

EDUCATION

Updates

18 April 2020

SOUTH EAST ASIA

Indonesia, Apr 17 : Coronavirus outbreak prompts abrupt change to teaching methods [Jakarta Post]. Being locked at home, lecturer Abdul Wahid misses the cheerful and relaxed atmosphere of the classroom as the coronavirus outbreak has abruptly forced him to shift from direct interaction to remote interaction. [LINK](#)

Indonesia, Apr 16 : Google launches Indonesian version of Teach From Home [Jakarta Post]. Google has launched Mengajar Dari Rumah, an Indonesian version of virtual education platform Teach From Home, to help teachers educate students remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic. [LINK](#)

Malaysia, Apr 16 : Instill the love of learning for knowledge in light of exam cancellation [NST]. KUALA LUMPUR: The Education Ministry stressed on the importance of continuous teaching and learning activities (PdP) following the cancellation of this year's Ujian Penilaian Sekolah Rendah (UPSR) for Year 6 pupils and Pentaksiran Tingkatan Tiga (PT3) for Form 3 students. [LINK](#)

Malaysia, Apr 16 : Parents: No exams but learning continues for their children [NST]. KUALA LUMPUR: With the cancellation of public examinations announced yesterday, parents are making sure that children's learning still continues during the Movement Control Order (MCO). [LINK](#)

Malaysia, Apr 15 : More using e-library services [NST]. The Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) Sultan Abdul Samad Library has recorded an increased number of online users of its virtual services in the last three weeks. [LINK](#)

Malaysia, Apr 14 : English teachers co-teach online to ensure efficient e-learning [NST]. JOHOR BARU: Teachers are taking necessary actions to ensure that teaching and learning processes are still on-going during the Movement Control Order period by going online. [LINK](#)

Singapore, Apr 17 : Home-based learning: How to track students' progress? [Straits Times]. All teachers While most students should have experienced home-based learning (HBL) before, they have not had to do it continuously for four weeks, until now. [LINK](#)

Singapore, Apr 14 : Coronavirus: MOE allows Zoom for lessons but adds new safeguards [Straits Times]. The Ministry of Education (MOE) has allowed schools to progressively resume the use of video-conferencing platform Zoom after having introduced three additional layers of defence. [LINK](#)

EUROPE

Denmark, Apr 17 : In Denmark, the rarest of sights amid coronavirus outbreak: Classrooms full of students [Straits Times] LOGUMKLOSTER - The cluster of red brick buildings in a remote part of southern Denmark looks unremarkable from the outside, but this week, its classrooms housed some of the rarest people during the pandemic in today's Europe: schoolchildren. [LINK](#)

Germany, Apr 15 : Education union raises concerns around reopening of schools [Education International]. A German education union has voiced its concern at proposals to reopen schools closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. [LINK](#)

Poland, Apr 17 : Union fighting to reduce challenges posed by COVID-19 crisis [Education International]. During the current COVID-19 pandemic, education unionists in Poland are calling for increased funding for education and broad access to remote teaching and learning so that education can continue, and the health of educators and their students can be safeguarded. [LINK](#)

Spain, Apr 16 : Spain considers summer school for quarantined children, coronavirus deaths rise [Reuters]. MADRID - Spain reported another substantial increase in daily deaths from COVID-19 on Thursday, taking the overall toll to more than 19,000, but figures from the region of Catalonia suggest the true total could be several thousand higher. [LINK](#)

Spain, Apr 16 : 'No child to fail the year because of virus': Spain minister [Jakarta Post]. No Spanish youngster will fail the school year over the coronavirus crisis, and only in "very exceptional" circumstances will anyone have to repeat the year, the education minister said Wednesday. [LINK](#)

ASIA PACIFIC

Australia, Apr 16 : Australia looks for unified schools policy in coronavirus shutdown [Reuters]. SYDNEY - Australia's federal government will on Thursday urge state premiers to reopen schools, local media reported, as authorities warned against any complacency generated by a sustained slowdown in the spread of the coronavirus throughout the country. [LINK](#)

Australia, Apr 15 : Australian PM urges schools to re-open so parents can go back to work [Reuters]. MELBOURNE/SYDNEY - Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison on Wednesday urged schools to reopen after Easter holidays so students did not lose a year of education and parents could work, as health authorities reiterated that schools were safe for children. [LINK](#)

ASIA PACIFIC (CONT.)

China, Apr 18 : China mandates coronavirus tests for key workers leaving Wuhan [Jakarta Post]. China ordered on Saturday that anyone in Wuhan working in certain service-related jobs must take a coronavirus test if they want to leave the city. [LINK](#)

China, Apr 12 : Beijing to reopen some schools after coronavirus closures: state media [Reuters]. Beijing schools closed by the coronavirus outbreak will reopen to senior high school students and senior middle school students, state broadcaster CCTV reported on Sunday, citing a spokesman for the Beijing Municipal Education Commission. [LINK](#)

India, Apr 17 : Complain if schools demand fees during lockdown: Maharashtra minister. [Times of India]. MUMBAI: Parents can complain to district education officers if schools demanded fees during lockdown period, Maharashtra School Education Minister Varsha Gaiwad said on Friday. [LINK](#)

India, Apr 17 : Don't hike school fees, Centre tells private schools. [Times of India]. NEW DELHI: The Centre has urged private schools across the country not to increase school fees, and not to charge three-month fees in one go following spread of coronavirus and subsequent lockdown. [LINK](#)

Japan, Apr 17 : Japan urges measures against coronavirus discrimination [Japan Times]. The education ministry has urged prefectural education boards and others to take thorough measures to prevent discrimination and prejudice against workers exposed to higher risks of contracting the novel coronavirus. [LINK](#)

Japan, Apr 16 : Government's support for schools is essential [Japan Times]. The More than a week has passed since a state of emergency was declared on April 7 due to the COVID-19 outbreak. [LINK](#)

Japan, Apr 13 : Only 38% of schools in Japan began new term amid pandemic [Japan Times]. Only 38 percent of public and private schools across Japan managed to begin their new academic year this month with students in classrooms amid the coronavirus epidemic, the education ministry said. [LINK](#)

South Korea, Apr 16 : 3.1 million more students begin online classes [Korea Times]. More than 3.1 million elementary, middle and high school students nationwide began the spring semester online, Thursday, joining about 800,000 others who have been taking online classes since April 9, according to the Ministry of Education. [LINK](#)

South Korea, Apr 14 : Online class platforms plagued with malfunction [Korea Times]. Frequent malfunctions of distance learning platforms used by elementary, middle and high schools amid the COVID-19 outbreak are raising concerns over the scheduled second phase of online-school opening, Thursday, according to officials, Tuesday. [LINK](#)

AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST

South Africa, Apr 16 : South Africa's Vodacom sees 40% jump in data usage as people stay at home [Reuters]. JOHANNESBURG - South Africa's mobile phone network operator Vodacom said on Thursday that data traffic on its network has jumped 40% since a nationwide lockdown began as people work from home to curb the spread of the coronavirus. [LINK](#)

Iraq, Apr 16 : Education union mobilises to support teachers and students during pandemic [Education International]. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Kurdistan Teachers' Union has been working tirelessly to ensure the safety of school communities, secure financial support for educators and continued education for students. [LINK](#)

UAE, Apr 14 : UAE Ministry of Education ends need for printed worksheets [Gulf News]. Dubai: The Ministry of Education on Tuesday tweeted that the performance of homework will take place only through its smart learning portal, thereby eliminating paper materials. [LINK](#)

AMERICAS

USA, Apr 16 : Harvard University offers 67 free online courses for those in quarantine [Jakarta Post]. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Harvard University, a private Ivy League research university in Cambridge, Massachusetts, is offering 67 free online courses for those who want to expand their knowledge and master new skills during self-quarantine. [LINK](#)

EDUCATION ARTICLES

Apr 18 : Kids section with 'Teacher Approved' apps coming to Google Play Store [Jakarta Post]. Google will launch a new Kids section on the Google Play Store, featuring a selection of "Teacher Approved" apps. [LINK](#)

Apr 17 : Netflix streams some educational films on YouTube for free [Reuters]. Netflix Inc said on Friday it had made some documentary features and series, including Our Planet and Explained, available on the company's YouTube channel for free at the request of teachers. [LINK](#)

Apr 16 : Google's fast-growing Meet video tool getting Zoom-like layout, Gmail link [Reuters]. Google will allow business and education users on Gmail.com to directly take calls on its video conferencing tool Meet starting Thursday, a new feature being offered as the Alphabet Inc (GOOGL.O) unit seeks to capitalize on security and other concerns with rival services. [LINK](#)

Apr 16 : An opportunity for teachable moments [Straits Times]. The temporary shift to home-based learning for students in schools and institutes of higher learning may have introduced a measure of dislocation in the minds of children and their parents. [LINK](#)