

POST-LOCKDOWN CHALLENGE

‘Now teachers are better equipped to help students’

With the elapse of two academic sessions, the education world has gone through the most derailing and unconventional experiences. Given only a constrained set of alternatives amid the pandemic, educationists somehow managed to keep up the hopes, aided by virtual fronts and the extensions it provided. During the lockdown, e-learning tools & virtual classrooms turned out to be the safest and most convenient options but still there remained a void that went on to impact every stakeholder -- be it teachers, students, edu leaders or parents.

However, with things resuming back to normal and the apprehensions subsiding, we are due on a course to a normal school routine once again. But no matter how hunky-dory the situation seems to be, the truth is that this course is easier charted than taken. This seemingly achievable task comes with several challenges which shot up during the past two years, where we integrated a redefined curriculum into the students' academic routine. With almost no, or little scope for co-curricular learning, lack of physical proficiency, and regression among the students, today we are left with individuals who would now find the conventional school routine cumbersome and obligatory. Students, who have been at their places consecutively for two years, with only a crisp set of visits to school, have now fashioned a routine that makes the usual school patterns almost outdated for them.

The students have developed a shrunken sense towards the usual academic procedures. Due to their enriched and resourceful environment at home, it is difficult for them to cope up with things such as exams in offline modes, or assessments in the physical classrooms.

Thus, along with the academic gaps which are to be bridged, the foremost requirement is to help the students get on with a routine, which will now be new to them.

Undoubtedly, it's a challenging task, but believe it or not, cradles the hope of strengthening the teacher-



Post-lockdown, the teachers are well-versed in the use of technology, writes principal Vividh Gupta

student relationship, more than ever. It is because, for the first time, the teachers are somewhere at almost a similar pace with their students.

Thanks to the technological mandates, the teachers are way sounder with the digital world. They can see and explore for themselves the source of attraction, that virtual world had been for the children for so long. Now, instead of dismissing the idea of tackling tasks digitally, they themselves suggest such alternatives to students. Unintentionally, this period has contributed to eradicating the "generation gap" that persisted between the mentors and the mentored. The pandemic and the subsequent alternatives gave our education world the required drive, and acumen to explore. Becoming the learners themselves, teachers are no longer bound to the rigid end. They have stepped up closer to the students' perspective and thus are better equipped to aid the children, academically and emotionally.

The silver lining in the darkness was not just defined by the global vaccination drive, or achieving herd immunity, but it was also to find purpose in desperate times while coming out as winners cradling new lessons of life. Thus, disguised as an opportunity, this challenge gave us new hopes and direction to sail further on an exploratory venture.

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