

DiTePES Strategy 2026–2030

Digital Technology in Physical Education and Sports

Department of Teacher Education (ILU), NTNU

1. Introduction

Digital Technology in Physical Education and Sports (DiTePES) is a research group at the Department of Teacher Education (ILU), Faculty of Social and Educational Sciences (SU). DiTePES develops knowledge about digital technology, artificial intelligence, and professional practice in physical education, teacher education, and related educational fields.

This strategy applies to the period 2026–2030 and is anchored in:

- NTNU 2035 – *Knowledge for a Better World*
- SU Faculty Strategy 2026–2035
- ILU Strategy 2026–2035

DiTePES shall contribute to ILU's vision of knowledge for a better school and education by developing critical and research-based insight into how technological developments affect learning, professional practice, community, and democracy.

2. Vision

DiTePES shall be a nationally leading and internationally recognised research environment that develops and disseminates critical, research-based knowledge about digital technology, artificial intelligence, and professional practice in physical education and teacher education.

We shall contribute to strengthening knowledge, community, and professional ethical awareness in schools and teacher education characterised by rapid technological change.

3. Core Values

DiTePES builds its work on:

- Academic freedom and critical thinking
- Professional relevance and research-based education
- Inclusion and social sustainability
- Ethical and responsible use of technology
- Community and collegial development

DiTePES combines innovation with critical analysis, and we examine both the opportunities, and the challenges technology presents for learning, professional practice, and democracy.

4. Strategic Ambitions 2026–2030

DiTePES structures its work in line with ILU's three overarching ambitions:

Ambition 1

A Leading and Internationally Recognised Research Environment

DiTePES shall strengthen its position as a research environment characterised by high academic quality, a clear profile, and an international orientation.

We will:

- Stimulate more peer-reviewed publications nationally and internationally
- Strengthen participation in externally funded projects (NFR, EU, Erasmus+, MSCA)
- Develop project leadership competence among group members
- Systematically integrate PhD candidates into the research group
- Contribute to national and international academic discussions on technology and teacher education

DiTePES shall contribute to advancing the research frontier within technology and professional development in physical education and teacher education.

Ambition 2

Lead Knowledge-Based and Sustainable Development in Schools and Teacher Education

DiTePES shall develop research that is relevant to the field of practice and strengthens professional education programmes.

We will:

- Integrate research activity closely into teacher education programmes
- Involve students in research and development work
- Develop knowledge about the ethical and professional use of technology and artificial intelligence
- Collaborate with the field of practice on research and development projects
- Contribute to continuing and further education offerings within technology and professional development

Research and education shall be mutually reinforcing, and the group's work shall contribute to high quality and professional relevance in ILU's study programmes.

Ambition 3

Safeguard Knowledge and Community as a Protection of Democracy

Technological development creates new opportunities, but also challenges related to trust, knowledge, and community. DiTePES shall contribute research-based insight into these tensions.

We will:

- Investigate the significance of technology for community, inclusion, and democracy
- Contribute to critical public debate about technology in schools and education
- Strengthen an inclusive and respectful research culture internally
- Support career development and qualification pathways for staff
- Continue open academic meeting places such as Café DiTePES and international symposia

DiTePES shall be a knowledge actor that combines academic ambition with democratic responsibility.

5. Preconditions for Achieving the Objectives

Interaction with the Field of Practice

DiTePES shall work in close dialogue with schools, teacher education institutions, municipalities, and international partners.

Collaboration shall be characterised by:

- Co-creation of knowledge
- Exploratory and developmental research projects
- Dissemination directed towards the field of practice
- International collaboration and mobility

Professional relevance is developed through continuous dialogue between research, education, and practice.

Academic Community and Career Development

DiTePES shall be a stimulating, supportive, and ambitious academic community.

The research group shall:

- Have clear expectations regarding academic contributions
- Facilitate diverse career paths
- Support promotion and qualification processes
- Work systematically with external funding
- Conduct annual strategic reviews

We shall contribute to a culture characterised by openness, curiosity, and respectful academic debate.

Organisation and Sustainability

The strategy will be operationalised through:

- Annual action plans
- Application activity towards national and international funding sources
- Integration of research into study programmes
- Systematic work with publishing and dissemination

The strategy will be revised when necessary and evaluated in 2030 in light of ILU's overall objectives.