Dear Editor,

Thank you for the opportunity to revise the article entitled: South African Postgraduate STEM Students' Use of Mobile Digital Technologies to facilitate participation and digital equity during the COVID-19 Pandemic (ID 2566077) as per the insightful comments provided by the reviewers. I believe the reviewers' comments have helped improve the quality of the article. Below is a schedule of the revisions undertaken, it reflects the reviewers' comment, the action undertaken and the page /line where the revision can be viewed. Further, all revisions undertaken are highlighted

Reviewer	Comment	My response/ action taken	Page found/line number
1.	Deeper contextualization of SA education landscape	Context has been provided on the injustices and inequalities that persist and impact learning	Lines 77-83
	Expansion of sample to different contexts/institutions	This is a very valuable point, it is Included as part of the recommendations of the study.	Line 570-572
	Comparison with face-to-face teaching	The idea of comparing face-to-face teaching with online has been included in each theme and the conclusion.	Line 341- 343; 391, 401-403 461-465 523-526
	A long-term follow-up study could provide valuable information	This has been included under the recommendations section	572
	More details in results: provide specific examples on the use of mobile digital technologies for translanguaging and disciplinary development of science to	Examples have been provided on the use of mobile technologies during translanguaging	Translanguaging -333-335
	Practical Implications and Future Research: Adding a short section at the end of the manuscript that highlights the practical implications of the findings and suggests possible directions for future research	The practical implication of the findings have been discussed and suggestion for further research is found in the recommendations made	533-563
	Referencing – follow the template	The reference list has been reworked as per the template guidelines.	589 0nwards
2	add recent research on the benefits of using mobile digital technologies in higher education	5references have been added	See reference list highlighted in blue
	clarify the research objectives	The research aim is clarified in the abstract.	Lines 13 &14
	Practical implications of this research should be developed and substantiated	This has been elaborated	533-563
	Future research could incorporate quantitative data analysis to provide statistical evidence of the effectiveness of digital mobile technologies in improving student outcomes528 -531	This has been included in the recommendation section	573-577

3	A table or figure should never appear without reference to it in the previous text	Reference to the table is included in the previous section	211 287-288
	The section “6. CONCLUSION” should be “6. Conclusion" The section “7. RECOMMENDATION” should be “7. Recommendation	These technical issues have been corrected	479 568
	It is necessary to develop a deeper analysis of the conclusion and implications of the study	A deep analysis was done under each theme, the conclusion, and implications which follows the conclusion	526-563
	add before the “References” section, the “Author Contributions”, “Conflicts of Interest” and “Funding” sections. Look at the template	Authors' contribution, conflict of interest, and funding has been added just before the reference section	581- 587
	Reference- adhere to the template	The references have been corrected to match the template	590 onwards
4	what kind of participation do you refer to? It is not clear	The meaning ascribed to participation is made explicit	55-57
	In the Abstract clearly identify your objective(s).	The aim has been clarified in the abstract	13&14
	The findings of this research are significant “should be removed	done	90-91
	The line 86 "This paper comprises five sections", should be removed	Line is removed	
	The lines 192-194 contain repetitions, please redact the excerpt	The repetition has been removed	
	In the methodology section please how you constructed the codes and categories (e.g. apriori, aposteriori). Also, mention about the limitations of your qualitative research.	I have explained that inductive coding was undertaken. Limitation is added	286-287 283

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