



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

We don't expect that the school will be allowed to open for face-to-face learning any time soon. It is realistic to assume that we will have remote education for the remaining part of this academic year or even until there is a vaccine. We will therefore plan for a situation, where we have an online school with all the subjects and learning activities that a "normal" school would have. Based on the learning progress we have seen in our learners, we think that they are ready for more subjects and more lessons, even if it is provided online.

New initiatives

Starting from the beginning of this new year, we will introduce a list of new initiatives for grade 1-5:

- The first interdisciplinary project, which will involve all classes will be a project within the framework of the UN's Global Sustainable Development Goals
- Foreign languages (French, German, Spanish)
- Digital literacy classes, including coding.
- Music
- Fine Arts - arts are being integrated into the subject lessons but from January onwards it will be done in a much more rigorous manner.

We will continue the implementation of the online version of the Reading program (Joy Of Reading). All of the above mentioned initiatives will be implemented in a phased manner.

Improved Information Flow to parents:

Communication between school and parents is never easy, but very important. Some want less; others want more but Everybody wants Better. It has been our ambition to collect as much information as possible in the monthly planner and the CBS Newsletter. Additionally, we have sent emails and messages when necessary. We will continue to send the monthly planner and Newsletter once every month through the CBS Portal. From now on, this will also be sent by email to parents who prefer this media.

Instead of sending other emails and messages during the month, we will introduce a new weekly CBS Update, which will be sent through the CBS portal and on email in the weeks, where there is no Newsletter. The weekly update will be brief and factual; and will contain only relevant information. If there is no news, there will be no weekly update.

Professional Development

Continuous professional development for facilitators is crucial for creating the kind of school we envision and implement our "We Lead Pedagogy".

We have had five days of professional development about UN's Global Sustainable Development Goals, and how we can implement them in the school and the teaching. Next step will be professional development about Project Based Learning (PBL) to prepare the teachers for our first interdisciplinary project in the new year, which will cover areas of problems within the framework of the sustainable development goals.

We will continue the professional development in digital pedagogy, to make remote learning even more engaging and interactive and aligned to our holistic school philosophy. Furthermore, we will enhance our skills to create engaging, interactive and multimedia textbooks.

Digital eco-system

The perfect digital eco-system for remote learning for k-12 schools does not exist. We have to combine various apps to cover everything we did to provide engaging, interactive digital teaching. Our eco-system is not without flaws, and we have developed it gradually, learning from our experiences. We are working to make it deliver a smooth experience for the learners and parents. In this Newsletter, our Head of Academics, Sheeba has described how it works.

Allan Andersen,
Director

DIGITAL LEARNING AT CHAMAN BHARTIYA

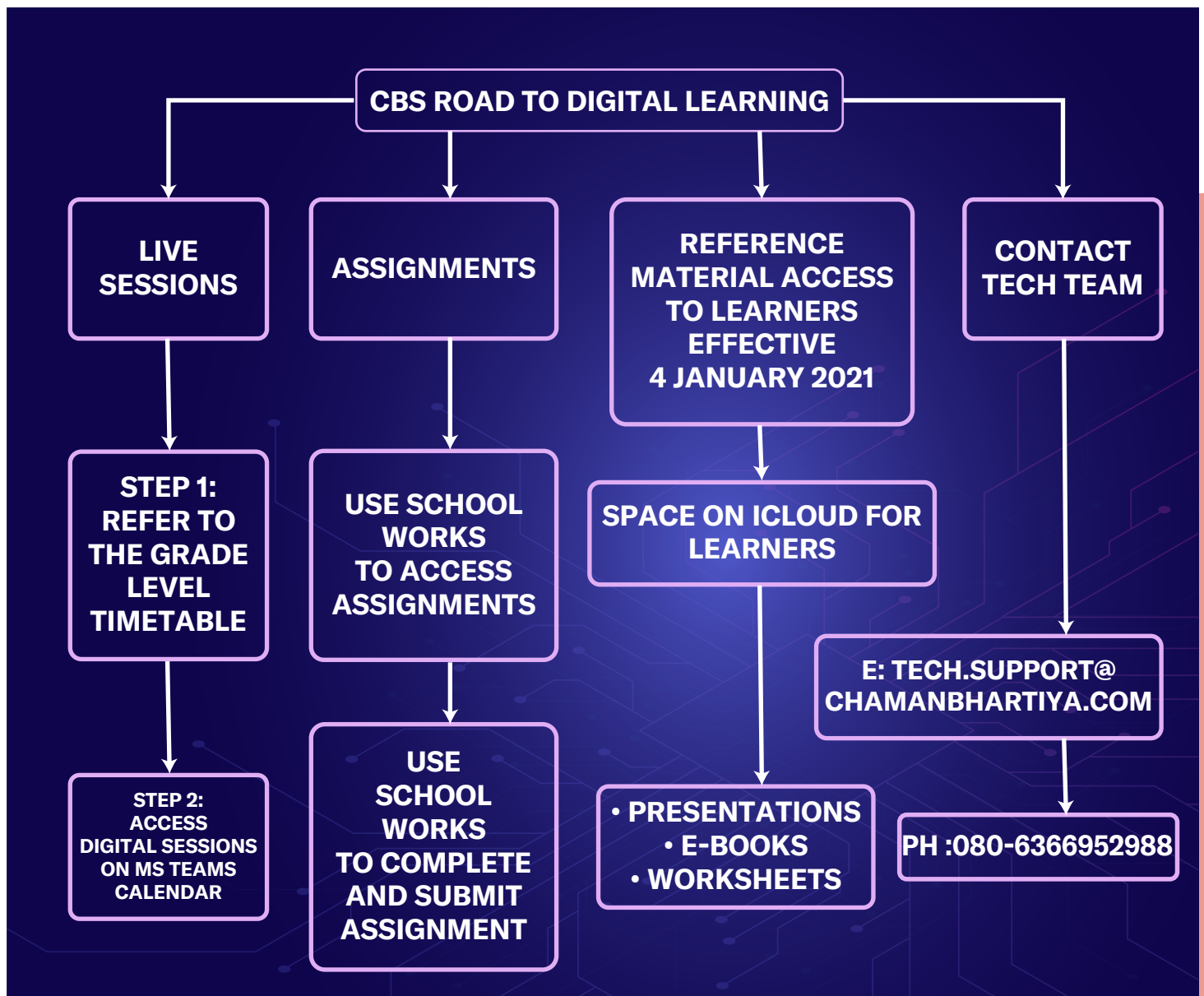
As a school that upholds holistic learning, our endeavour has been to promote consistent and effective learning even during the pandemic. In the last three months technology has been instrumental in enabling effective learning across the school for all our learners. With a view to strengthen our approach, we are putting together a set of standard operating procedures so that our learners will be able to seamlessly access the curriculum, and develop the 21st-century competencies along with leadership skills.

1. All digital sessions on MS Teams will be scheduled by our tech team.
2. Every grade will be given iCloud space wherein the learners will be able to access the timetable for the month, presentations, reference material, e-books, and assignments.
3. Learners will have seamless access to digital sessions without having to wait in the lobby.
4. Ongoing orientation on School works and their iPad devices will be provided for every learner.
5. Software updates for all iPads will be taken up by our tech team remotely.

For smooth, uninterrupted digital sessions, we need your support in the following:

- Procure an Apple Pencil
- We recommend a broadband connection with adequate speed, taking into account the number of shared users in the house
- Reboot the iPads at least once a week

- By Sheeba John , Head of Academics



CBS FELICITATED BY DANISH CULTURAL INSTITUTE

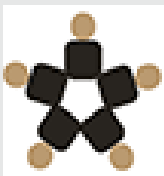


CHAMAN BHARTIYA SCHOOL
FELICITATED BY

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FOR OUR CONTRIBUTION
TOWARDS EDUCATION

OUR COLLABORATION WITH HELLERUP SKOLE, DENMARK



GLOBAL
SCHOOLS'
ALLIANCE

We aim to enable our learners to develop an international perspective and obtain global exposure.

Chaman Bhartiya is an exclusive member of the Global Schools Alliance - whose goal is to connect students with their peers from other member schools to encourage trans-national projects and international collaborations. Students will work together and present their findings to real world, authentic audiences. With

this objective Chaman Bhartiya has touched base with Hellerup Skole, Denmark to explore various initiatives through which students can collaborate. The first initiative would probably be to start off an initiative like PenPals where students will write letters to their counterparts, through which they can focus on building a repertoire of different features of a letter. Once they start liaising with one another, we can explore ways in which we can take the initiative further.

Although they will receive guidance this will be mostly a student-led initiative as we aim to develop independent learners and leadership skills in our students.

PARENTS FEEDBACK ON THE PARENTS - FACILITATOR MEETING

"The main reason why I admitted my child to Chaman Bhartiya was their holistic approach towards education and personalized attention towards each child. I am very happy with the way my child has progressed not only from an academic perspective but also other aspects as well. I particularly like the amount of time the facilitator spends on every activity and ensures that every child progresses well."

- Apoorva Sridhar, Early Years Parent

Iram miss has been a wonderful teacher, we had an opportunity to see how she teaches in class since it's online. She is a perfect example of how a teacher should be joyful, energetic, fun loving, firm when needed, correct the mistakes when required and an extremely kind individual. I'm happy that I selected Chaman Bhartiya for Triaksha. I can see Triaksha blossoming into a very confident individual.

- Nagcharan Khure, Grade 1 Parent

In CBS we had our first parent-teacher meeting which plays a significant role in enhancing our kids education. It is an effective way for both parents as well as teachers to discuss how our kids have been doing with online classes. This includes how they are learning, actively participating in online activities, their physical, mental and emotional development.

We as parents are very happy with the feedback and observation that was provided and it also gives us a platform to express our concerns to the teachers and discuss areas of development in our kids.

- Jothy Don, Grade 2 Parent

"I am appreciative of the fact that we are working collaboratively in the child's learning journey"

- Mr.Ramkrishna, Grade 3 Parent

"I am very excited that Chaman Bhartiya has launched this Reading Program ; I feel this is a vital skill that must be developed in every child"

- Mr Shankar, Grade 3 Parent

"We didn't want a teacher who simply educates our child. We wanted someone who cares for our child. By helping our son / daughter develop his / her social skills and feel confident in your classroom, you have been exactly doing what we were looking for. We couldn't be more thankful that we have had you in our lives."

- Prashanth.S.Khanadale, Grade 4 Parent

Thank you to Ms.Sheeba for giving us honest feedback about our child during the online PTM that was held on 21st November,2020.

The teacher knew in and out of our child.This shows that the teacher student relationship is so powerful and positive and they know each other so well.

Mayuka is very happy that we chose this school for her. She has made good progress in reading, spellings, analytical thinking, critical thinking skills, problem solving and is very clear with all the concepts that is being taught.

Wherever she needs improvement and help,all the teachers are ready to support.

My child's confidence level has improved tremendously. She thoroughly enjoys learning every topic that is taught and loves the way teachers are friendly, encouraging, approachable and welcoming.

CBS teachers are good at nurturing and developing academic skills,social interaction and giving the students a rich learning environment. Thank You once again.

- Priya Rajesh, Grade 5 Parent

REFLECTIONS ON PARENT - FACILITATOR INTERACTION



Samhita Johnson, Early Years Facilitator

I saw the Parent Facilitator Interaction as an opportunity to understand parent feedback, given that this is the very first online journey for us this year. I would like to start by pouring in my sincere appreciation for all the support and understanding given by our Parent Community.

This was only possible due to achieving one common goal between the parents and facilitators and that is the child's learning factor. I was beyond thrilled and so much more motivated as I saw the happy faces of satisfaction on every parent. We know that every parent loves their child and we teachers at Chaman Bhartiya school take this as a privilege to nourish this love for them. This is our ultimate goal.

And so the focus of this approach is the holistic development of the child and the aim to educate the child as a whole.

What is this holistic development?

Holistic development is overall personality development of the child which includes the physical development where our focus is more on the fine and the gross motor skills.

For the fine motor skills, we give our learners a lot of Hands-On materials to engage them in concrete learning. We also involved a lot of music and movement in our curriculum to help the child build large body movements or gross motor skills.

We have also focused on intellectual development, which is the ability of the child to process information. We give them a lot of opportunities to use their imagination and be creative. Engaging them in a lot of conversations, constantly asking them a lot of questions and prompt their curiosity and also encouraging them to ask us a lot of questions.

Another aspect is language development, which is the ability to use words and be able to express themselves clearly. This is done by reading a lot of books, picture talk and engaging them in conversations and increasing their emotional development. This is possible by the bond we built between the teacher and the child and the child and his peer group.

The second last aspect is Social Development. This naturally comes with the emotional development in place. And we give children a lot of opportunities to interact with the teacher and peer interactions.

Finally we have the Cultural development where we build a platform for the child to understand and acknowledge diversity. We have started learning about our continents and we will soon be moving into countries study.

There are a lot of Customs and traditions that are followed around the world and we would like children to respect and understand this. Three to six years is a very important phase in the child's life and we adults at Chaman Bhartiya school want to support the child in this holistic development with deep respect for the child.

A Parent Facilitator interaction is a short meeting or conference between the parents and teachers of students to discuss a child's progress at school and find solutions to academic or behavioral problems. The first parent facilitator interaction at CBS was the first virtual interaction in my career. However, it was exactly like a face-to-face interaction- parents' queries, their anxiety, their feedback, their concern all were answered like any other parent teacher interaction.

I started the meeting by thanking each parent for being such a great support in their child's learning this year, they have been equally involved with my teaching, making sure they are providing the right environment, turning their room into a virtual classroom. We had a laugh talking about words like upload and mute yourself - which have become a part of their life as well.

Parents shared that they were happy and satisfied to see the progress their child has made in these couple of months. They were impressed the way we incorporate the concepts in a play way and research based environment where learning is child centric rather than teacher oriented. Parents have accepted this new norm of online learning with open arms.



- Iram Rauf, Grade 1 Facilitator



- Revathi bellary, Grade 2 Facilitator

The recent Parent Facilitator Meet was a great platform to discuss not only the learners' academic growth but their social & emotional development as well. Life at home is also a factor to consider when addressing students needs because it is a strong influence on a child's personality as well as their attitude. The interactions were crisp and short covering all aspects from the academic progress, leadership skills as well as 21st century skills. The Learner's Progress Profile also emphasized the interests and targets of the child. The parents were very excited to see evidence of their child's work.

I felt an immense sense of satisfaction as a facilitator, when parents gave us such positive feedback and thanked us for the hard work and support in development of their child. Some parents emphasized that through our guidance their son/daughter is blossoming into a confident and capable child. I have shared a feedback from one of the parents which made me feel really emotional:

"Your expertise in teaching has put our minds at ease. We are so grateful to have you as our child's teacher. The year started off a little bumpy and our son is still a bit intimidated about class. We appreciate your hard work over the past week, and would appreciate you staying in touch about how things progress over the next few weeks. We trust that you will work hard to care for all the children in the class and provide a safe and welcoming environment."

Parents also shared that their child shares stories on how much fun it is to be in the classroom. They particularly appreciated our play-based approach – which has instilled a love for learning in children. In a nutshell it was an experience which was not only satisfying but inspiring as well.

The first Parent Facilitator Meet was held on 21st November 2020, between the Facilitators and Parents of students studying in Chaman Bhartiya School, albeit virtually. Each meeting was held for about 20-30 minutes in order to share the experiences as well as progress of the students in Term I, along their learning journey.

Anecdotes were shared by the facilitator regarding their children. Witty answers given in the class brought a smile to the faces of some parents whereas others got emotional knowing how their children felt about them. Parents were pleased to note that the facilitators knew the strengths and weaknesses of every student personally and the student:facilitator relationship was very close.

Parents and teachers were able to share and discuss freely, the achievements of the students with regards to academics. Discussions were also conducted with regard to the talent displayed in the class with regards to singing, dancing and playing musical instruments.

Topics covered in the last term as well as what would be covered in the next term were shared with the parents. Facilitators expectations of the parents' involvement were addressed. For example, in Grade 3 the theme of 'Insects' is to be covered and parents were encouraged to partake in discussions at home regarding why the cooked food is to be covered to avoid the spread of diseases through insects. Identifying insects during a walk in the garden and the neighborhood was encouraged. Taking pride in Indian traditions and using 'Dadi ma ke Nuske' as home remedies in addressing the insect menace at home were also discussed.

Parents were also encouraged to instill good work habits and ethics while completing the assignments on time.

Parents queries to the facilitators ranged from knowing the start date of foreign languages, to whether there could be a social gathering for children to meet to whether more writing could be incorporated into the assignments. Appreciation was received for the Reading Program at Chaman Bhartiya. Reading is a highly vital skill which most of the parents are very keen that their ward should develop.

Several parents commended the work put in by the facilitators and shared as to how they had never realized earlier the patience and hard work that went into conducting online classes.



- Anuradha, Grade 3 Facilitator



To watch Deborah Dhanaraj, Special Needs Facilitator & Grade 4 Facilitator and Vijay, father of Arya.V.Kaggal, Grade 4 talk about their experiences at our first Parent- Facilitator Meet, click on the image.