

Education Must Continue

The Philippines' Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan in the Time of COVID-19

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Status of the Philippines IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19

- Physical distancing or quarantine, individually or of entire communities as a major part of COVID-19 containment, has disrupted the operations of all sectors of the economy.
- In the context of COVID-19, the concern over basic education is the magnitude of moving and congregating learners, teachers and education personnel nationwide if schools open in traditional way.
- Basic education directly accounts for nearly **30 million individuals,** not counting the ancillary services supporting the education system including transport, food, and other services.
 - 27,748,477 learners from K to 12, and ALS
 - 900,000 teachers and personnel
 - 300,000 private school, teachers and personnel

PHILIPPINES' STRATEGIES in ensuring that education must continue

- 1. Developing a broadly supported, evidence-based Learning Continuity Plan for clarity and unity of direction;
- 2. Effective engagement of key decision makers: the Executive (President, Cabinet, Inter-Agency Processes), Congress (Senate and House of Representatives), and local government units;
- 3. Broadening constituency, partnerships, and support from the general public, education policy community, parents, teachers and the education bureaucracy); and
- 4. Effective risk communication in the context of fear, uncertainty, and too much noise.

DepEd's Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan

Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP)

was developed to provide guidance to the department on how to deliver education in this time of crisis, while ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of all learners, teachers and personnel of DepEd

Principles of BE-LCP

- 1. Protect the health, safety and well-being of learners, teachers and personnel, and prevent the further transmission of COVID-19;
- 2. Ensure learning continuity;
- 3. Facilitate the safe return of learners and teachers to school when face-to-face classes is already allowed;
- 4. Be sensitive to equity considerations and concerns, and endeavor to address them as best as we can; and
- 5. Link and bridge the BE-LCP to DepEd's pivot to quality and into the future of education, under the framework of Sulong EduKalidad and Education Futures.

Key Components of BE-LCP

Streamlining the K to 12 Curriculum to the Most Essential Learning Competencies (MELCs)

Multiple learning delivery modalities, with blended learning and distance learning as major options

Preparing teachers and school leaders for multiple learning delivery modalities

 \mathbf{V} Required Health Standards in schools and workplaces

Reconfigured the annual school opening activities *Brigada Eskwela* and *Oplan Balik Eskwela*, and Partnerships



Monitoring, Evaluation and Adjustments

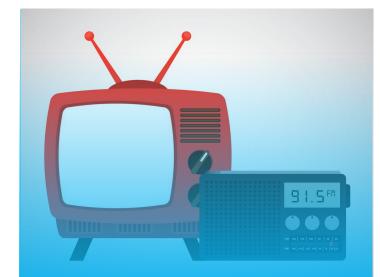
Blended/Distance Learning Modalities

Lessons will be delivered to the students in the comfort and safety of their homes, through the following methods:

Printed or digital modules delivered to the homes of the students, or picked up by their parents at designated places, within coordinated schedules. Printed modules are prepared for learners who have limited access or have absolutely no access to internet and digital services.



Online learning resources such as the DepEd Commons



Television or radio-based instruction

INTERVENTIONS to support disadvantaged learners

- Designing a transition curriculum for learners with disabilities;
- Making Self-Learning Modules (SLM) available in formats suitable for learners with disabilities;
- Adjusting assessment practices;
- Training parents in home-learning facilitation;
- Providing volunteer home-learning facilitators for disadvantaged learners; and
- Intensifying communication between the teachers and parents.

BE-LCP is anchored on Sulong EduKalidad

BE-LCP is not a stand-alone program; it is anchored on *Sulong EduKalidad*, DepEd's **pivot to quality.**

Four pillars

K to 12 curriculum review and update Improving the learning environment Teachers' upskilling and reskilling Engagement of stakeholders for support and collaboration

But COVID-19 will highlight other strains of inequities to the education system, particularly in access to technology.

DepEd will focus on enduring literacies and skills in its learning delivery modalities, technologies, strategies, resources, assessment, and in teacher/school leader capacity-building.



KEY AREAS IN THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION

Exploring technologies for remote learning

such as community-based local servers for free access of content using low and high-tech devices (analog phone, radio, computers, laptops, tablets), national cloud platform for educational resources), and micro-content delivery.



Prioritize essential/cross-cutting knowledge, skills, and mindsets; embed multiliteracies; and emphasize life-long, life-wide, life-deep, and life-wise learning.



Anticipating educational opportunities from innovations

Gamification, biomedicines, technologies for disaster resilience, emotion/speech/touchless gesture recognition



Reinforcing learning sciences, assessments, analytics, and knowledge mobilization

Progressive forms of assessment; use of AI in assessing student readiness, achievement, literacy level, career track, work readiness; and learning analytics



'Smartifying' learning spaces and resources

Alternative learning spaces, smart school design, green school, and urban planning and school design

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COVID-19 is accelerating our transition to the futures of education.

Agile Focus Dartboard

Aging; Class-based learning analytics

Educational opportunities from social innovations and radical technological breakthroughs

Immediate Future

- Technologies & resources for remote learning and working

- Multiliteracies, STEM, Innovation mindset
- Work readiness, resilience
- Reimagined learning spaces
- Education for sustainable development
- Gig economy
 - Al in education
 - Generation "next"

Life-long, life-wide, life-deep, life-wise learning; Space education Personalized Learning; Indigenous knowledge within global knowledge systems

Near Future

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...schools should switch to teaching "the four Cs" – critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity...Most important of all will be the ability to deal with change, learn new things, and preserve your mental balance in unfamiliar situations.

Yuval Noah Harari

on 21 Lessons for the 21st Century

... the future is under no obligation to wait patiently while we get ready for it.

John Michael Greer

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