

SOP for partial reopening of Schools for students of Classes IX - XII on a voluntary basis, for taking guidance from their teachers

In a high-level meeting, the Education Department of Bihar has decided to reopen the schools in the state from September 28, 2020, but the schools will have to strictly follow the guidelines issued by the department in view of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The operation of classes in secondary and higher secondary schools must comply with the Corona Guide-Line. The SOPs to be followed are:

1. Schools outside the containment zones only shall be allowed to open. Further, students, teachers and employees living in containment zones will not be allowed to attend the school. Students, teachers and employees shall also be advised not to visit areas falling within containment zones.
2. Students of Classes IX - XII shall be permitted to visit their school on voluntary basis for taking guidance from their teachers. This will be subject to written consent of their parents/guardians.
3. Keeping in view the prevention of corona infection, only half the teachers will be present in half a day. The remaining 50 percent of the teachers will be present the next day with intervals. That is, a teacher has to take classes only three days a week.
4. Only one third of the students will come to school in a day. In this way, they have the opportunity to join the class only two days a week. A student will be permitted to join the class at an interval of two days. For example, if a student is present in Monday class, then his next attendance will be in Thursday class. During the six working days of the week, a student will have set days of attendance (Monday – Thursday, Tuesday – Friday & Wednesday – Saturday) for classes.
5. Prior to resumption of activities, all work areas intended for teaching/demonstrations etc., including laboratories, other common utility areas shall be sanitized completely, with particular attention to frequently touched surfaces. Schools that were used as quarantine centres will be properly sanitized and deep cleaned before partial functioning is resumed.
6. Instead of biometric attendance alternate arrangements for contactless attendance shall be made by the school administration.
7. At all times, the teachers and students have to compulsorily maintain social distancing, wherever feasible. They have to comply with physical distance with mask, sanitizer etc. Assemblies, sports and events that can lead to overcrowding are strictly prohibited.
8. The school shall ensure hand washing facilities along with provision of soap/handwash. Entrance to have mandatory hand hygiene (sanitizer dispenser).
9. Only asymptomatic persons (teachers, employees and students) to be allowed in the premises. If a teacher/employee/student is found to be symptomatic, he/she should be referred to nearest health centre.
10. There is no compulsion for students to come to school. With the consent of the parents they can join the class voluntarily. Taking care of the interests of students not coming to school, it has been decided that online classes will continue to be conducted as before. Students not attending school will also be able to study online. This arrangement will continue till the next order. There will be a system of online education for classes below ninth.