



RAJMATA KRISHNA KUMARI GIRLS' PUBLIC SCHOOL JODHPUR DURING CRISES AND LOCKDOWN

'Online courses are a great solution to the challenges. Everyone can access education no matter the location.'

Being alert with the present scenario, RKK took swift, preventive and precautionary measure and closed its doors to protect school family from the COVID-19 viral disease pandemic initially till 31st March and then extended till further instructions. In this scary situation of national lockdown, the most satisfying part had been the completion of Final Examinations of session 2019-20, compilation of Report Cards, Staff Meeting for the new session, Allocation of duties and tasks, break declared before the commencement of the new Session 2020-21 and CBSE Board Exams for Class 10th also got over.

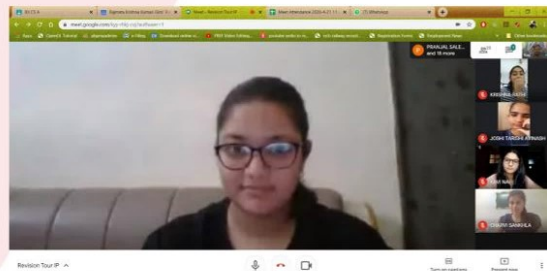
One of the greatest challenges for school administration was not to put learning for students in jeopardy but what would be the next step if school was to shut down for long term. With brainstorming, wisdom descended that school closure refers to the shutdown of physical buildings and traditional in-person instructions. The growth accelerators, RKK's Governing Body took the decision that, 'Lockdown should not go waste. Learning should not witness a halt, off-premise schooling should be offered. The crux of RKK's education is 'Schooling for Life'. The building of brick and mortar is temporarily locked but our morale has not gone down.

Using the technology and smart resources, staff and students were equipped and empowered to fill up the stark vacuum. Internet, online modules and e-classes came to our respite. Instructions and guidelines of IT and Academic Deans served as a blueprint for RKK's successful working. Exploring the possibility of digital skills and technology solutions, a series of decisions were recommended to streamline studies at home.

First of all, the happiness level and mental wellbeing of students, staff and parents was taken care of with the help of School Counselor, Mrs Madhavi Gadkari. Caring Tips shared by her were uploaded on the school website, messages and links were sent to the school parents, employees, staff etc offering suggestions and ways to react or respond during certain situations, following a balanced schedule while staying at home, cultivating and reflecting positivity to overcome all challenges.

Next, the final results and score sheets of all the classes were uploaded on the school website. Teachers were contacted through Phone and Video Conferencing and were requested to research for curriculum break up, plan and design a tailored syllabus and choose the best tool suited to explain the concepts and communicate with students, keeping their age and other limitations in mind followed by reaching out to parents and invoking their support in this endeavour, providing them the link and requesting them to contribute.

Digital learning platform and free access was offered to all students from Class 6th to class 12th and to the parents of students from Class Nursery to 5th. A trial was conducted to



check the practicality of this procedure.

April 1st was the first day uploading 22 worksheets in all for Pre- Primary and Primary Classes, communicating with the students, explaining the concept, developing informative content and interesting assignments making them meaningful in an innovative way. Animated videos and simulations helped children gain an understanding of abstract concepts. Video form of content held students' attention for longer.

For Senior classes, a well-designed online learning experience provided students with opportunities to practice, apply and reflect. Also, an online repository of all the subjects has been shared with students which contains chapter-wise content, notes, question and answers, extra-polatory exercises, projects, question bank, homework packs, test series and fun activities in simple language with day to day life examples and educational videos giving them clarity to understand, learn and relearn the concepts to enhance proper practicing.

"Students only have to open their laptop or PC and log in to the link given by the school and within a few minutes, they are in a virtual classroom with their teacher and classmates, happily commented a parent.

Though Online learning app for school was developed about three years ago with the help of Teach Next. Before lockdown it was used in Smart Classes and Smart Boards of our school. With the help of Teno app usage, we were able to get instant notification of number of students, accessing the app, attending the class, uploading of any new assignment by the teachers and conducting regular feedback sessions. Myriad of devices like Google Classrooms and Hangout etc allowed teachers and learners to share knowledge. The teachers also connected to students interactively, using multimedia, voice communications, videos (live or prerecorded), presentations, product demonstrations and text chats.

The execution faced some challenges. Sometimes Wi-Fi stops working, sometimes the voice breaks, and other times the connectivity isn't good are some of the technical glitches. Nevertheless, we succeeded in our small step. The barriers of time and place have broken down. Bedroom, Dining room or lobby has become the classroom of students, making them proficient in 21st century skills -- communication, creativity, collaboration and critical thinking. The most rewarding feeling has been to erase borders and barriers of physical presence in school and classroom, facilitate students with digital learning that they enjoy, help them become productive and watch them grow.

