

TODAY IS ORGAN DONATION DAY

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Reopening Of Schools: Parents Not On Board

Most Practical Classes Set To Start From Monday

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New Delhi: Acquiring consent from parents for reopening schools for students of classes X and XI has been a slow process for most private schools, as many parents are not happy about the decision. Schools are hoping that parents will agree once the classes start for practicals and project work.

Most schools have sent out Google forms to the parents seeking consent as many institutions are reopening from Monday. Delhi Disaster Management Authority had allowed schools to re-open for classes of X and XII for practicals, projects and admission-related work.

Jyoti Arora, principal for Mount Abu Public School in Rohini, said, "We are still collecting the responses and so far, very few parents have agreed. However, when we had called students for practicals in January, many had attended."

Even Ashok Pandey, director for Ahleon Schools, thinks as it is just for practicals, most parents will consent. "Stu-

dents will be coming in small groups and they will just perform their practicals and head home. Parents know practicals are an important part of the boards, so most should join," said Pandey.

A PRINCIPAL SAYS

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At Bal Bharti School, Gangaram, there has been a poor response to the consent forms sent out to parents.

Devasish Tewary of Srijan School, Model Town, added, "Many parents do not want to take the risk of sending the students physically to schools."

However, at MM Public School, principal Rooma Pathak said there has been

a mixed response.

"The school took in parents' response regarding sending their wards for offline classes through Google forms. On analysing, the responses have been mixed. Many are happy to send the students to school for practical learning, which is not possible in online classes. According to such parents if a child is visiting his/her relatives, malls, etc. then why not send them to school with precautions," said Pathak. "Approximately 20% parents opposed it, as they feel sending students to school without vaccinating them may cause health hazards."

Schools like Amity International School, Saket are still working on the modalities of re-opening. Principal Divya Bhatia said, "We have not started the exercise of taking consent as we are still figuring out the modalities. We have received the SOP's, but we did not want to rush it."

However, at government schools, there has not been much hesitancy among the parents.