



Muted Reopening As Less Than A Third Turn Up At Most Pvt Schools

Institutes Are Live-Streaming Classes For Students Opting To Stay At Home

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New Delhi: A week after reopening following the Covid closure, attendance in private schools is yet to pick up. Even though only half the students are being called for each class in compliance with social distancing requirements, not all of them are turning up. To make sure that those opting to stay home aren't missing out on lessons, the schools are live-streaming classes for them.

The authorities at The Indian School summon just a third of the students of classes X and XII to school from 8am to 11am. Even this truncated class strength is not being met. "It seems parents are still apprehensive about sending their children to school. Of say the third of the students required to come for



Photo for representation

...BUT IT'S A DIFFERENT STORY AT GOVT SCHOOLS

classes, just 8-9 of them are present," said principal Tania Joshi. "However, those who are attending classes are happy and satisfied. We hope they will share their experiences with the rest and encourage them to return to school."

From September 13, the school wants to call back the students of classes IX and XI too. "So far, we have received the consent of only around

35% of the parents, but we are hoping the numbers will increase," said Joshi.

At Bal Bharti Public School, Gangaram Hospital Marg, the attendance is equally low. A teacher said, "We aren't sure if students are not coming because parents are worried or it is because of the examination scheduled next week for classes X and XII." The school will stick to its earlier decision that the exams would be online.

Madhulika Sen, education advisor at Tagore International School, Vasant Vihar, had a similar report. "We are calling 50% of the students in each class, yet if 22 of them have to come, only 10-12 are turning up." The school, following the instructions of the Directorate of Education, has postponed the exams and will hold them between October and November.

At ASN Senior Secondary School in Mayur Vihar too, just 10% of the students of classes IX and XI and approximately 25% of classes X and XII students are attending classes in person. A teacher said, "The parents are reluctant, so we have no option but to follow the hybrid model. The physical classes are live-streamed to home stayers."

The attendance is much higher, at around 80%, in MM Public School, Pitampura. Rooma Pathak, school principal, detailed the routine. "Offline classes are divided into two shifts to ensure Covid-appropriate behaviour," she said. "The first shift is from 8am to 11am, when students of classes IX and XI come. The second is from 11.30am to 2.30pm and X and XII students come for lessons in bubbles of 12 students per classroom."