

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA**  
**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

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**- N O T I F I C A T I O N -**

**Dated Shillong the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**No.EDN.40/2020/49:** In continuation to the previous Notification No.EDN.40/2020/33, dated 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020 and in compliance to Government of India Order No. 11-16/2020-Sch.4 dated 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020 and Government of India Order No.40-3/2020-DM-5(A) dated 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020 of the Ministry of Home Affairs and in compliance to its direction on re-opening more activities in areas outside the Containment Zones, the undersigned hereby notifies the following guidelines specifically pertaining to re-opening of schools:

1. The State Governments have been given the flexibility to take a decision on school re-opening after 15 October 2020 in a graded manner. Therefore, the following activities are hereby permitted w.e.f **30<sup>th</sup> November 2020**.

- i. **Classes 9-12: Recommended for full opening with following terms:**

- Full opening for both Urban and Rural Areas. The reopening of this category is aimed at the completion of courses and preparation for the Board Examinations.

- ii. **Classes 6-8: Recommended for full opening in Rural areas and Partial Opening in Urban Areas.**

- Partial opening for Urban/Semi Urban towns of Shillong, Jowai, Nongpoh, Tura, Byrnihat, Jorabad and Khanapara area. Partial opening entails only consultations, assignments submission, discussion with teachers/counselors in the school premises.
- Full opening permitted in Rural areas.

- iii. **Classes 1-5: Recommended for partial opening in Rural areas and Closure in Urban areas**

- Partial opening for Rural Areas. Partial opening entails only consultations, assignments submission, discussion with teachers/counselors in the school premises.
- Closure in Urban/Semi urban areas of Shillong, Tura, Jowai, Nongpoh, Khanapara and Jorabad.

- iv. **JNV: Recommended full opening for classes 9-12.**

**2. The Generic preventive measures** that are to be followed are:

1. Parental consent for attendance is mandatory.
2. School Managing Committee shall consult with the stakeholders prior to reopening of any category, i.e. Parents, District Health Officials and Local Community.
3. In receiving views and suggestions from the stakeholders, the SMC shall prepare a Plan of Action for school reopening which will include, awareness programme on COVID-19 to all teaching and non-teaching staff, sanitisation of the school premises, classrooms, toilets, etc.
4. The School authorities are empowered to take any decision pertaining to closure of schools in an event of any suspected COVID-19 cases in consultation with Health Officials.
5. An awareness programme for students on COVID-19 and immunity building should be encouraged regularly with the support of Health Department.
6. The School authorities are also empowered to design a daily plan and restriction on duration of classes to 30 minutes and a break of 5 minutes after each period.
7. A Blended approach of 3 days classes and 2 days for home assignment may also be considered to reduce the exposure.
8. Online/ distance learning shall continue to be the preferred mode of teaching and shall be encouraged.
9. Where schools are conducting online classes, and some students prefer to attend online classes rather than physically attend school, they may be permitted to do so.
10. Schools are also at liberty either to reopen for normal classes or continue with the existing arrangements or arrange students in groups (odd/even roll nos. etc) if enrollment is large.
11. Attendance must not be enforced, and must depend entirely on parental consent.
12. Physical distancing of at least 6 feet to be followed as far as feasible.
13. Use of face covers/masks to be made mandatory.
14. Frequent hand washing with soap and use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers.
15. Respiratory etiquettes like covering one's mouth and nose while coughing/sneezing with a tissue/handkerchief/flexed elbow to be followed.
16. Prior to resumption of activities, all work areas intended for teaching/demonstrations etc. shall be sanitized with 1% sodium hypochlorite solution.

17. Schools that were used as quarantine centres should be properly sanitized.
18. The school should display State helpline numbers and also numbers of local health authorities, etc to teachers /students / employees to contact in case of any emergency.
19. Appropriate backup stock of personal protection items like face covers/masks, visors, hand sanitizers etc. shall be made available by management to the teachers and students.
20. Ensure availability of sufficient covered dustbins and trash cans and Provision for proper disposal of used personal protective items and general waste (available at: <https://cpcb.nic.in/uploads/Projects/Bio-Medical-Waste/BMW-GUIDELINESCOVID1.pdf>)
21. Housekeeping employees to be informed & trained about norms for waste management & disposal.
22. Entrance to have mandatory hand hygiene (sanitizer dispenser) and thermal screening provisions. Multiple gates/separate gates, if feasible, should be used for entry and exit.
23. Posters/standees on preventive measures about COVID-19 to be displayed prominently.
24. Proper crowd management should be followed and entry of visitors should be strictly regulated/restricted.
25. Sharing of items like notebook, pens/pencil, eraser, water bottle, etc. amongst students should not be allowed.
26. School buses shall be exempted from the odd and even rules.
27. Regular Cleaning and disinfection (using 1% sodium hypochlorite) of frequently touched surfaces. Provision of soap in toilets and hand sanitizers in other common areas in sufficient quantity must be ensured.
28. Teaching materials, computers, laptops, printers, shall be disinfected with 70% alcohol wipes.
29. Students should not be involved in any of the cleaning activities for health safety reasons.
30. If a student, teacher or employee is sick or showing symptoms, they should be advised to stay home and follow necessary protocols in this regard.
31. Parents will be solely responsible to maintain students' hygiene (uniform, tiffin, bags, etc.)

This notification shall come into force with immediate effect till further order.

**Sd/-**

**D. P. Wahlang, IAS**

**Principal Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya,  
Education Department.**