

Initiative 5

Mobilising Community to maintain continuity in Learning

Shri C. Seshachalam

Z.P High School

Andhra Pradesh

seshachalam1996@gmail.com

The School Context

Zila Parishad High School is in Hindupur block of Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh. It is situated in a rural area and managed by the local body. The school consists of Grades from 6 to 10. It is a co-educational school.

Challenges faced due to School Closure

As due to school closure classroom teaching became difficult. Some of the students had facility of studying through devices such as smart phone through internet but some of them did not have this facility at home. Students faced difficulty to cope with the new methods of teaching and learning. Low level of connectivity was a problem for many of them.

Innovative Leadership Practices for Mitigating Learning Gaps

One approach that was followed to bridge the learning gap was classification of students into 3 groups. These groups had students with smartphones, without smartphones and having TVs and in last group with not having either of the above two. WhatsApp classes were conducted for those students who were having smart phones. TV classes were arranged for second group and personal approach was followed through volunteers for third group. School management sanitized the entire school, and segregated each class into maximum 20 members and given complete awareness to parents.

Collaboration with Community and Parents to ensure Student Learning

School management have taken lot of measures to reach the students through SMC, community members and parents during lockdown period. Parents and community adopted all measures that were explained by school to combat covid 19. Community played important role in the third approach for teaching. For the children who did not have any devices and could not be connected through internet, were taught through the third approach for which help was taken from volunteers from community. Parents have also given assurance to cooperate with our school authorities while disseminating

the information for the containment of spread of Covid 19 and in teaching process through the help of community.

Way Forward

In the times of crises, school teachers and head strategized and found a solution for students of different backgrounds that is students with resources and without resources. Considering the situation, school teachers and head teacher plan to use this strategy in future also. Through this way, they were able to increase the participation and engagement of community and parents in education process of children.