

Empower-Ed: Teachers and Mentors learning and development system for Remedial Support, Skills Training and Mentorship programs for students and mentees

TARGET USERS

These are the direct users who will interact with and benefit from using the Empower-Ed application.

Mentors

These are individuals who provide guidance and support such as knowledge and skills training, career guidance, goal setting, emotional support and guidance on academic advancement. Mentors can be individuals who have gone through the same academic, professional or emotional journey as the mentee. Whereas the mentee is the student who is being guided and support by the mentor over a specified period. (cite)

Empower-ED application will enable a mentor to provide a personalized approach to their mentee by identifying key areas for support, scheduling appointments with their mentees and therefore stay consistent and in contact, identify areas for support through seeking and providing feedback to their mentees. In addition, the application will generate regular reports for mentors to enable them to document mentorship areas they have been able to cover and therefore provide a clear pathway for each mentee and cater to their various and individualized needs.

Teachers

A teacher is an individual who guides students or learners in their learning and development and imparts knowledge and skills. The Kenya Teacher Service Commission (TSC), defines a teacher as a person who has been trained as a teacher and is registered with the Commission. Whereas a “Learner” means a person who is taught by another, especially a school child or student in relation to a teacher (basic Education, 2024)

Remedial teaching in Kenya, as guided by the Ministry of Education (MoE), is where a teacher focuses on providing additional support to students who are struggling with specific subjects or skills. Remedial teaching or learning is not a generalized program for all students, but rather an intervention targeted at those who demonstrate weaknesses or fall behind their peers. Private home tutors. In addition, remedial teaching and learning can be offered in various setting such as after school programs, homeschooling or as community based remedial support.(cite).

The Empower-Ed application will provide remedial teachers with an easy to use, readily available application that will support appointment scheduling where teachers can purposely indicated future appointments, keep a robust database of their students and track specific learning areas for individualized support, track student achievement overtime and generate reports which will support feedback engagement with the student and parents or guardians.

Pain points for remedial teachers and tutors

1. Teachers and mentors often spend excessive time scheduling, updating records, and tracking progress manually. Empower-Ed application must be fast and intuitive to support teacher workload so that teachers don't revert back to their previous practice.
2. The application seeks to individualize student learning plans which could be hard to manage if a teacher has many students under remedial learning program. Therefore teachers and mentors may experience difficulty to access and detail student progress across various learning areas.
3. The application may lack reports or summaries which will hinder feedback. The application must provide easy summaries for student, parent guardian feedback and communication. The applica
4. While Empower-Ed is an Android app. This requires internet connectivity which may hinder access for teachers and mentors who have poor internet connectivity.
5. In addition, mobile screens size may hinder a comfortable display of records or summaries. The application must be simplified to cater for various screen sizes.
6. Mentorship Programmes and remedial tutoring programs are often carried out over many months and students and mentees progress through various learning and skills areas. Therefore a pain point may be experienced as data loss over time if the application does not support backup and sync as well as cloud backup capabilities .

Desired Outcomes of the Empower-Ed Application

1. The Empower-Ed application is designed to support teachers offering remedial support and mentors. The application is designed to give teachers and mentors a platform where they can provide personalized support and mentorship to students and mentees by assigning individualized learning areas, skills transfer and support which have been identified by the teacher and mentor, offer progress tracking, scheduling of appointments and develop reports and summaries for feedback.
2. Personalized learner support involves identifying learners' needs, creating tailored curriculum, skills training and guidance content and strategies that work for individual students and mentees.
3. Appointment scheduling will be provided by the application which will assist educators and mentors to manage appointments, keep records of lessons. This will work to support timely and consistent engagements.
4. Empower-Ed will allow educators and mentors to keep a continuous progress and monitor students and mentees by providing a platform for clear documentation of learner progress, for activities such as documentation of continuous assessments and the ability of learners to demonstrate skills acquisition and areas for additional support.
5. Reduction of manual record keeping, scheduling appointments and preparing reports for student feedback will be eliminated by the Empower-Ed application. In addition, Empower-Ed will improve communication and parental guardian engagement and involvement which will be supported by timely and efficient presentation of learner progress which is driven by data.
6. Empower-Ed seeks to provide a mechanism for teachers and mentors to provide a short term and long term learner and mentee development by supporting timely, individualized and well documented track of learner support, skills transfer and acquisition as well as data driven reporting.
7. Empower-Ed is based on the Android platform which is accessible on mobile devices and in the long term an offline capability should be achieved which will support educators and mentors in areas with limited internet access.

