



Another Reopening: Thin Attendance In Pvt Schools

Some Schools Consider Calling Back Kids Only From Jan

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Several private city schools that reopened on Monday after a gap of more than two weeks saw a low turnout. While attendance for classes 9 to 12 was over 50%, barely any students in junior classes turned up despite consent from parents. Some heads of schools have cited the cold wave conditions and Omicron fears as possible reasons.

Some schools that earlier planned to reopen from December 27 said they may do so only after the scheduled winter break now, at least for junior students.

"We have not opened the school yet. It is cold and our winter break will be from December 25 to January 2. A decision on reopening the school will be taken only after that," said Savita Mehta, VP (communications), Amity Education Group.

Manav Sthali School, which will reopen from Tuesday for classes 6 to 11, said only 10% of the parents had consented so far to sending their children for classes.

"Our winter break starts from December 30, so there's no point in calling junior students, i.e. classes 1 to 5, from December 27. For classes 9 to 12, we are planning online classes from January 3 to 7. They can go on a break till January 13," an official at the school said.

At MM Public School in Pitampura, the attendance in the senior section was around



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und 60% and much lower for classes 6 to 8.

"Considering the consent we received from parents, the number of students who finally came was much less. It may be due to the cold or the recent rise in Covid cases," said principal Rooma Pathak.

Mount Abu Public School in Rohini was among the few institutes where attendance was good. About 70% of the students turned up for classes, according to principal Jyoti Arora.

Government schools, which had resumed classes on Saturday, reported better attendance on Monday. At School of Specialised Excellence, Kalkaji, over 80% of students were present. The turnout was similar at Government Co-ed Sarvodaya Vidyalaya in Rohini Sector 8.

"The attendance in all the classes is good. Students are happy to be back and we hope that the school does not have to close now," said principal A K Jha.

Rajesh Mehta