

Building the role of a tutor: Your wellbeing & characteristics of remote grouping

Tutor training 2021 Study psychologists

Programme

- Introductions and why did you decide to become a tutor?
- Information about the group
- A tutor's own capacity
- Characteristics of remote grouping
- A playful remote grouping game







Do you know how many students feel like they do not belong to any study-related group?



 According to the FSHS 2016 health survey, about 1/3 of students do not feel like they belong or are not sure if they belong to any study-related group

 \rightarrow this is a large number of students

 Studying together with your school friends is often beneficial, advances your studies and, at best, is just plain nice – also remotely

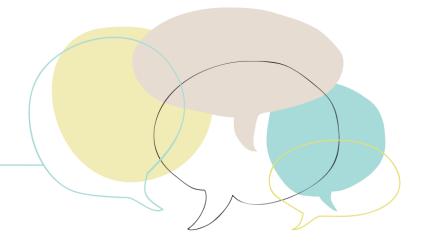


Phenomena heighten in a group

- Sometimes certain phenomena or issues may be emphasised in a group
- For example, there might be competitiveness among university students, and the students might compare themselves with others
- Sometimes comparing yourself with others can be consuming
- Through their own actions, how could a tutor create an atmosphere in which their school friends would support each other instead of competing with each Abther?

Discussions in small groups for 10 minutes

- What is a tutor's responsibility and what is not?
- As a tutor, how can you take care of your own wellbeing?
- Share your thoughts in Flinga: <u>Flinga - Tutor training 2021</u>





How to take care of yourself this autumn?

- Stopping and listening to ourselves is necessary from time to time "How am I, how am I feeling today?"
- We have all learned about ourselves during the pandemic what are the things that restore our strength?
- Take concrete steps for your wellbeing already this week!
- What are the things that you can and cannot influence?



How to take care of yourself this autumn?

- Remember to be sympathetic to yourself. Ask yourself: how would you react if one of your friends told you how dissatisfied they are with something they have said or done?
- Talk to others. We often feel the same way as everyone else
- We should also remember that new situations are often easier for some than for others.
- Try to live in the present.



Characteristics of online interaction

- Is it easier or harder to meet people remotely?
- Nonverbality is missing or changing
- Misunderstandings are common
- Asynchronicity is emphasised, technical difficulties
- How to make large groups work
- "Wildfire phenomenon" (the fast pace of communication), things start to spread or take on a life of their own
- Bullying, pressure?
- The internet enables making friends, conversation and communication for everyone
- Communicating, sharing and meeting is convenient online



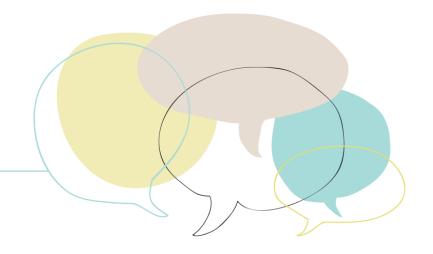
Positive group activation online

- Everyone has the possibility to briefly introduce themselves at the beginning, preferably with their cameras on
- voluntary however, this is encouraged
- Openness and sharing building a safe atmosphere, openness of the tutor: could I share more about myself than I would in other circumstances?
- Give attention equally
- Avoid assumptions related to the members of the group
- Encourage and show approval. Everyone has the right to participate in a way that suits them.
- Possibilities to influence improve engagement



How to support your tutees?

- Be present as much as you have time or energy
- Ask: How are you/How can I help? Open communication
- Listen and give time for getting acquainted & grouping
- The freshman year is always one-of-a-kind
- Compassion





Game: design a nice remote grouping activity! (15 minutes)

- Generate an idea of grouping game/question, etc. in a small group, which would help the members of the tutoring group to get to know each other and weld into a team and that would function in a remote setting.
- Write down your best proposal in Padlet: <u>Design a nice</u> remote grouping activity! (padlet.com)
- Every member of the group votes for three ideas that they think are the best. The three most voted ideas will be declared the winners!



Study psychologist's greetings for the tutors

- You are an important person in the new students' lives in how a new student feels integrated as a part of the student community and Aalto University.
- I hope you get a chance to enjoy the role of a tutor. At best, it's very rewarding.
- If you face challenging situations with your group, do not dwell on it alone. Ask another tutor, the people at AYY or us study psychologists for help ⁽ⁱ⁾
- You can contact us at opintopsykologi@aalto.fi

