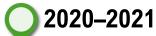


### **The Latest Scenario**

### **August 2020**

Schools are concerned to know from their ministries about the teaching/learning model of 2020-2021. Lots of preparation are underway. Few schools are scheduled to start their 2020-2021.



School year 2020-2021 will not stop to operate, but the modes of learning will be exponentially monitored and developed.

And it all depends on the pandemic waves.

Academic Year 2020-2021 starts for the remaining countries. This stage is very critical because many ministries and central offices will have observed August schools and how the conditions unfolded and will be acting according to those observations.



There is no excuse now for education systems not to function properly, facing the pandemic **repercussions**.

Educational bodies ought to be ready, for this coming academic year.

## Phase 2 of COVID-19: Reopening Schools

The previous (Post COVID Schools – Version 1) has presented the expected reopening of schools and the models of how such an era would be like, highlighting significant themes from safeguarding to contingency plans - Phase 1 of the COVID-19 effect upon schools.

This version 2, which starts phase 2, takes these to a higher level according to the updates of the pandemic and the beginning of an academic year with COVID still lurking at its footsteps. If learning will be on-site, then the main issue will be safeguarding and the two-meter distancing. Teaching and learning will be the same in the classes. This is though will not cancel the need of online sessions since on-site classes may not fully cover the requirements. It is important to note that for many schools distancing on-site means supplying more room space, even building or rearranging rooms. Schools are restructuring their physical surrounding for that purpose.

In case learning will be blended/hybrid or fully online, certain details are important to shed light on and reconsider carefully. Having a new delivery system for the curriculum is challenging and the teachers need all the preparation and support available.

The second phase of the pandemic will be as demanding as the first, and even more. Some countries faced objections from teachers for being forced to attend on-site. Others are ready with excitement, as they discover new realms in teaching. Either way, plans should have been set at all levels for the safety and performance of all stakeholders.

This phase cannot be done without using metrics in order to carefully assess and evaluate the entire process and the protocols.

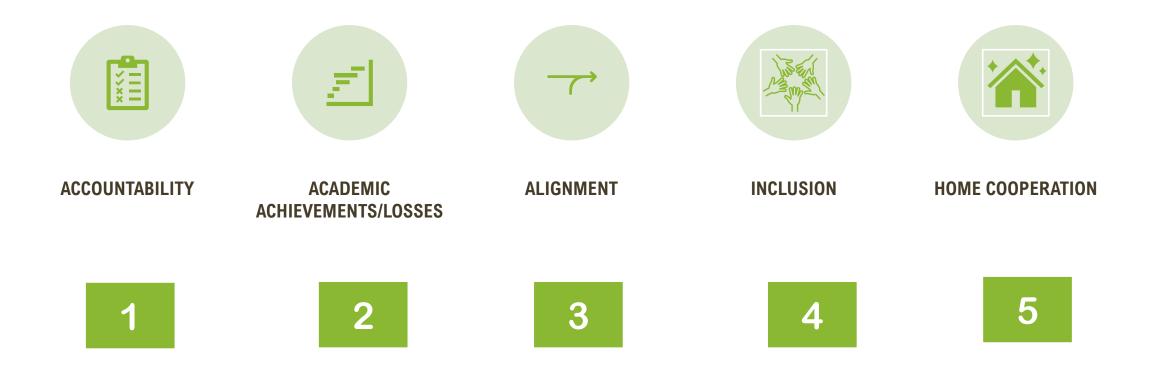


## General Safety Measures/Safeguarding



## **Focus Urgency Checkpoints**

Full Checkpoint Lists that schools can use to evaluate these Focus Urgencies are available upon inquiry.
Please send a message through www.orbitsdevelopment.com

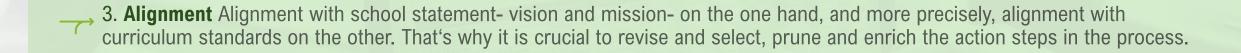


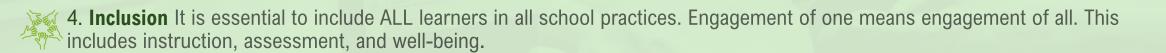


1. **Accountability** Showing full responsibility towards two major aspects: Safety and Learning S&L – safety in terms of having less infections among community and learning in terms of honest engagement in the learning process.



2. **Academic Achievements/Losses** After months of emergency learning and summer vacation, learning curves marked steep lines due to losses. The focus should be in this second stage at diminishing losses and amplifying gains.





5. **Home Cooperation** This is not optional now since learning is from home, too. Parents play an important role at such a stage. Parents need to see that learning cannot be done without some attention from them. Schools need to explain the process.

# Instruction Modes (Fully Online or Blended Learning)



#### Rigid Schedule

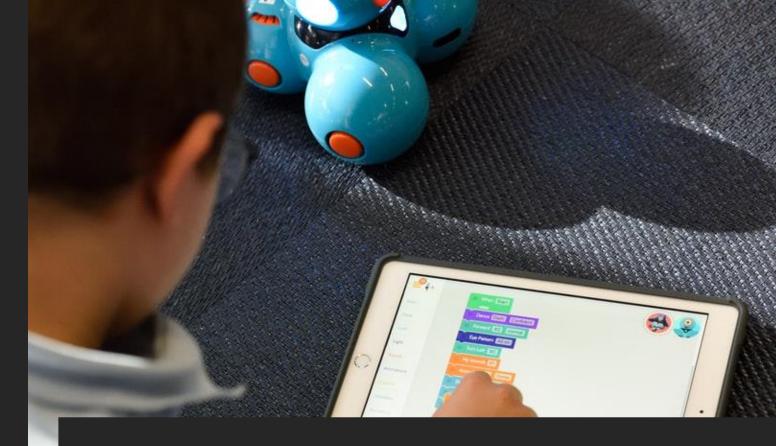
This is a session-by-session timetable to ensure that the same recommended number of periods per subject matter is given to grade levels respectively. Usually in this case, live sessions are delivered (synchronous\* manner).

#### Flexible Schedule

This depends upon schools and their systems respectively. These can be done through an overview of the day with all students/class. Then they are directed to certain prerecorded videos. Certain platforms, such as Seesaw, makes this easily accessible. Followed are discussion and task sessions. Zoom is helpful in this method because it provides the Breakout Rooms feature.

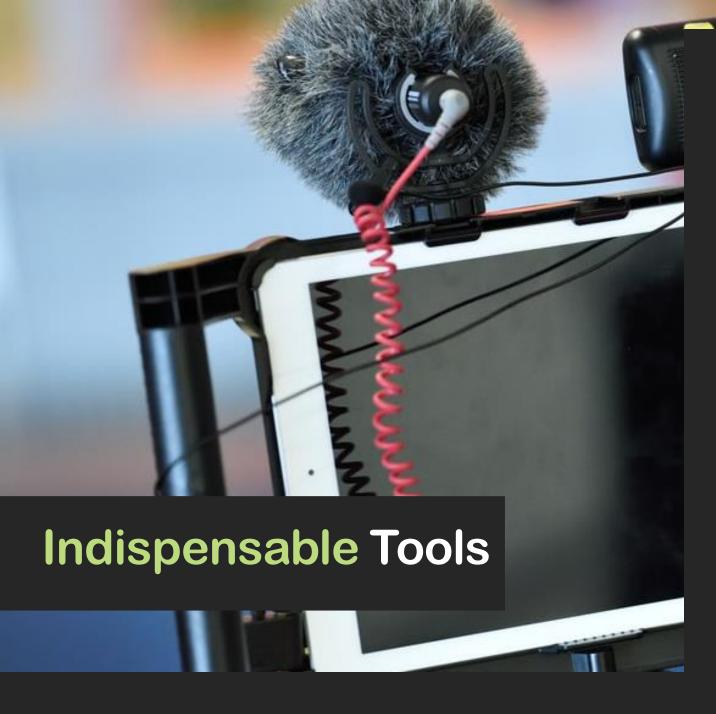
#### **Tailored Schedule**

This is planned to cater to learners with difficulties or those showing lack of full understanding of lessons.



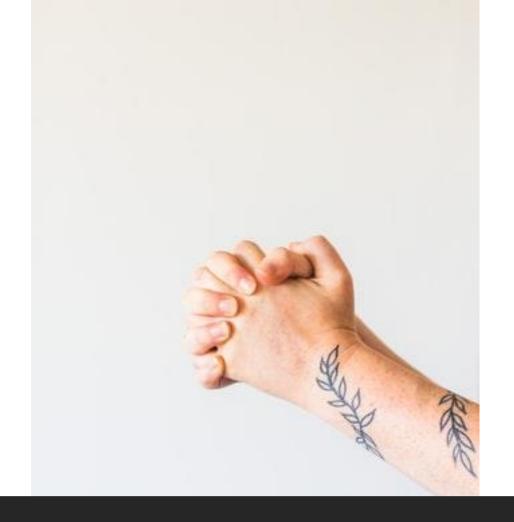
### **Typical School Day**

**Suggestions** 



These are indispensable as delivery media:

- Photos
- Videos
- Video Editing Software
- Online calendars to automate appointment and session scheduling, such as Calendly
- Platforms that incorporate highengagement features (includes polls and interaction, such as Polly and Flipgrid)
- Breakout Rooms (online group meetings)
- Calls for small group or one-on-one meetings



### Indispensable Services

#### These are **indispensable** as school services:

- Learning Support Teams (to help learners with difficulties or facing understanding challenges)
- Regular individual communication with parents (emails and surveys\*)
- Mental Health coaches
- IT coaches
- Blended Instruction coaches

\*Surveys may be subjective. So <u>leadership</u> should control the results through accountability measures.

### **Necessary Skills - Learners**

01

1. <u>Time Management</u>: Learners need to practice how to manage their time. 02

2. <u>Self-Management:</u>
Learning relates also to managing one self- attitudes, behavior, actions, reactions.
This surely varies by age and environment.

03

3. Material Management:
Learners need to be reliable since there will be times when teachers are not present to help with their metarial.

04

4. <u>Teamwork</u>: Learners have to learn to work in pairs or groups from a home perspective. Teachers can set this at the beginning of the year to make learning more effective later.

05

5. Error Stress-Free: Such unusual circumstances can pose self-confidence issues with learners from all levels. Learning is open now. It is not confined to classroom walls. Explaining to them that errors are part of the learning will curb any confidence loss.

### **Necessary Skills - Teachers**

01

1. <u>Time Management</u>: Teachers need to teach children how to manage their time. This is essential at this stage.

02

2. <u>Patience</u>: Even after practice of online teaching and learning, teachers need to keep in mind the limitation of online reach.

03

3. Resilience: Tough times require the capacity to handle pressures and difficulties

04

4. <u>Designing Feedback</u>: This is essential to keep learners on track and it has to vary by grade and subject 05

5. <u>Innovation</u>: Technology is mandatory in such conditions. Being tech savvy is good. Being tech innovative is preferred.

### Manal Zeineddine

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Contact:
<a href="mailto:www.orbitsdevelopment.com">www.orbitsdevelopment.com</a>
<a href="mailto:ma

## Stay safe and ever-learning!

Preparations are almost ending in most countries, while it ended in others. Schools will be reopening very soon in most countries, while it reopened in others. Nothing is certain or fixed, but now we are ready.