

Questions to consider when navigating best practice in education

Quality – How supported is the research?

- Have the research findings been replicated in other studies?
- Do the research findings indicate positive effects on learner outcomes and have these effects been demonstrated across different contexts?

Reliability, validity and design study – How robust is the research?

- Is the method/measurement instrument reliable and valid?
- Has the research method controlled for critical factors that may influence the results?
- Does the study design appropriately isolate the phenomenon of interest?

Sampling – Is the sample appropriate?

- Is the sample broadly representative of the population of interest?
- Are the findings generalisable across contexts, like your own school?

Significance – Are the findings meaningful?

- Do the findings indicate there is a true relationship between the groups or factors of interest?
- What is the size of the effect?
- Do the findings have real world significance?

Implementation – How can this research be applied in practice?

- Is the evidence-based practice appropriate for your context and the needs of your learners?
- Which elements of the research should be implemented with high fidelity and which can be adapted to suit your context?