

# Overview of the focus group recommendations

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At each IFIP Working Group 3.1 working conference, the focus groups constitute a major strand of the program. All participants at these events are actively involved in small group discussions, sharing their points of views and experiences.

At the Chile 2000 meeting, within the scope of “The School of the Future,” each focus group produced a position paper in which a forward look was taken at different aspects of the conference themes. They elaborated concrete recommendations integrating participants’ individual experiences. The authors of the overview, who served as the co-ordinators of the focus group activities, are convinced that issues identified will be of interest to support decisions for those engaged in all aspects of education in various countries.

The four focus groups kept the domain of this conference, “The School of The Future,” as central to their deliberations. Then each group focused on one of the following themes with the starting points listed below:

## 1. **THEME 1: THE LEARNING PROCESS/ NEW LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS**

- The context in which learning will take place;
- New understanding of learning;
- ICT as a learning tool;
- Pedagogy and methodology for the learner;
- Etc.

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The original version of this chapter was revised: The copyright line was incorrect. This has been corrected. The Erratum to this chapter is available at DOI: [10.1007/978-0-387-35403-3\\_29](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-0-387-35403-3_29)

## **2. THEME 2: THE ROLE OF THE TEACHER**

- Teacher education;
- The role of the teacher as related to the learning process;
- Assessments and examinations;
- Pedagogy and methodology for the teacher;
- Etc.

## **3. THEME 3: SCHOOLING / SCHOOL CULTURE / ORGANISATION OF THE SCHOOL / SCHOOL IN THE INFORMATION RICH SOCIETY**

- Resources and resource management;
- New learning environments;
- School structure;
- History / culture - the nature of a school;
- Changes in schooling that may enable ICT developments;
- How ICT may challenge school function;
- What an innovative school looks like;
- Etc.

## **4. THEME 4: CONNECTIVITY / NETWORKING**

- How will networking challenge school function?
- Future skills and required competencies;
- The virtual school;
- The child in the learning society;
- Etc.

This chapter contains the recommendations produced by each of the four focus groups. We wish to thank all the participants and especially the chairpersons and rapporteurs who did very fruitful work in a friendly and challenging environment.