

REOPENING SCHOOLS – THE WAY FORWARD

Ensuring a safe and nurturing environment

OBJECTIVE

Defining the key issues

In light of the far-reaching consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on the education systems around the world, with 89% of the world's student population affected by COVID-19 school closures¹ as of 1st April 2020 (*UNESCO, 2020*), The Madras Seva Sadan recognizes the urgency of immediate action to ramp up efforts to facilitate the continuity of learning by providing a safe and nurturing environment.

The Madras Seva Sadan, after thorough research and consultation with leading experts in various fields, have arrived at a three pronged approach to strategise the way forward in reopening our schools.

A THREE PRONGED APPROACH



INFRASTRUCTURE AMENITIES



ACADEMIC PREPAREDNESS



OPERATIONAL READINESS



INFRASTRUCTURE AMENITIES

Ramping up the
facilities

INFRASTRUCTURE

Products and solutions

The Madras Seva Sadan has always recognized the importance of investing in quality infrastructure across all its schools.

To ensure safety and well-being of the students, we have invested on equipping the school buildings with cutting-edge high performance products and equipment.



Plasma Air Curtains



UV Conveyors



Anti-viral Surface Coating



Anti-viral Film



Hands-free Sanitizer Dispenser

PLASMA AIR CURTAINS

- In addition to the functionality of a regular air curtain, this uses plasma cluster ions to render viruses inactive.
- It is to be installed at all main entrance points to the school building.

Deodorization

Sterilization

Removing harmful materials



UV CONVEYORS

- These systems consist of a moving belt that passes through a chamber containing multi-spectral lamps.
- They are ideal for scanning all perishable and imperishable goods, packages, bags, boxes, couriers etc.
- This system will be installed at the entry and exit gates.

Consistent UV Curing

Complete UV Shielding



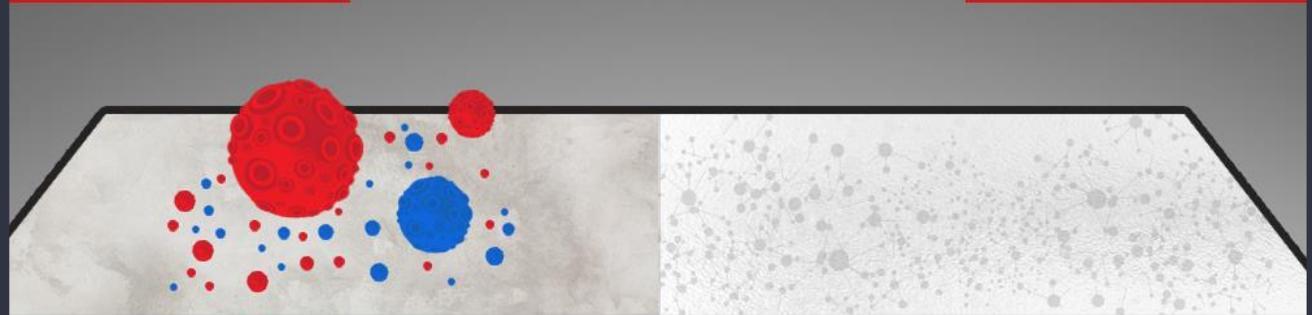
ANTI-VIRAL SURFACE COATING

- Surfaces are a major source of viral transmission.
- The anti-microbial coating eliminates hazardous pathogens and drastically reduces chances of infection.
- This coating is to be applied on all major contact walls and corridors of the schools.



BEFORE APPLICATION

AFTER APPLICATION



GERMS THRIVE ON THE SURFACE

GERMS ARE KILLED BY THE SURFACE

ANTI-VIRAL FILMS

- A transparent sheet applied on high contact surface areas.
- The silver ions in these films have excellent anti-microbial properties and can block virus penetration, rendering it harmless.
- This film will be applied on areas such as reception, door handles, elevator buttons, railings, switch boards etc.



HANDS-FREE SANITIZER DISPENSER

- These easy to operate and hygienic sanitizer dispensers will be installed outside every classroom, office and washrooms to ensure utmost safety of all employees and students.



ONLINE LEARNING

Tools and Strategies

After thorough research on the different educational tools available for online learning and consulting with leading educators across the world, the management has made an informed decision to make various technological and communication systems available to its students, teachers and parents.

The Madras Seva Sadan recognizes the long-simmering inequities which students face under such circumstances. We strive towards narrowing such gaps by providing adequate support to all students.



Google Drive

ASSESSMENTS & RESOURCES



Toddle



Zoom

LIVE CLASSES



Microsoft Teams



Whatsapp

COMMUNICATION



Emails

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Empowering teachers

For educators, the COVID-19 pandemic is a quintessential adaptive and transformative challenge. The Management has provided immense support to the teachers to ensure they are well-equipped to bring about innovative strategies to design lessons and assignments that are authentic and meaningful.



32

SYSTEMS
PURCHASED



272

TEACHERS



353

VIRTUAL
LEARNING HOURS



81

SESSIONS



232

PD HOURS

OPERATIONAL READINESS

Ensuring safe return to
school



INCREASED SAFETY AND HYGIENE

Measures in place

The health and safety of our students, teachers, staff and their families is always our top concern. The Management has carefully weighed in the schools' ability to create and consistently follow effective health and safety measures to mitigate the risk of infection.

With that in mind, we have realistically adopted health and safety protocols for getting students safely back into the classrooms.

-  Personal Hygiene
-  Housekeeping Practices
-  Student Distancing
-  School Scheduling
-  Awareness Programmes

PERSONAL HYGIENE

- All employees and students to wash their hands with hand sanitizers as they enter the school.
- Emphasis on regular sanitization of hands during school hours.
- All staff and students to wear masks at all times in the school campus.
- Dissuade students from touching corridor walls, railings etc.



HOUSEKEEPING GUIDELINES

- All classrooms, offices, corridors and washrooms to be sanitized regularly.
- Tables, chairs and other contact points (door handles, handrails, toilet seats, taps, flush buttons etc.) to be sanitized at regular intervals.
- All electronic items such as laptops, computers, tablets and mobiles to be cleaned with disposable wet tissues/napkins.

STUDENT DISTANCING

- Larger assemblies and meetings to be avoided until safe to resume.
- Seating arrangements in the classroom to meet recommended distancing between students.
- Regrouping and dividing students for multiple classrooms to minimize student interactions.
- Alternative learning environments such as outdoor classroom time to be encouraged at staggered time.
- Adult supervisors to be present to keep student distancing in check.
- Students to not change classrooms for different sessions.



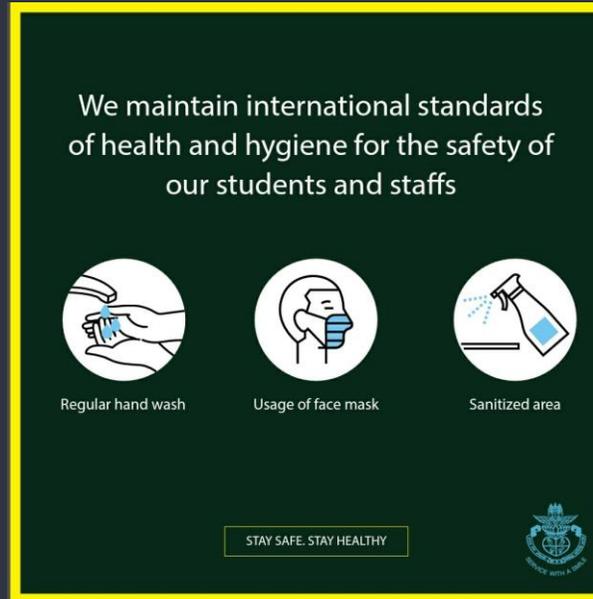
SCHOOL SCHEDULING

- Staggered school timings for different grades to avoid overcrowding the campus at the same time.
- Separate entry and exit points.
- Parent's entry into the school campus is restricted. No gathering at the school entry points.
- Break times to be staggered. Odd-even classes may go for their break on alternate days.

AWARENESS PROGRAMMES

Campaigns and Posters

- Various parent and student orientation programmes will be conducted before the school reopening to ensure the entire learning community is aware of the new guidelines.
- Sufficient information will be displayed throughout the school premises to keep everyone informed about the rules and regulations that will be in place once schools reopen.





MOVING TOWARDS A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

These past few weeks have been a great reminder of just how connected we are to one another – and the way our choices today determine our options tomorrow.

Fortunately, our extremely dedicated team have been working around the clock to respond to the different challenges posed by the COVID-19.

We understand that the virtual interactions cannot substitute the learning environment at school. However, in these testing times, we must focus on the opportunities that can bring out the best in each one of us. The entire team at Madras Seva Sadan is constantly striving to provide a flexible learning framework for students to continue their learning journey.

Our goal is to use this as an opportunity to improve and become even stronger and more resilient as a community. We are deeply heartened that our families are comprised of caring and compassionate individuals who work together to realize this goal.

We are grateful to you for your understanding and flexibility as we chart the way forward.

We hope to strengthen this synergy as we look forward with great anticipation to the return of the children.

THANK YOU

STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY!