., 2022)

7. Increased Self-Confidence
   A deep understanding of technology and the ability to use it effectively boosts students' confidence. They feel more prepared to contribute in real projects or handle technical tasks in the work environment. (Ertmer & Ottenbreit-Leftwich, 2010) (Mumford, 2006) (Groff & Mouza, 2008) (Felder & Brent, 2007)

8. Alignment with Industry Developments
   Through innovation, students get better exposure to the latest industry developments. This helps them understand industry requirements and trends, making them more relevant and valuable in the job market. (Archer & Davison, 2008) (Jackson et al., 2023)

9. Readiness to Embrace Change
   Innovation teaches students to embrace change openly. They get used to the use of new technologies and adapt to a fast-changing environment, which are essential skills in the digital age. (Khalid et al., 2018) (Selwyn et al., 2017)

By bringing about these positive effects, innovations in vocational technology education help shape a generation of experts who are ready and confident to face the challenges and opportunities of an increasingly digitalized world.

Impact of Innovation on Students' Skills and Knowledge

Innovations in vocational technology education have a significant impact on students' skills and knowledge. This impact involves changes in the way students learn, understanding of concepts, and development of relevant skills. The following is a further analysis of the impact of innovations on students' skills and knowledge:

1. Improved Technical Skills
   Innovations that involve the use of new technologies, such as simulations or hands-on practice with technological devices, directly improve students' technical skills. They have the opportunity to
experience and practice using actual devices that they will encounter in the workplace. (Pellas et al., 2020) (Sithiwarachart et al., 2022) (Gamage et al., 2020)

2. Deeper Understanding of Concepts
Educational innovation allows students to delve deeper into technological concepts through practical experience or better visualization. This helps them understand the concepts thoroughly and apply them in a real context. (Maroukas et al., 2023) (Shofiyah et al., 2023)

3. Enhanced Critical Thinking Ability
Innovations often encourage students to think critically in problem solving. For example, through project-based learning or gamification, students are exposed to problems that require analytical and creative thinking to solve. (Qureshi & Jamil, 2023) (Dar & Fayaz, 2023) (Tsalapatas et al., 2020)

4. Development of Collaboration and Communication Skills
Innovations that involve teamwork or collaboration in projects encourage the development of students' collaboration and communication skills. They learn how to interact with teammates, share ideas, and unify views to achieve a common goal. (Sharif et al., 2021) (Phuthong, 2021)

5. Readiness for Advanced Technology
With innovations that integrate advanced technologies, students have the opportunity to become familiar with technologies that they may not have experienced before. This helps them feel more prepared for technological developments at work and in everyday life. (Goh & Sigala, 2020) (Akuratiya & Meddage, 2020)

6. Improved Problem-Solving Skills
Innovation often exposes students to challenges and situations that require problem-solving. This teaches them how to identify problems, analyze their causes, and develop effective solutions. (Hang & Van, 2020) (Okolie et al., 2022)

7. Digital Skills Development
Educational innovations allow students to interact with digital technologies in the learning environment. This helps them develop digital skills such as online navigation, software usage, and digital literacy that are increasingly important in an increasingly connected world. (Garzón Artacho et al., 2020) (Biletska et al., 2021)

8. Increased Confidence
Innovation helps students feel more confident in facing technical challenges and real-world situations. By practicing using technology and developing skills, they feel better prepared to take on various tasks and projects in the workplace. (Maheshwari, 2023) (Bizami et al., 2023)

9. Motivation in Learning
Innovations that present learning in engaging formats such as games or simulations can increase students' motivation to learn. They feel more involved in the learning process and are more motivated to achieve good results. (Mukhid, 2023) (Maulia, 2023) (Sofiyah & Dwiratnawati, 2023) (Makri et al., 2021) (Nieto-Escamez & Roldán-Tapia, 2021)

10. Understanding of Technology's Relevance to the Real World
Innovation helps students understand how technology is actually applied in the real world. It helps them see the connection between what they learn in the classroom and how technology is used in industry and society. (Keshav et al., 2022) (Baran et al., 2021)

In order to prepare a generation of experts ready for the digital age, the positive impacts of innovation in vocational technology education are crucial in ensuring that students have the relevant and necessary skills and knowledge.

**Challenges in Implementing Vocational Technology Education Innovations**

The implementation of innovations in vocational technology education does not always go smoothly and can be faced with a number of challenges that need to be overcome. Here are some common challenges in implementing innovations in vocational technology education:

1. **Availability of Adequate Technology Resources**
   Not all educational institutions have equal access to the hardware and software needed to implement innovations, such as computers, mobile devices, or VR devices. Limited availability of resources can hinder the implementation of innovations. (Nikolopoulou, 2020) (Al-Ansi et al., 2021)

2. **Curriculum that is not aligned with industry needs**
   Curricula that are not aligned with industry technological developments can produce graduates with irrelevant or obsolete skills. Creating a curriculum that is current and relevant to industry developments is a major challenge. (Nkwanyane et al., 2020) (Erdem, 2019)

3. **Lack of Industry Involvement**

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Industry involvement in the development and implementation of vocational technology education innovations is crucial. Lack of collaboration between educational institutions and industry can result in a lack of understanding of the actual needs of the industry. (Okpatrioka & Sopian, 2023) (Dedaj, 2022)

4. Lack of Teacher Skills in New Technology
Teachers may not yet have sufficient skills in the new technologies introduced in the innovation. Intensive training is needed to ensure that teachers have a deep understanding and skills in teaching new technologies to students. (Oke & Fernandes, 2020) (Tejedor et al., 2021)

5. Technical and Infrastructure Barriers
Technology often requires good infrastructure such as a stable internet connection and adequate hardware. In less developed areas, technical and infrastructure barriers can be a serious obstacle. (Okoye et al., 2023) (Neffati et al., 2021)

6. Resistance to Change
Students, teachers or school administration may show resistance to changes in existing learning methods or curriculum. They may feel uncomfortable or unsure about new technologies or different learning approaches. (Mikheev et al., 2021) (DeMatthews et al., 2021)

7. Evaluation and Measurement of Effectiveness
Quantitatively measuring the effectiveness of vocational technology education innovations can be challenging. The process involves many variables and takes time to see the long-term impact on student learning. (Ley et al., 2022) (Kuleto et al., 2021)

8. Implementation Costs
Innovations often involve additional costs for procurement of devices, software, teacher training and technology maintenance. For institutions with limited budgets, these costs can be an obstacle. (Olatunji et al., 2023) (Mohmad, 2023)

9. Compatibility with Local Culture and Values
Some innovations may not fit with local culture or values, making it difficult for students or communities to accept. The existence of cultural gaps can hinder the acceptance of innovations. (Nurkholidha et al., n.d.) (Taraju et al., 2022)

10. Sustainability of Innovation
Some innovations may be successful initially, but are difficult to sustain in the long term due to changing conditions or priorities. Maintaining the sustainability of innovations is a challenge that needs to be overcome. (H. Nainggolan et al., 2023) (Prameswari, 2022)

Overcoming these challenges requires strong collaboration between educational institutions, industry, teachers, students and other relevant parties. A planned and concerted effort must be made to ensure that vocational technology education innovations provide the maximum benefit to students and their preparation for the world of work.

**The Impact of Challenges on the Generation of Experts.**

The challenges of implementing innovations in vocational technology education can have a significant impact on the formation of the next generation of experts. This impact can include various aspects of student formation, in terms of skills, knowledge, mentality, and their readiness to face the world of work. Here are some of the possible influences:

1. Inadequate Technical Skills
Challenges related to the availability of technological resources and a curriculum that is not in line with industry needs may result in graduates with inadequate technical skills. They may face difficulties in applying these skills in the workplace. (Alawi et al., 2022) (Mulyasa, 2021) (Farndale et al., 2021)

2. Lack of Deep Understanding of Technology Concepts
Challenges in curriculum development that is relevant to industry technological developments may hinder students' in-depth understanding of current technical concepts. This may affect their ability to adapt to new emerging technologies. (Luan et al., 2020) (Mian et al., 2020)

3. Lack of Engagement and Collaboration Skills
Lack of industry engagement or lack of a collaborative approach to learning can reduce students' ability to work in teams, collaborate and communicate with colleagues in the real world. (Kim et al., 2022) (Rohm et al., 2021)

4. Low Readiness for Advanced Technology
If students do not get enough exposure to the latest technologies due to technical constraints or a lagging curriculum, they may not be prepared to deal with technological changes in the workplace. (Muthuprasad et al., 2021) (Jerry & Yunus, 2021)

5. Lack of Critical and Creative Thinking Skills
Challenges in implementing project-based learning or problem-solving methods can result in a lack of development of critical and creative thinking skills in students. This could affect their ability to deal with complex situations in the real world. (Arif & Putri, 2022) (Saad & Zainudin, 2022)

6. Low Digital Skills and Technological Literacy
Inability to access and operate technology due to infrastructure barriers or lack of training can hinder the development of digital skills and technological literacy that are essential in today's workforce. (Lina Anatan, 2022) (Putra et al., 2022)

7. Resistance to Change and Innovation
The challenge of dealing with resistance to change can hinder the adoption of innovations by students. This can slow down the development of adaptability and flexibility skills required in the fast-changing world of work. (de Luna & Encio, 2023) (I. Ali & Aboelmaged, 2022)

8. Low Digital Skills and Technological Literacy
Technical constraints or the incompatibility of innovations with local culture can reduce students' motivation to learn. This can impact participation rates, concept understanding, and skill development. (W. Li et al., 2021) (Silver et al., 2019)

9. Lack of Industry Engagement
Challenges in establishing strong collaboration between educational institutions and industry may result in a limited understanding of the actual needs of the industry. This may result in graduates who do not fully match the demands of the world of work. (Stachová et al., 2019) (Veile et al., 2020)

10. Lack of Understanding of Technology's Linkage to the Real World
Challenges in integrating technology with the real world or the lack of emphasis on practical applications in innovation may result in graduates who have theoretical knowledge, but struggle to relate it to the world of work. (J. Singh et al., 2022) (Joshi & Gupta, 2021)

In order to minimize these negative influences and maximize the results of forming a generation of experts, collaborative efforts between educational institutions, industry, and other relevant stakeholders are required. Addressing these challenges effectively will help ensure that vocational technology education innovations truly benefit students and prepare them for the dynamic world of work.

Implications for Vocational Technology Education
Innovation in vocational technology education has broad and significant implications for the education system, students, industry and society as a whole. Here are some important implications of innovation in vocational technology education:

1. Improved Quality of Learning
Innovation brings about changes in teaching and learning methods, enabling the delivery of more engaging, interactive and relevant material. This has an impact on improving the quality of education, enhancing student understanding, and optimizing learning outcomes. (Binks et al., 2021) (García-Morales et al., 2021)

2. Strengthening Linkages with Industry
By incorporating industrial elements in educational innovation, students are closer to the realities of the workplace. This helps to solidify the linkage of education to industry needs, preparing graduates who are better equipped to contribute to the world of work. (Ramírez-Montoya et al., 2021) (Faqih & Jaradat, 2021)

3. Development of Relevant Skills
Innovation enables the development of skills that are in line with industry and technological developments. This helps students gain relevant and actual skills, making them more adaptable to the demands of the world of work. (Fajaryati et al., 2020) (L. Li, 2022)

4. Improved Critical and Creative Thinking Skills
Innovative learning methods, such as project-based learning, encourage students to think critically and creatively. They are encouraged to solve complex problems and formulate innovative solutions, which are essential skills in the world of work. (Sumarni & Kadarwati, 2020) (Megayanti et al., 2020)

5. Introduction to Latest Technology
Innovation enables the introduction of the latest technology to students. It gives them early exposure to industry-relevant technologies, preparing them to deal with technological changes and revolutions. (Bocevska & Nedelkovski, 2021) (Indrawati & Kuncoro, 2021)

6. Deep Practical Experience
Innovation allows students to gain in-depth practical experience through simulations, experiments, or internships. This teaches them how to apply knowledge in real situations and understand the daily challenges of the workplace. (Gong, 2021) (Kwangmuang et al., 2021)
7. **Soft Skills Development**

   Innovation often emphasizes the development of soft skills such as communication, teamwork, and leadership. This prepares students to interact with coworkers and contribute in a professional environment. (Karimi & Pina, 2021) (ELMOUTANNA & MOTII, 2022)

8. **Lifelong Learning**

   Innovation encourages the understanding that learning is a lifelong process. Students are inspired to continue learning and keep up with technological and industry developments even after they graduate. (Kang, 2021) (AlMalki & Durugbo, 2023)

9. **Readiness for Digital Challenges**

   Innovation prepares students for digital change and technological adaptation in the work environment. They learn to not only keep up with developments but also become innovators in these changes. (Triviño-Cabrera et al., 2021) (Alakrash & Razak, 2022)

10. **Increased Graduate Competitiveness**

    With the implementation of innovation, vocational technology education graduates have higher competitiveness in the job market. They come with relevant skills, up-to-date knowledge and readiness to adapt. (Semerikov et al., 2020) (Haryani et al., 2021)

These implications show that innovation in vocational technology education brings significant changes in the way education is conducted and how students prepare for the world of work. By maximizing the potential of innovation, vocational technology education can provide graduates who are better prepared to face the challenges and opportunities of the digital era.

### Steps for Sustainable Innovation Development in Vocational Technology Education

The development of sustainable innovation in vocational technology education is a process that requires continuous effort and a holistic approach. Innovation should be an integral part of how vocational technology education is designed and run. The following are steps that can be taken to develop sustainable innovation in vocational technology education:

1. **Industry and Labor Market Needs Analysis**

   Conducting an in-depth analysis of industry needs and labor market trends is an important first step. This will help in identifying the skills, knowledge and qualifications required by graduates in facing industry challenges. (Prapinit et al., 2019) (Pocol et al., 2022)

2. **Collaboration with Industry**

   Building strong partnerships with relevant companies and industries is key. This collaboration allows for better information on industry needs and enables the development of relevant curricula and the latest technology. (Mourtzis et al., 2022) (Okolie et al., 2021)

3. **Identifying Technology and Innovation Trends**

   Educators and curriculum development teams need to constantly monitor the latest technology trends and innovations in related industries. This helps in deciding which trends should be adopted in the learning process. (Cico et al., 2021) (Broo et al., 2022)

4. **Teacher Training and Development**

   Teachers need to be provided with continuous training and development in the latest technologies and innovative learning methods. They need to stay current in their knowledge and skills in order to teach effectively. (Rao, 2019) (Valverde-Berrocoso et al., 2021)

5. **Experimentation with Innovative Learning Methods**

   Innovation developers should not be afraid to try different learning methods. Experimentation with project-based learning, simulation, online learning, or a combination of these can help identify the most effective methods. (Logeshwaran et al., 2022) (Portuguez Castro et al., 2019)

6. **Use of Advanced Technology in Learning**

   Integrating advanced technologies such as VR (Virtual Reality), AR (Augmented Reality), or AI (Artificial Intelligence) in the learning process can make learning more interesting and realistic for students. (Gandedkar et al., 2021) (Zhang et al., 2022)

7. **Measuring Innovation Effectiveness**

   Measuring the effectiveness of innovations is important. This involves collecting data on student achievement, engagement levels, and the real impact of the innovation in their readiness for the world of work. (Faulks et al., 2021) (Supriani et al., 2022)

8. **Feedback from Students and Industry**

   Getting feedback from students on their experience with the innovation can help to continuously refine and adjust the approach. Feedback from industry is also important to ensure that graduates meet expectations. (Ghani & Muhammad, 2019) (De Villiers, 2021)

9. **Flexibility in Curriculum Updates**

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The curriculum needs to be designed with flexibility to allow for the integration of technology and changing industry trends without having to change the entire curriculum structure. (Benavides et al., 2020) (Volungeviene et al., 2020)

10. Research and Publications Facilitating research and publications in the field of vocational technology education innovation can provide further insight into what works and how innovation development can continue. (Sudarmo et al., 2021) (Griffiths et al., 2022)

It is important to remember that innovation is not static. It must constantly adapt to industry and technological developments. By taking these steps, vocational technology education institutions can continue to develop innovations that are relevant, effective and sustainable in preparing graduates for the challenges of a dynamic world of work.

Conclusions

In order to prepare a generation of experts ready for the digital age, the positive impacts of innovations in vocational technology education are crucial in ensuring that students have the relevant and necessary skills and knowledge. Some common challenges in implementing vocational technology education innovations Availability of Adequate Technology Resources Not all educational institutions have equal access to the hardware and software needed to implement innovations, such as computers, mobile devices, or VR devices. Inability to access and operate technology due to infrastructure barriers or lack of training can hinder the development of digital skills and technological literacy that are essential in today's workforce. Implications for Vocational Technology Education Innovation in vocational technology education has broad and significant implications for the education system, students, industry, and society as a whole.

Several ways in which innovations in education affect students' preparation to contribute to industry are Enhanced Relevant Technical Skills Innovations in education enable students to develop technical skills relevant to industry demands. They enter the workforce with relevant skills, an understanding of technology, and an adaptive mentality, making them better prepared to meet the challenges and opportunities in an ever-evolving work environment.

Steps for Sustainable Innovation Development in Vocational Technology Education Sustainable innovation development in vocational technology education is a process that requires continuous efforts and a holistic approach.

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Vocational Technology Education Innovation: Building a Generation of Experts in the Digital Age


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