



Corona Protection Measures for Basic Education Students

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The Corona pandemic caused the biggest disruption to education in history, so far it has already had an impact on students and teachers from kindergarten to secondary education, technical and vocational education and training institutions, and universities.

But on the other hand, we believe that this crisis has stimulated innovation within the sector of education, from the existence of innovative plans and strategy in support of the continuation of the education and training process, such as educational television channels as well as online studying.

It seems from the statements of the Minister of Education and Technical Education that the ministry has made its decision to complete the current academic year and that what happened last year will not be repeated, as the Ministry of Education adopts the completion of the study even if the schools stop, through a multi-pronged strategy.

The Minister of Education, explained on Sunday (November 15th) that there is currently no reason to worry about the spread of Corona among students and teachers and precautionary measures are strictly applied in Schools in Egypt. The decision to close a class in a school is a "precautionary" decision not to take risks, which should reassure parents that the state is following up and implementing all measures to protect children. Any decision that includes the disruption of schooling on the national level is a sovereign decision of the state, not the Ministry of Education, and has not been put forward at all this academic year. The ministry also granted parents the freedom to choose between being a "regular" student or choosing to transfer to the



"home system" and therefore taking responsibility for teaching himself and attending the exams qualifying for the higher grade. This year, the state provides many diverse sources of learning, from high-level television channels for all subjects to strengthening groups to partial school attendance, as well as a high school learning platform on the tablet, then a "*Zakir*" platform for all classrooms, an Edmodo virtual classroom platform, a live broadcast platform, an electronic lesson platform for preparatory reviews up to high school and finally an interactive book platform.

And that the school year will be completed and the curriculum will be covered "without deletion" [whether we can attend schools or in a state of total lockdown] where all means were provided to deliver the educational material to students whether they have internet or do not have as well as a disciplined evaluation will be completed to move to the top grade, and high school students can enter the exams open book with the old ministry book from an earlier version or Printed from the pdf on the ministry's website, with regard to the story and the essay questions exist as they are unchanged in all years except high school" where the story should be studied and familiar with the essay questions, but the final exam in high school (only) will not include questions requiring writing in the pen so that we can correct a complete electronic without a human element in order to achieve justice and prevent grievances.



Decisions and rules taken by the Ministry of Education.

At the beginning of the new school year, the Ministry of Education as well as the Ministry of Health took several measures to deal with the Corona pandemic during the school year, the most important of which were:

First: Preparations for the 2020/2021 academic year.

- In a video message to Dr. Tarek Shawky on October 17, 2020, he reviewed to students and parents, the state's preparations for the new academic year 2021/2020, and the steps taken by the ministry to manage the educational process while maintaining the safety of all members of the educational system, as well as explaining the various sources of learning for all students and what the ministry is preparing in anticipation of any exceptional circumstances. Dr. Tarek Shawky said that the ministry has developed a plan to continue the learning process in light of the spread of the Corona virus, by working to reduce density by redistributing quotas and multiple sources of learning without affecting the academic content to be collected by the end of the school year. Shawky said thermometers have been distributed to schools to measure student temperatures daily, as well as to provide isolation spaces within schools in case a student is sick in coordination with the Ministry of Health.

Ministry's plan to continue the education process in light of the spread of the Corona Virus

1. The sources of learning that students will follow during the current academic year are as follows:



- Grades from KG1 to primary 3...will have priority in attending school because the new education system 2.0 depends on communicating with the teacher within the classroom.

- Grades from the fourth to the third grade of preparatory. Three educational television stations will be provided, which will be the main source of learning, as well as a number of other online platforms for those with internet access.

- Grades 1 to 3 secondary. At this stage, the ministry has provided students with many sources of learning in addition to tablets, which will be delivered to students during the first week of study.

2. Creating a new platform called "Egyptian Education Platform", a platform aimed at students, teachers and parents, pointing out that its goal is to provide a guide for parents, students and teachers to deal with the many digital platforms provided by the ministry, and includes information on all sources of learning.

3. An electronic center has been set up to receive complaints and requests through WhatsApp and calls from 9am to 5pm via the number 01148970610, and complaints will be answered and interacted through the ministry's officials."

4. Launching educational channels under the name "Our School" and the broadcast schedule for students is announced, via the "Egyptian Education Platform" as well as printed and distributed to students in schools.

5. It was agreed with Microsoft to provide a unified email to all students of the educational stages to access all platforms that will be made available by the Ministry, as well as to provide



free Microsoft office programs to 20 million students for training in labor market tools, which represents an important development in our way to digital transformation, and the student can obtain mail through the national number and student code.

6. The establishment of the digital curriculum platform for the high school [HTTP://lms.ekb.eg](http://lms.ekb.eg), a platform with many digital learning sources for high school students, as well as the addition of French-language materials across the platform, the platform is continuously updated and provided with textbooks.

7. The interactive E-lesson library is launched, as well as the launch of an educational television channel for high school students, and another for technical education students.

8. Various online platforms launched by the Ministry to serve students and help them learn during the spread of Corona virus: "LMS learning management [system. EKB. EG](#), with many sources such as: "Educational TV channels, virtual share live platform, electronic library study.ekb.eg, Edmodo.org platform, e-lesson library, teacher ask program, and interactive e-books."

Second: controls on the presence of parents of students during the school day.

- On October 19, 2020, the Ministry of Education and Technical Education sent a letter to the educational directorates on the establishment of controls for the presence of parents of students during the school day, in order to preserve public health and in accordance with precautionary measures, which were:

1. Set specific appointments and places to receive parents' requests and inquiries.



2. Instructing school principals to prepare awareness posters to be placed visible on the school's external doors on precautionary measures against the spread of infectious diseases.
3. Open school doors to students and not stack them to limit gatherings.
4. Assigning a school worker to provide advice and guidance to parents not to gather to maintain public health.

Third: Organizing and managing the educational process in technical education schools

On October 6, the Ministry sent a letter to the educational directorates on the organization and management of the educational process in technical education schools during the 2020/2021 academic year, in light of the emerging Corona virus crisis:

1. The ministry stressed the need to apply all precautionary measures to deal with the Corona virus.
2. The adoption of the integrated education system as a basic system for teaching students in technical schools of all kinds to ensure that the presence of students is combined with the implementation of practical lessons in the school with its dedicated places and the allocation of sufficient time to discuss theoretical lessons and answer students' questions.
3. Take advantage of Edmodo online platforms to communicate between teachers and students according to a schedule developed by the school administration in cooperation with the competent technical guidance.



4. The Ministry has placed powers for school principals under the supervision of the Director of Technical Education and his aides in the directorates and educational departments as well as the general department of specialized technical education (industrial commercial - agricultural - hotel - dual education) in the technical education sector to develop a system for students to attend school as well as study schedules (showing the school teaching schedule and the teaching schedule remotely) in light of what has been determined by the school plans of the principals General development of specialized materials and guidance, which shows the number of teaching hours in the school and the number of hours of distance learning through the Edmodo platform and according to the density of students provided that the distance between students within the classroom is achieved at a rate of 1-1.5 meters (in the absence of increased density is attended by the full traditional day system), as well as the institutional capacity represented in the space of classes and the availability of workshops, laboratories and actual spaces available.

Fourth: Organizing After School groups

On October 6, 2020, Dr. Tarek Shawky, Minister of Education and Technical Education, issued a ministerial decision on the organization of after school groups during the next academic year 2020/2021, which included:

1. After school groups will be optional in the course materials of students at the management level for the general and secondary certificates and at the school level for transportation classes, with the aim of improving the student's level of study in these subjects and the



value of participation, appointments, places and names of teachers taught in a bulletin board for strengthening groups are announced.

2. The group's time limit will be two hours per week in accordance with the specific educational plan for the courses, taking into account that the number of students is suitable with the area of the designated halls and the need to take precautionary measures to maintain public health.
3. Reducing 50% of the contributions specified for all classes for the children of martyrs and the children of teachers in education and orphan students, and reducing 25% for the rest of the education workers, after submitting the documents indicating this.
4. The director of the educational department and the Board of Trustees of the Department determine in exchange for the participation of students of certificates (local/public) in one class, while the director of the school administration and the board of trustees of the school determines in exchange for participation for students of transport classes, taking into account that the minimum (10 pounds) and the maximum (85pounds).
5. Some personnel who are not working in the Ministry of Education and Technical Education may be employed after reviewing their qualifications through the director general of the educational department, provided that the percentage of these persons does not exceed 25% of the total number of teachers participating in the groups.

Fifth: Preventive controls and procedures governing the closure of educational facilities as a preventive measure to deal with The Corona Virus for the Ministry of Education.



On October 4, 2020, the Ministry specified several preventive controls and rules during the course of the learning process, in conjunction with the application of precautionary measures, as follows:

- **Class Closure:** The class will be closed in the event of more than one confirmed case in the same class within two weeks, the class will be closed for 28 days starting from the start date of the implementation of the closure decision and the decision is made by both the educational department and the health department.
- **School closure:** The school is closed when more than one classroom is closed within two weeks, which is an indication of an increase in the rate of transmission of the disease in the school, so the school is closed for 28 days by the Directorate of Health and the Directorate of Education.
- **Closure of a school complex:** After the closure of a school in a school complex, then the occurrence of the indicator of the closure of class (item 1) of any of the schools in the same complex and within two weeks of the closure of the first school, the entire school complex is closed for 28 days by the Directorate of Health and the Directorate of Education.
- **Closure of village or city schools:** By decision of the governorate when quarantine is imposed on a village or city and the closure extends until the end of the scheduled quarantine period.
- **Closure of Governorate schools:** According to the recommendations of the Committee for the Management of the Crisis and the Development of the Epidemiological Situation, a decision may be taken to close the schools of one of the governorates for at least 28 days



and may extend as decided by the committee and this decision will be implemented by the governorate's court.

These procedures should be applied to all types of public, private, international and other schools, and a clean-up of the classroom or establishment will take place, and those who were in contact with the infected will be followed up by the health department.

Ministry of Health's Plan

The Ministry of Health has developed a preventive plan that includes a number of measures to counter the emerging Corona virus, coinciding with the start of schooling and in preparation for the possibility of a second wave. The plan announced by the ministry included:

1. Reducing the study per semester to only two days, which helps to reduce density significantly, and in the event of a specific activity requiring the division of students into groups, number of individuals in each group are reduced by increasing the number of groups.
2. Schools should be provided with temporary isolation rooms when a student or staff member is suspected of infection, with one of the supervisors sitting with the child until a doctor and the guardian are present and the case is referred to the hospital.
3. The plan set out the 10 golden rules for the prevention of corona from washing hands well, natural ventilation, not touching other people's purposes or surfaces, using special tools, leaving room for safety among individuals and speaking in a moderate voice with no handshakes, hugging or kissing.



4. Wait outside offices and bathrooms at safe distances while not getting close to places where they are crowded, eating healthy food, sleeping well and light exercises at home.
5. The plan identified stages that represent the student's journey from getting home in the morning and going to school until return again, including wearing masks, washing hands, not competing when boarding the school bus, as well as making a heat measurement before boarding. The periodic cleaning of the roofs of the buses and sitting at distances in the buses in a safe manner and when arriving at the school, a thermal sorting is made for students. Students must be organized when entering into classes, taking into account the lack of competition upon entry.
6. The ministry has outlined the plan to sit in the classroom so that each student sits on a separate desk taking into account the social distance with the need to maintain the teacher's social distance between him and the students.
7. The suspected case of temporary isolation at the school is isolated until the doctor assesses the case, informs the guardian to attend and receive the child after evaluation.
8. If the symptoms of the condition are simple, the doctor decides the condition of the student to the home isolation and follow-up at home for 14 days and allows him to return to school 3 days after the disappearance of the symptoms, but if the condition is moderate or severe the patient is referred to the isolation hospital and followed up for 14 days, and is allowed to return 3 days after the end of the symptoms permanently, but if the symptoms continue the patient remains isolated and reassessed according to the doctor.
9. A number of measures are taken with simple cases before transferring them to school, where the nurse at the school is responsible for explaining the rules of home isolation of



to the student and the guardian before leaving school in case of home isolation, with the guardian being given a copy of the guidelines of home isolation in addition to a copy of the signs of development of symptoms, as well as with the home insurance card to complete the data and send it to the director of the insurance clinic and the director of the hospital who sends it to the director of the health department and make sure that the data of the condition is entered On the electronic reporting program.

10. The Ministry of Health and Population announced the role of both (School nurse, the role of a doctor in the school clinic, the role of the comprehensive insurance clinic) in order to face Corona in schools.
11. The ministry explained that there is full coordination with all relevant ministries and the crisis committee of the Council of Ministers for all procedures for the return of safe schooling.
12. The process of electronic linking between the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health and Population to follow up on this plan in all schools to monitor and analyze student data and immediately report suspected infection.
13. Launching an awareness campaign aimed at raising awareness among children and their families of the right behaviors.

Cases of Corona detected in schools

There have been many cases of Corona among students and teachers in many governorates and the Corona has not differentiated between public, private or international schools. In the first week only, about 13 cases appeared in the governorates of Fayoum, the Red Sea and Assiut, in contrast to the cases that appeared in international schools in Cairo and Giza.



At the end of October, Dr. Tarek Shawky explained that there are 14 governorates whose schools are free of any Corona virus infections, and that the total number of Corona infections monitored in educational facilities so far reached 49 out of a total of 25 million moving within the education system, and that the highest number of infections monitored is concentrated in Cairo governorate, where 19 corona infections have been registered, while there are provinces where one case has been monitored in each As follows (one in Beni Suef, one in Qena, one in Minya, one in Port Said, one in Al-Gharbiya).

The following are cases monitored in schools.

- September 19, 2020, in Giza province, two students were infected with coronavirus at the British International School "BISC", Sheikh Zayed, so the start of the study was postponed for two classes at the school, where two "Grade 11" high school students were infected " due to gatherings and celebrations outside the school.
- On October 8, 2020, in Cairo Province, the administration of the Lycee International Language School issued a decision to generalize distance education to all students at the school as of Wednesday, explaining that the decision aims to protect all students and employees at the same time.
- October 10, 2020, in Kafr al-Sheikh province, martyr Ahmed Nasrallah Hammad Boys Preparatory School of The Foh Educational Department was closed after a teacher was infected with coronavirus while giving afterschool lessons at the school, and the school was completely sterilized.



- On October 12, 2020, in Assiut province, Dar Harra School "Paradise" witnessed the case of Corona for a KG2 teacher, where a sample was drawn and found positive and she was granted leave to be isolated until her recovery.
- On October 14, 2020, in Kafr al-Sheikh province, 5 cases of Corona virus were infected and the teacher of a Kafr Al-Sheikh school died and the afterschool groups were completely suspended at the school.
- On October 20, 2020, in Giza province, two cases of Corona virus appeared inside the Egypt Language School, where the international section was closed only and the school was fully sterilized.
- On October 21, 2020, in the province of Menoufia, suspected cases of corona virus were detected at the Martyr's Terrace School in Tala, Menoufia. 3-4 Classes were closed on suspicion of Corona, the health committee detected all suspected cases, the class was closed after five students were suspected of being infected with corona virus and students were isolated at home, and the injured students were transferred to Tala Central Hospital.
- October 22, 2020, in the Red Sea governorates in the city of Ras Gharb, a teacher was infected at a girls high school, and another was suspected of having symptoms on as well as 4 female students in the school who were isolated, the director of Ras Gharb Educational Department confirmed, in press statements, that the two teachers suspected of having Corona have been healthy isolated, the school has not yet been



closed, preventive measures are being taken and the school is sterilized, and a quarantine of 14 days for those infected with corona virus was imposed.

- On October 27, 2020, in Cairo Province, the first, second and third primary classes at New Ramses College school were closed for a week after cases of Corona virus appeared at the school, and the school administration advised parents not to send their children to school for their own safety.
- On October 27, 2020, in Kafr Al-Sheikh province, the Directorate of Health decided to close a classroom at the School of Al-tamrod in Sidi Salem city, after four female students were infected with coronavirus and two other female students were suspected of being infected. The classroom was closed, sterilized and the school was fully sterilized, and all female students were isolated at home, and monitored along with the entire school.
- On October 27, 2020, in Giza Governorate, classes 3/6, 9/3 at Al Hayat Basic Education School in Dahshur were closed for two weeks and the school was fully sterilized.
- On October 30, 2020, in the Al-Gharbia Governorate, five female teachers were monitored with corona virus at the Ali Mohammed Ahmed Girls Preparatory School of the Western Tanta Education Department in Al Gharbia province.
- During October 2020, Egypt's French language schools decided to close their doors completely and not receive any students who attended school after more than one case appeared among the students and decided to convert the study to the online home system between the prevalence of corona virus cases among students in the French section.



- November 10, 2020, in Giza governorate and in the city of October 6, a student was infected with the Corona virus at Smart Vision School west of Samed October 6 during his stay at the school, and the school administration decided to close Chapter 1 for 14 days starting November 12, 2020, with this class to return to school Tuesday, November 24, 2020. The school administration informed the class group so that all contacts with the infected student would be isolated during this period.
- November 14, 2020, in Luxor province, a student at the School of Excellence "Stem" (interior) was sterilized and there were no infections in the school.

The following is a table showing the total number of cases monitored:



No.	Date	Province	School name	Status
1	September 19, 2020	Giza	British International School "BISC" by Sheikh Zayed	Two students were infected at the school, and the study was postponed for two classes.
2	October 8, 2020	Cairo	International Language School of Lycee	The school issued a curriculum of distance education to protect students and employees
3	October 10, 2020	Kafr Al , Sheikh	Martyr Ahmed Nasrallah Hammad Junior High School	A teacher was infected while giving him afterschool classes and one of the classes was closed.
4	October 12, 2020	Assiut	Dar Harra School "Paradise"	A teacher in KG2 classes infected.
5	October 14, 2020	Kafr Al , Sheikh	One of the schools.	5 cases of Corona Virus, teacher's death, afterschool groups stopped
6	October 20, 2020	Giza	Egypt Language School	Two cases, the international section was closed only and the school was sterilized.
7	October 21, 2020	Menoufia Governorate	Martyr Terrace School	Five students were infected, the students were isolated at home and the infected students were transferred to Tala Central Hospital
8	October 22, 2020	Red Sea	High School Girls	Four female students were infected and isolated, and the school was sterilized.



9	October 27, 2020	Cairo	New Ramses College School	Cases of student and teacher infected appear and 3 classes closed for one week
10	October 27	Kafr Al , Sheikh	Sidi Salem Nursing School	Four female students were infected, a class was closed, sterilized and the school was completely sterilized.
11	October 27, 2020	Giza	Dahshur Al , Hayat School of Basic Education	Two classes were closed for a week for appearance of symptoms and the entire school was sterilized.
12	October 30, 2020	Western Bank	Ali Mohammed Ahmed Girls Junior High School	5 teachers infected at school
13	October 2020	Giza	Egypt's language schools	Cases of infection in the French section have appeared and the study has been converted online
14	November 10, 2020	Giza	Smart Vision School West Samed October 6	A student was infected while in school, and the class was closed for 14 days.
15	November 14, 2020	Luxor	Stem School	A school student was infected and the room he was in was sterilized.

A table showing the number of school casualties in each province:

No.	Governorate	Number of schools where cases
1	Cairo	2
2	Giza	5
3	Kafr Al , Sheikh	3
4	Assiut	1

5	Menoufia Governorate	1
6	Red Sea	1
7	Western Bank	1
8	Luxor	1

