

RETURNING TO SCHOOL: ARE KIDS READY?

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Learners across the nation are returning to school, in some cases for face-to-face instruction for the first time since March 2020 as the COVID19 entirely changed the lifestyle and not only the social setup but also the education system around the world including the Philippines.

Much of country's focus will justifiably be on COVID-19 protection, but going back to school is also a time to think about the other ways we need to keep learners harmless and to create an environment that's inclusive of everyone. Just like any other social setting, schools are rife with challenges such as discrimination, sexual harassment, misconduct, and abuse, since they are technically locations for learning and academic pursuit, but they are also social settings.

These challenges may sense more serious this year as learners and educators pact with the highly stressful test of returning to classrooms amid the pandemic or otherwise struggle to make digital education works which might have a burden to some learners because of their socio-economic status lower than other family that can afford to fund their children's need like internet, gadgets and other materials just to make sure they are well-apprehend to fight "learning loss" for the call of deaccelerating pandemic setup.

But are the learners ready to go on battle amidst of pandemic backdrop? Especially for those children who had their first-time experience to learn at home instead of inside the classroom.

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Decisions in reopening school will usually be made by national governments channeling the DEPED, often in discussion with local authorities whom are the direct contact in their respective area. When determining whether to reopen schools, authorities should consider the profits and hazards across education, public health and socio-economic factors, in the local context.

Remember. the greatest interest of every child should be at the epicenter of these decisions, using the best available indication, but exactly how this will look will vary from school to school.

Government should be consistent in our country's overall COVID-19 health response to help guard students, teachers, staff and also their families.

Generate a helpful and fostering environment and respond positively to questions and expressions of their moods or emotions. Display support and let your kids know that it's not only okay, but ordinary, to sense irritated or uneasy at times like this.

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References:

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