

## STUDENT JOURNEY ORIENTATION OPPORTUNITY–CHALLENGE MIND MAP

*A visual diagram of student's opportunities and challenges*

### 0. Name of the phase

Student Journey Orientation

### 1. Name of the tool

Opportunity–challenge mind map

### 2. Duration

30-60 minutes

### 3. Materials used

Please mention if some are specifically for individual and group delivery or virtual delivery.

- A sheet of paper, minimum size A4 or a flipchart, or a whiteboard. Alternatively, an electronic file to be used with a computer
- Pens and markers of different colors

### 4. What is this tool and what is its purpose and benefit?

An opportunity-challenge mind map is a visual overview diagram of a student's opportunities and challenges in learning and studies. The overview provided by the mind map helps guide students during their journey and address challenges when needed. It also allows observing links and co-relations on the map and prioritizing actions to take. It can also be used when discussing learning and studies together with the student.

### 5. Steps how to use this tool in practice

The same steps apply when working individually or with other teachers/other teachers. The mind map can also be done together with a student.

1. Take a big sheet of paper, a whiteboard, or a flipchart and write at the center of it the name of a student. You can also use code names or images that represent the student.
2. Start writing around the name opportunities of the student that may influence her/his learning. These can be, for example, the previously gained skills and knowledge of the sector, extra-curricular issues such as hobbies, family, or other. Write the most essential opportunities closest to the center (the student) and connect them to the student at the center with lines. Leave space for challenges. Add two rounds of opportunities continuing first from the first opportunity layer, and then again from the second layer. You may add more layers if needed. You can use keywords instead of

writing sentences. You can use different color markers and also sticky notes that you can move around. Besides writing, you can also draw ideas or use images to represent opportunities.

3. Add next in challenges that may that influence the student's learning. Use the same method for this as for opportunities. Challenges can be, for example, study motivation, family, or health. You can use a different color marker or sticky notes to write the challenges that you used for the opportunities. You can also use another identification method between the two categories.
4. When you have added both opportunities and challenges, look at the mind map and find links and relations between opportunities and challenges. Draw lines to connect these. You can use markers of different colors for opportunities and challenges.

Prioritize the opportunities and challenges based on their relevance to the learner's process. Highlight them, for instance, by circling them. You can also write them down below the mind map.

#### **6. Tips and hints for using this tool**

The mind map can be updated over time, for example, every second month. Take a photo of each updated version with the date. When comparing different versions of the mind map you can identify the process and progress of the student.

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