**6.6 CLASSROOM AUDIO TECHNOLOGY**

**Classroom audio technology**

It is now recognized as one of the most powerful and cost effective tool for students’ improvement.

**Classroom audio**

* Whether it’s leading an activity, teaching a subject or playing a music recording, require student to pay attention and develop listening skills.
* The ability to hear an instructor is critical to students’ success.
* Studies have shown that the students who sit in the back row of their classrooms miss 30% of what their teacher say because they cannot properly hear the lesson that is being taught at the front of the room.
* Therefore, advisable is the arrangement of an audio-assistance for the students.
* Students who struggle to hear due to classroom noise, hearing loss or other issues often suffer from delayed language skills, lower grades, social isolation and poor self esteem. These things all contribute to success or lack of it, later in life.

**Benefits of classroom audio technology**

* Classroom audio is recognized as most powerful and cost-effective tool for students’ improvement.
* Research has shown that audio enhancement indicates significant and consistent benefits for education, particularly with academic achievement and test scores.
* When teachers wear a microphone, they allow the audio technology to distribute their natural voice throughout the room, so that every student can hear them more easily and more clearly.
* Reduction in ambient noise level
* Various noises that make up the ambient noise in a classroom are composed of external sounds like street traffic, facility noises like air-conditioning and classroom noises like students’ noise.
* Classroom audio systems overcome ambient noise and distribute the teacher’s voice throughout the room.
* Every child hears the teacher at the same amplified level no matter where they are seated or standing.

**Improved academic performance**

* Various tests show that amplifying a teacher’s voice results in exceptional improvement in reading and language test scores for students at all levels.
* Some studies have shown up to a 10% improvement in academic test scores.

**Reduced classroom stress and behavior problems**

* Audio technology assists with classroom management, helping to reduce discipline issues and stress for teachers and students overall.

**Reduced voice fatigue and throat illness in teachers**

* With the use of audio-technology, teachers can speak in a conversational voice, so that all students can hear them more easily.
* Vocal strain is greatly diminished.
* Schools using classroom audio system report significantly lower teacher absenteeism due to voice and throat problem.

**Hearing is essential to students’ achievements.**

* The primary channel for learning is hearing.
* Students spend 75% of their school time involved in listening activities.
* The better can children hear, the more they can learn.
* The goal of classroom audio technology is to enable every child in a classroom to clearly hear all the speech components of the teacher’s voice, no matter where a child is seated relative to the teacher’s position in the room.