

Home Learning Preparation Guide for Teachers during the COVID-19 Period

Things to think about:

- If my school is closed due to COVID-19, will students still be allowed to meet together in small groups?
- Will students be able to move around safely within their village or town?
- Are there any restrictions on gatherings or movement in my area?
- Will my students have access to the internet, radio or TV?
- Will my students be supervised by an adult who can help them read instructions or do the activities?

Get prepared:

Make a plan:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meet together as a staff and share ideas about how you will support student learning if your school closes. ● Think about how you can make use of the local environment and everyday activities as opportunities for learning. Work together to make some learning activities based on your local area that students can do if schools are closed. ● Find out which students have access to the internet, radio or TV at their home. If movement is allowed, can students listen or work with others? ● Find out about any restrictions for your area from local authorities

Organise your resources: use some or all of these, depending on your context		
<p>Written Learning Activities:</p> <p>Ask children to set some goals for home-learning</p> <p>Have students plan and write out a daily routine for home learning</p> <p>Students can write down instructions for home-based tasks</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research activities ● Memorising times tables, words to the National Anthem ● Drawing a map of their village or area ● Learning a traditional dance, song or craft from a relative ● Make a list of plants and animals that they observe in their local area ● Design and make something to help their family or community 	<p>Printed Learning Activities:</p> <p>MEHRD is preparing Learning Packs which will be sent to areas which may be at risk of school closure due to COVID-19. Contact your Education Authority for more information.</p> <p>If you have printing equipment available you may be able to print some resources for students to take home</p> <hr/> <p>Community Learning Activities:</p> <p>Collect materials that students may be able to use for learning that are available in your area: eg. shells, sticks, coconuts, toys, etc.</p> <p>Ask community members if they can lead activities.</p>	<p>Radio, Online and TV Resources:</p> <p>SIBC Radio Sessions: Listen to SIBC radio Monday to Friday at 9am (repeated in the evening)</p> <p>iResource Website: A new initiative from MEHRD that is regularly updated with learning resources and information for school leaders, teachers, parents and students. Go to www.iresource.gov.sb to see what resources are available for your students:</p> <p>Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nguzu Nguzu Readers and Textbooks for Primary Maths and English ● Audio recordings so you can re-listen to the SIBC radio sessions (with extra resources) ● Interactive simulations and textbooks for Years 7-11 Science ● Support resources for Year 12 Prescriptions ● Links to online learning tools for a range of subject areas ● Learning packs will be made available online in the coming months. <p>There are also materials to help parents understand how they can help their children stay safe and learning during this time, particularly if they have physical or learning difficulties.</p>

Meet with parents and community leaders:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Share information with families about what will happen if schools close. ● Share information with parents about how they can help their children learn safely at home (available on iResource) ● Encourage them to listen to the daily Student Learning Continuity Program on SIBC at 9am daily. ● Encourage them to regularly check the iResource website: www.iresource.gov.sb for resources and information they can use if schools are closed. ● Share information on how parents can set up a learning area and help their children in their learning by doing everyday activities at home. ● If parents do not have access to a device or radio in their house, work as a community to find a solution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eg. Several students working together in a group (if not in a movement restricted area).

If schools close:

- Try to keep in touch with your students and their parents to check in on how they are going.
- Assessment will be different when school closes. Talk to older students about how they can assess their own progress. You might be able to collect assignments or work from students' homes or a community location. Assessment will start again when school re-opens.
- Listen to SIBC and visit www.iresource.gov.sb for updated information and resources.
- If you are allowed to move around your village/town and be together, set learning up in an appropriate location such as a church.
- Encourage learning in and with the community – ask village leaders to get involved, tell stories, encourage participation in cultural activities, eg. Kastom dance, music, traditional arts and crafts.
- Seek help if needed. Call MEHRD on Ph 28803 or contact your Education Authority.