



Digital Skills and Research Methods

Module Code: BMSW4003

REPORT ON THE IMPACT OF VIRTUAL LEARNING
ENVIRONMENT ON STUDENTS LEARNING
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Report on the impact of virtual learning.

This report is an analyse of the impact of how effectively virtual learning students learning experience whilst studying at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David London Campus. To conduct the research I used combined methodology. It was requested, us students, to collect data regarding the thoughts of the students. The method of collection of data was through a questionnaire with 8 questions.

The modern era has is revolted to the new technology; capturing the education; different service providers are educating students; might not be. Familiar to everybody; definitions of virtual learning; this report will be focused on 3 platforms of virtual learning.

The reason of the conducting research is to understand how effective is virtual learning on students and how it can be improved in near future.

A data is “ he quantities, characters, or symbols on which operations are performed by a computer, which may be stored and transmitted in the form of electrical signals and recorded on magnetic, optical, or mechanical recording media.” (*oxford language dictionary, last accessed 8th April 2021*). Data plays a huge role on this research as it helps to establish goals and it allows us to measure what are the problems and solutions for the relative issues.

This report and research honestly done with the intuit of find the reason why students do have or problems accessing the virtual learning platform, as part of the ethics in the data collection.

Primary data was the first collection and study which was to have a questionnaire designed to understand the performance of the virtual learning within the use of the students of the University.

Secondary data was the second collection and study done with the coming from the questionnaire.

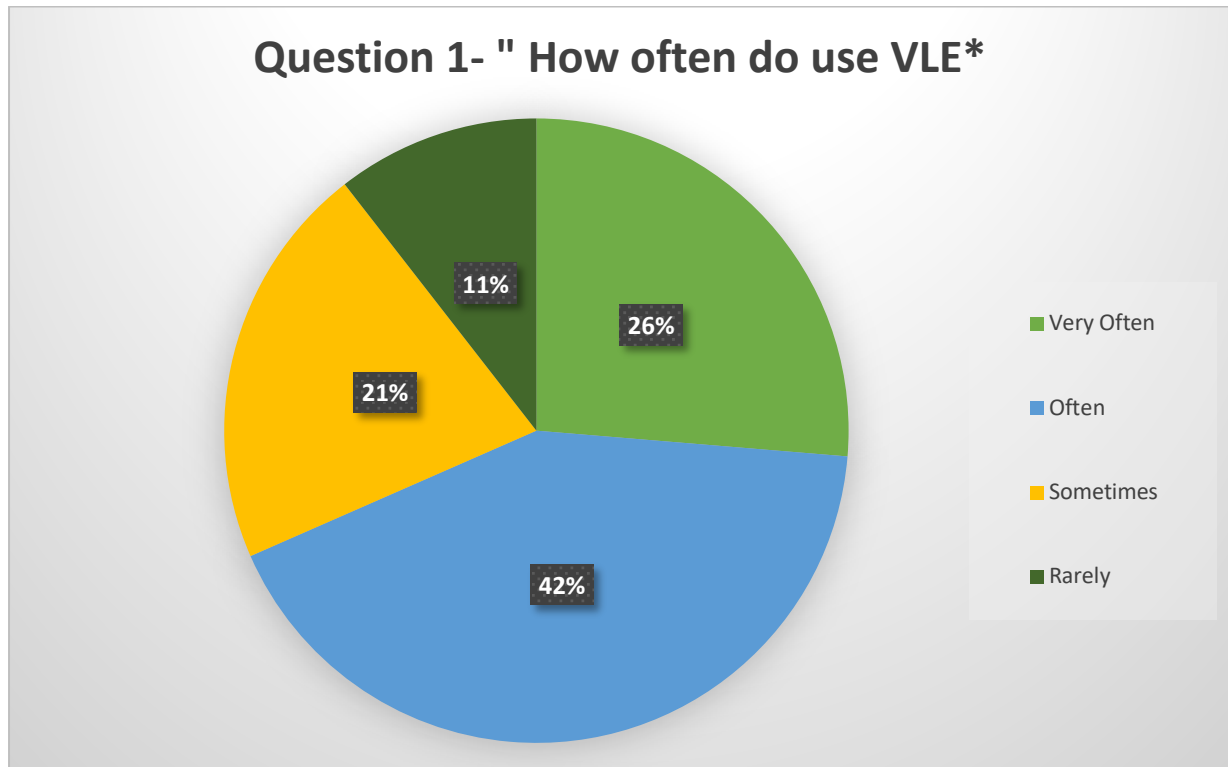
So, our primary solution for request was to produce a survey as my primary data collection which is included an estimative of eight to ten questions. In my individual survey, my following eight questions were:

1. “How often does you use Virtual learning?
2. How many hours do you spend on Moodle per week?
3. How do you access to your online learning?
4. How useful do you find Virtual learning?
5. Which devices do you use to log into Virtual learning environment?
6. How often you find difficulties on using Moodle?
7. Does Virtual Learning Environment help to improve your understanding within classes?
8. How long of your time in average do you spend on VLE?”

The research objectives for this specific research is to understand the outcome this questionnaire, as answers are all aleatory, each student has different thoughts on the virtual learning platform.

Afterwards gathering my primary data questionnaire, it was important to the same with answers. The methods I have recured to were: make a list of students that are in my class, plan the question for my survey, which I had a feedback from my lecturer as well, in which I have also made corrections. In Total I had 8 questions. With these number of questions, I have received answers where I made a countdown in my sheet on Microsoft excel and

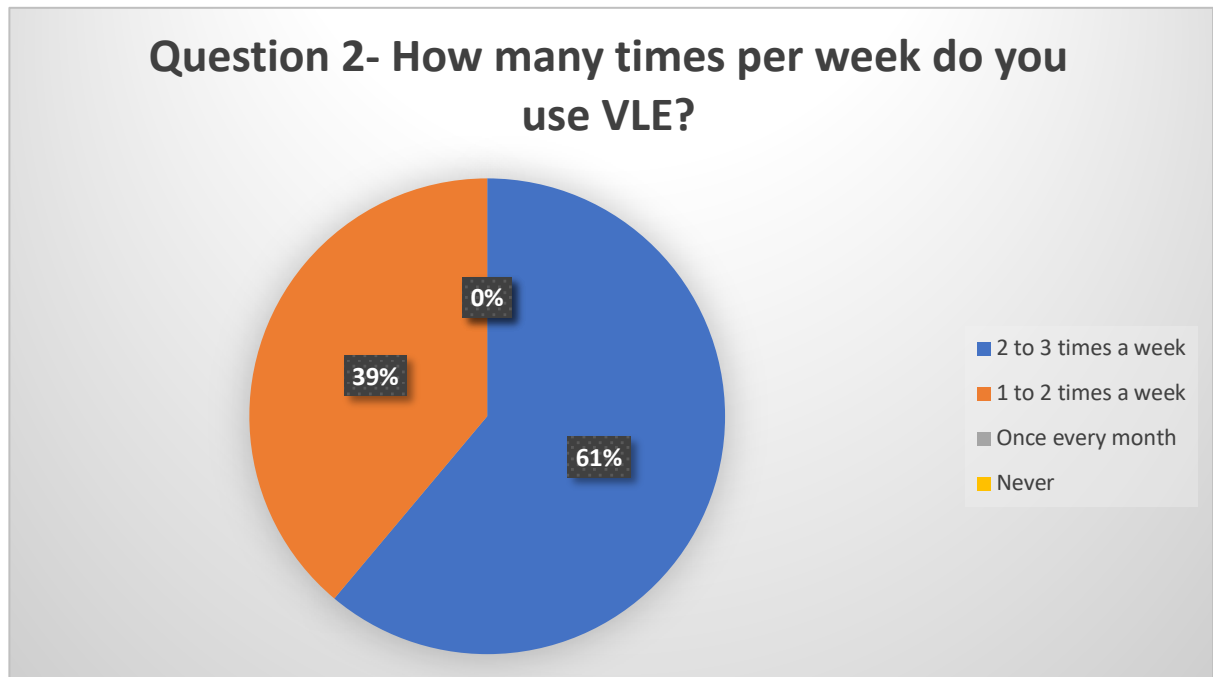
decided that the best way to present them. Would in a pi chart, so it also presents a percentage within the value too. After so much crucial effort trying to get my colleagues to answer the questionnaire did have in total 18 of answers which I will leave in a named pie chart below for the questions related below:



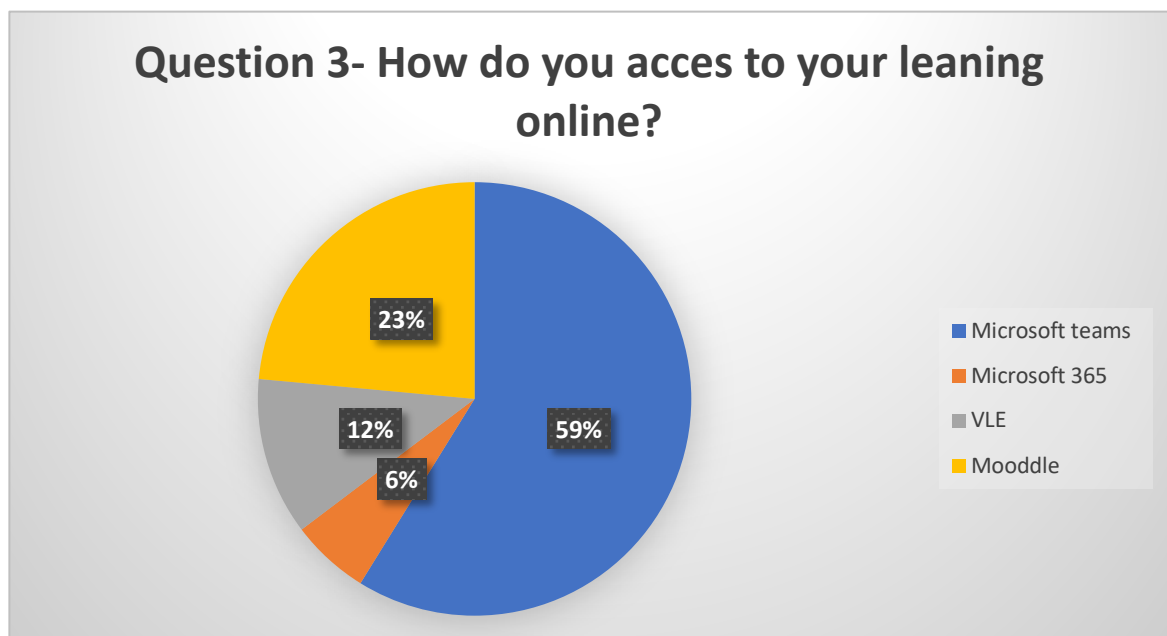
With my very own analysis I have realised that 18 of the students that have answered my questions, the outcome of the results was:

- ◆ 26% out of the 18 students do access to Virtual learning very often within as in their student life
- ◆ 42% out of the 18 students do access to Virtual learning very often within as in their student life
- ◆ 21% students do access to Virtual learning very often within as in their student life
- ◆ Unfortunately, 11% of the students rarely access to access to Virtual learning very often within as in their student life

My following question was “How many times do you used the VLE?” This question was made to find how much effort weekly students putting to study

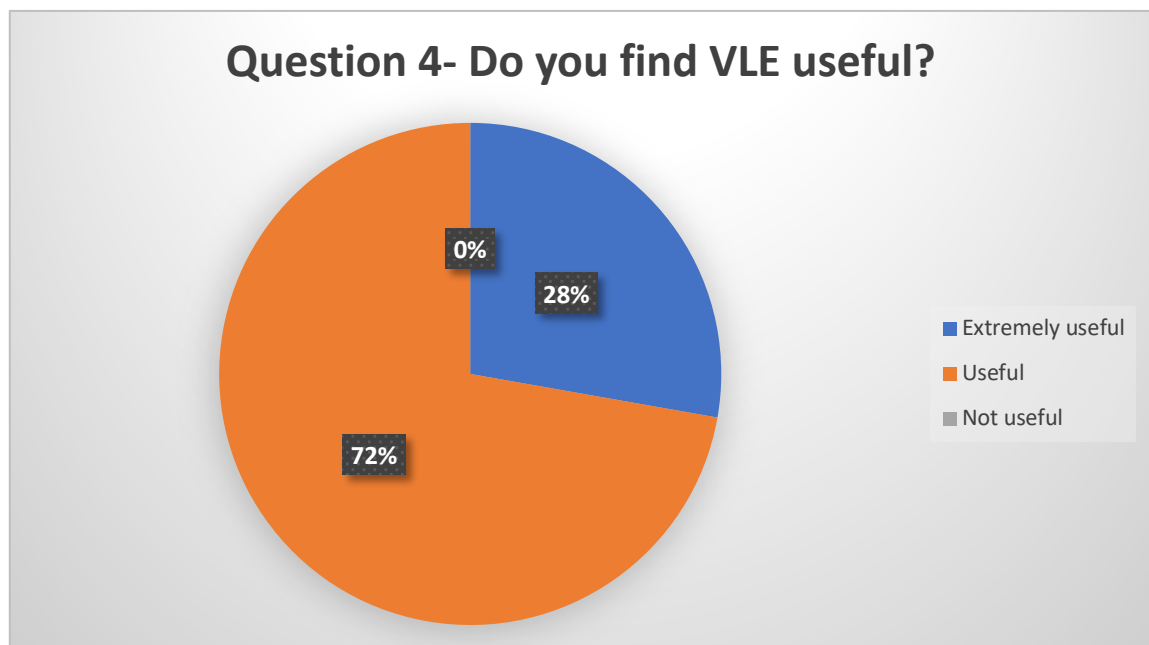


With pie chart we are able to understand that students at University of Wales St David Trinity, at least more than 60% of the do spend two to three times per week on Virtual Learning Environment. Also, within this pie chart we are able to interpret that 39 percent of the students do spend from 1 to 2 times of their time per week on virtual learning environment for their studies.



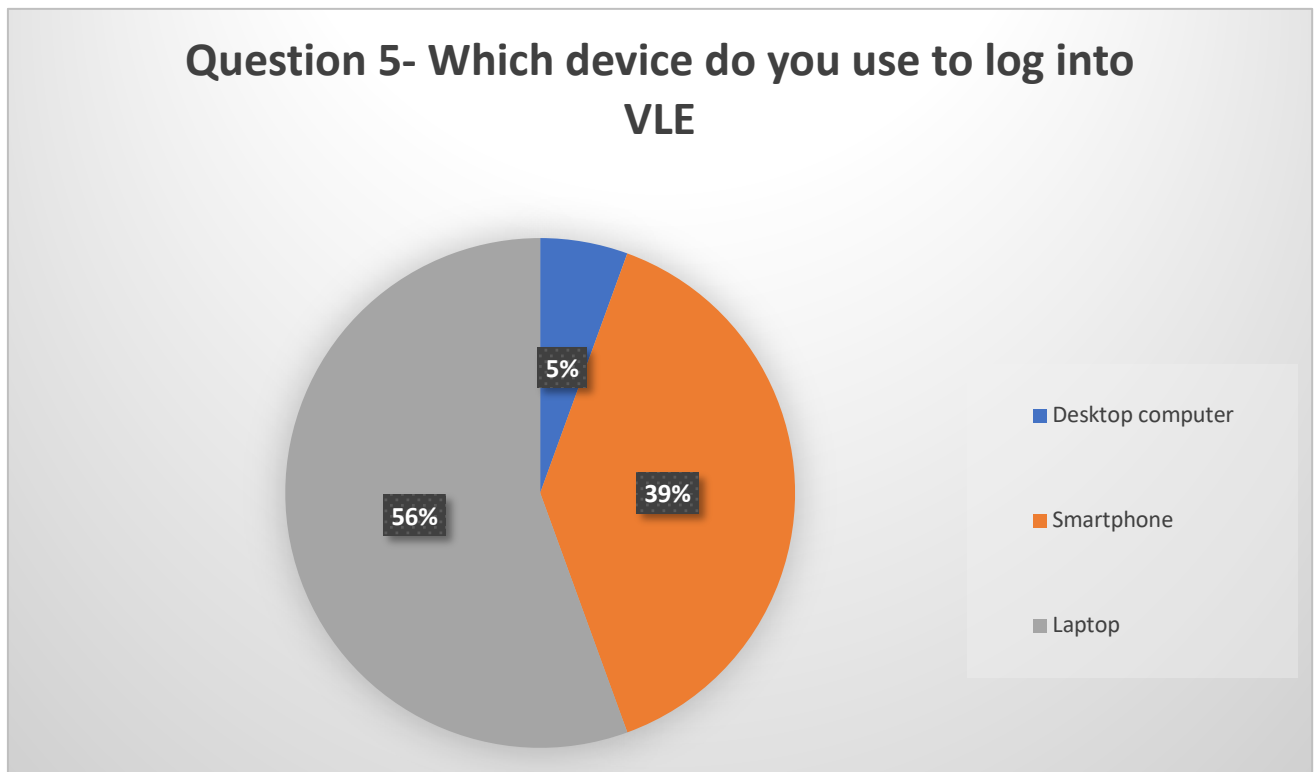
After asking 18 students how they access to their crucial learning online, the answers that I have received came with a clear and quick summary, which were:

- ◆ 59% of the students do access to their crucial learning online through a software called Microsoft teams, this in more than half of the students, have got the same app, which makes me conclude that Microsoft teams is an easier app for students.
- ◆ For the second place we have got Moodle, which is more used to get assignment briefs and to submit work, 23% of the students that have responded to my survey, access their learning through Moodle app.
- ◆ Virtual learning environment is one of the least apps used by students that study at University of wales St David Trinity which ends classified with a percentage of 12, which revolves around of 2 students
- ◆ Microsoft 365 end in last and with least number of students using the app. I do believe that Microsoft 365 is an essential app, more because in my perspective it has all the Microsoft software's, but students do less or nor need this app for their learning. Microsoft 365 is only used by 1 student that have answered to my survey.



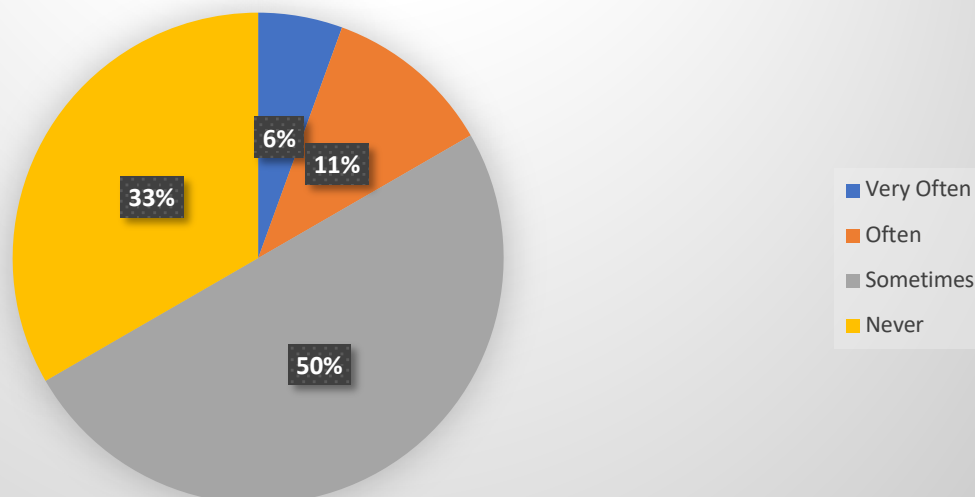
Here is a view visual pie chart in percentages of the one of the questions that relevantly I asked, which was "Do you find VLE useful?". The most common answer within this question

was that Virtual learning environment it is useful for the students studying at University of Wales St David Trinity. With my very own analysis I can see that the answer “useful” is has 13 times more voted than not useful, which leads me to a perspective of thinking that virtual learning environment is efficient for students at University. “Not useful” option was never used on this 4th question from the 18 students that have answer this significant questionnaire. 28% of the students have opted to choose in this survey, the option “extremely useful” which gives the total 5 students out of 18.



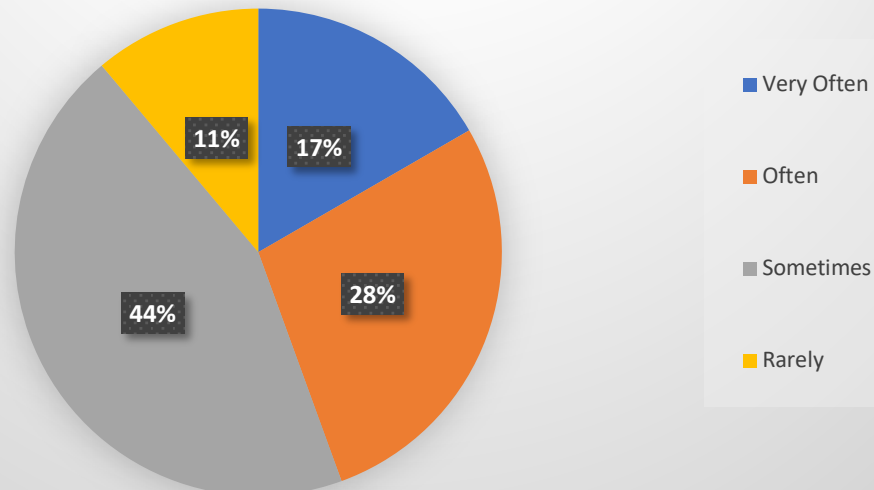
In this pie charts we can understand that 56% of the students studying at University of Wales Saint David Trinity 56% of the student voted that they use laptop to login into virtual learning environment. This option The most voted out of 18 students that answered my question it followed we have 39% of the students studying at University of Wales Saint David Trinity that they use smart phone device to login into virtual learning environment, this is the second qualified most used Device used by the students that answered the questionnaire. Finally, we have 5% of the 18 students that study at University of Wales Saint David Trinity that use desktop computer to access into their virtual learning environment. Overall, we have 55% difference between the use of laptop and desktop computer I do believe that using a laptop is much easier than using a desktop computer as also laptop it's portable and you can take it anywhere. I have got into my conclusion that using a desktop computer it is the less used device by student as it's not portable and you cannot take it anywhere with you.

Question 6- "Do you find difficulties using VLE?"



Question six I have got into conclusion that this was one of the very much significant question, as it shows that 50% of the students studying at University of Wales saint David Trinity do you have sometimes difficulties using virtual learning environment has maybe one of the barriers is because we are now learning and having lessons and classes online which difficult the learning for some of the older students. n my very own perspective 50% is a very high percentage of the answer sometimes for students who have been here since the very first term, as we also have to take in consideration that not everyone in our class or university had a significant amount of technology learning a device. 33% of the students voted that they have never had difficulties using visual learning environment so as therefore they believe they do understand technology better than 50% of the students that answered that they have sometimes difficulties using virtual learning environment. In the pie chart we also can see that one student that is equivalent to 6% of the 18 students has voted that they very often have difficulties using the virtual learning environment which I believe there is one particular student should be attended with their difficulties.

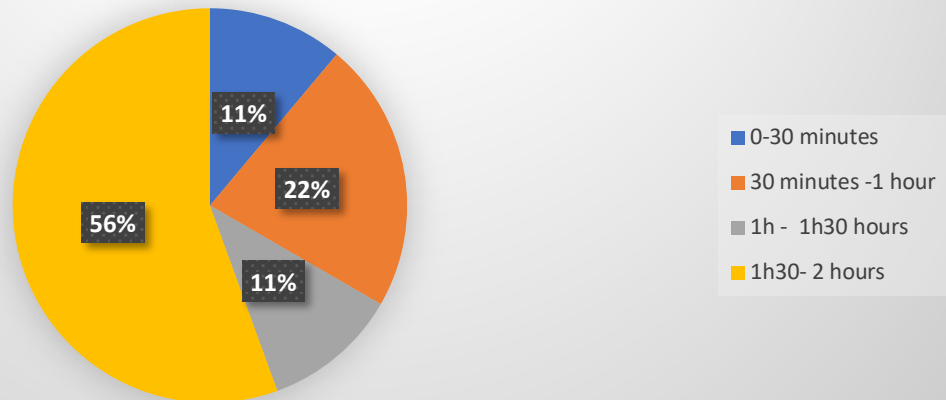
Question 7- "Does VLE helps to improve your understanding within classes?"



The pie chart above shown is the answers for question seven which was "Does VLE helps to improve your understanding within classes", 44% of the students studying at University of Wales Saint David Trinity, voted on that VLE does help to improve their understanding within classes. These 44% of 18 students do believe that VLE is really important for their understanding in classes and it does help them to improve for the best outcome of their Studies whilst in university. 28% of students studying at University of Wales have chosen the option often of how really helps to improve their understanding within classes this proves that really has a significant help for students while studying at University. In the same scenario but with different answers we have got that 11% of the students which is the value of two students are off 18 students that believe that rarely VLE does help to improve their understanding between classes while studying at University

And to finalise we have got 17% which is equivalent to 3 students studying at the same university that they believe that VLE very often helps to improve their understanding within classes which also proves that really once again has a significant help for students studying at University

Question 8- "How long of your time in average do you spend on VLE?"



Question eight which is my very last question which was regarding of how long you students in average spend their time on VLE while studying at University of Wales and the most common answer was that students spend at least one hour and a half to 2 hours on VLE. The percentage of students spending one hour and a half to 2 hours was 56% which is equivalent to 10 students that have answered my questionnaire regarding of the impact of virtual learning environment on students learning. Also, on the Pie chart shows that 22% of the students which is equivalent to 4 students that have answered my questionnaire that they do you spend 30 minutes to an hour on VLE this as an average of their time. Analysis I've also realised that 11% of students which is equivalent to 2 students spend an average half an hour to an hour which is equivalent to half of the amount of lessons and classes that university students have.

Conclusion

Into my very own conclusion, 42% of the students do use Virtual learning environment, in which they do use more than once weekly in their daily routine which is very important for our studies as university students, as assignments do become much harder 72% which is more than half of the students have proved that VLE is really useful during their studies in which helps to gather information, gather thoughts and plan their assignments ahead of the time as also VLE provides help apart from your lectures at lessons, which helps you evaluate work. I decided to ask my fifth question, which was what type of device to students normally used to log into and 56% responded that they use laptop and the reason I believe that laptop is the most common answer is because a laptop is a portable device which will help you to carry your studies whenever and anywhere you are in the world unless a desktop computer. This Question helped me to understand if the problems that students have logging into VLE could be related to the device they are using there. My 6th question that I asked was, if "students do find difficulties using VLE" and 50% voted "sometimes" which I believe could be related to the device they are using, as stated before. In my perspective virtual learning environment it is essential for every single student studying at University as therefore it has helped and impacted positively.

Virtual learning helps students who may miss lectures to gather information from lectures into the same application. VLE is considered a second way to self study.

References:

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Meaning of Data collection and primary data. collection(*oxford language dictionary*, last accessed 8th April 2021