

### Health, Safety & Child Protection

Quarterly Newsletter

Editorial Board: Udayakumar K, Cdr. Narendra Kumar Annual Edition: Academic Year 2020-21



#### Views from the School Leaders



**Mridula Gaikwad** Principal Ryan International Academy, Pune

"Reflections on School Safety and how it impacts the Learners Outcomes".

#### **INDEX**

- Message from leaders and stakeholders
- From HSCP Editorial Desk
- HSCP activities / Initiatives around our Schools
- Feedback Corner
- •Team that made us proud
- Leveraging Technology
- Nurturing Engagement

**S**chool is a safe haven for students. Optimal Teaching can occur and students can glean knowledge they need for optimal learning only when they feel safe. Safety is one of the most fundamental need of a school. Safe learning environment promotes social and creative learning, and is an open space for kids to explore, learn and grow. This helps the students to focus on learning the required skills for a successful education and future.

Franklin Covey has said 'Be proactive not reactive. As a school leader it is an enormous responsibility to work towards keeping the entire school community safe. It is a daily work in progress to keep students safe so that they are able to learn. Students behavior and achievements depend on the learning environment. A learning environment contributes to the positive and transformative learning experiences of a student.

There are different factors that affect the learning outcomes of a student. A school environment is a major factor that affects education. The different norms and regulations of a school determine the overall environment in school. Positive school environment makes the student feel safe and secure and provides an optimal environment for the student to build healthy and social relationships.

Safety competences are gained by providing safety related learning experiences for students. Teaching and learning safety go hand in hand where one can see better results when students are encouraged to develop better skills in their daily life such as managing their daily activities and above all avoiding dangerous situations.

Safety programs at school enhances social-emotional skills and attitudes of the students which increase the frequency of positive social behavior that in turn enhances the student to perform better academically and reduces severity of conduct issues and emotional problems.

The pandemic situation across has seen how schools play an important role in disseminating the critical information about the disease to the student fraternity and the families about being safe and has been an immense support during these uncertain times.



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Seema Garg HSCP Coordinator Amanora School, Pune

#### Views from the School Leaders

#### "Revisiting Construction Safety in School Campus"

Safety plays an important role in schools. Ensuring students' safety has been part of the ethical framework for decades. Definitely academic is the backbone of any school but at the same time our focus on Health Safety and Child Protection (HSCP) through our policies and practices with an unflinching commitment to "Child's Safety" provides a safe and enabling environment to our students.

Safety of the constructed facility is normally the responsibility of the architect and engineer, whereas safety of the construction process is conventionally considered to be the contractor's responsibility, in many cases, but in our school a framework of the total safety management is introduced which includes a Risk assessment of the construction site (The risk assessment has detail of all risks associated with a facility or activity and what precautions must be taken to minimize any risk), issuing a work permit to the contractor, complete briefing of the contractors and labours on the importance of personal protection equipment, Do's and Don'ts while working in the school premises, barricading areas with proper instructions/signs and time to time review or renewal of work permits. In my opinion, there is a need to include construction safety as a focus and strongly follow above mentioned measures.

Because assuring health and safety goes to the heart of the way a school is run, an ambitious approach to reducing accidents and safeguarding health speaks volumes about its overall ethos and professionalism.



Manan Nagar Student Grade: 8 TMPIS Surat

### Views from School Students

#### "Taking safety to the playground"

The playground is the place where students are most likely to be physically injured. We play a lot of games where physical contacts are made or a push or pull takes place accidentally or intentionally. Behavioral aspects of children while playing is an important aspect in the prevention of playground injuries. Supervision of a teacher / PT teacher in schools helps in preventing sports injuries to an extent. Not only the school is responsible for ensuring playground safety its students themselves have to follow some behavioral manners and precautions to stay safe in the playground.

Few playground safety rules;

- Wear all the safety gears for games and sports eg; helmets & knee guards for skating and shin-guards in football.
- Don't play aggressively, whether it's a friendly match or a tournament.
- No intentional foul play to win the match.
- Use of proper language is must avoid/provoke fights.
- Presence of mind is required during all sport and games.
- Perform all the games under the teacher's guidance.

"Safety isn't expensive, it's priceless." Thus, we should all take care of ourselves and the ones around us by maintaining proper safety rules and precautions.



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#### **Views from School Parents**



Rani Pradeep Parent of Pranavi (Grade 8),Diya (Grade 7), Niti (Grade 1) Tattva School Bangalore

#### "Nurturing Safety Culture at Home"

The word "Home", has profound meaning, it's just not a place where we live with our family, but a haven where we are nurtured, nourished, loved, appreciated, guided, and corrected. It inculcates with a sense of belongingness and teaches the basics of safety.

Physical safety rules which are taught from childhood by parents, grandparents, relatives, neighbors, friends, and loved ones, from instructing a child to not play with fire, or not to approach ponds/ pools unsupervised, not to allow entry to strangers, not to take goodies from outsiders, or respond to random inquiries from strangers, not to leave the courtyard and so on. At different stages of childhood, these rules change to accommodate the understanding and development of a child.

There has to be very clear-cut guidelines and thorough reasoning from kids being restricted to go out of the house or for playing with friends in the park or riding a bicycle in the colony and finally leaving the house to have chats/juices in the neighborhood. The children need to understand that these are opportunities provided to make them responsible adults and make judicious choices and learn how to safeguard themselves.

With the COVID-19 era, our lives have changed. We are now more dependent on technology and gadgets for our day-to-day activities. Thus, physical safety barriers have been redefined. It is up to parents and elders in the family to be vigilant and guide on unsafe websites, educate children on cybercrime, cyber threats, phishing, cookies, and such jargons which have invaded our lives.

The tips shared by the school and workshops organized by them have sensitized us. Though these have invaded our private spaces we now know how to handle WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat, and other social media sites and applications.

Education and Awareness is the key to safety and it begins at home!!

#### HSCP Journey AY 2020-21

### Form the HSCP Editorial Desk



Covid-19 Pandemic affected 2020-21 academic year was the toughest year for the entire education system all over the globe. This period has demonstrated a great example of our resilience, especially in the way we continued online education prepared for partial school reopening, and continued blended learning during the latter half of

the year. School HSCP function had a pivotal role to play in establishing online safety controls during the online learning, creating awareness programs/activities, and setting up safety process/protocols, policies, control measures and monitoring mechanisms for COVID-19. We have skilled school's CERT team members to equip and handle any kind of emergency during reopening phase.

Creating awareness in staff members and children continued to be our prime focus this year especially focusing on matters related to COVID-19 safety, online safety and managing mental health. We have increased our capacity for training skills through internal and external experts and our training summary is tabulated below.



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#### Training Summary AY 20-21

School Name	No of Topics Covered	Training in minutes
Amanora	39	2520
RESJ	18	285
RIA	17	1395
TMPIS	13	390
Tattva	29	1260
JGS Hab	21	1255
JGS Mallapur	23	1170
Total	160	8275

#### Overall training hrs. was 137.92 hrs

We did not have any physical audits in the current academic year due to pandemic situation. However, the school team has been proactive in resolving all the serious hazards that our HSCP committee members have identified during their school monthly audits, thus ensuring safety in the campus.

#### HICAR(Hazards Identification and Corrective Action) Status of AY 2020-21

School Name	No.of Hazards identified	No.of Hazards closed	No.of Hazards open
Amanora	36	28	8
TMPIS	15	12	3
RIA	35	8	27
RESJ	30	24	6
Tattva	20	14	6
JGS Mallapur	58	54	4
JGS Habsiguda	5	4	1
Total	199	144	55

This Newsletters and HSCP Alerts during the current year have focused on various theme Viz; Covid-19 pandemic, Online safety, Social Media Safety, Mental Health, and Wellbeing, Road Safety, to name a few. Cumulatively, we could release 60 alerts, 1 annual edition and 3 editions of the HSCP newsletter during AY 2020-21

We had 6 incidents this year. Of these, five were related to online inappropriate behaviour during the virtual classes and one incident related to Covid -19. Schools initiated immediate control and preventive measures in all cases which speaks high of the safety culture. In general, all incidents were reported and updated in the tracking system. These were followed up with an incident report and periodic reviews. Central HSCP Team provided support on investigation & closure of corrective actions. An incident analysis alert was also shared with all stakeholders for awareness.



#### HSCP activities / Initiatives around our Schools

#### 1. Partial School Reopening -RESJ, JGS, Tattva

Towards the month of Dec 2020, three of our schools (Tattva School in Bangalore, RES Jaipur, and Johnson Grammar School, Hyderabad) have partially opened for senior grade students following all Covid-19 safety protocols advisories of the government and board. TMPIS has conducted 9th grade examinations at the school adhering to all safety processes. Ilt was heartening to see our young learners return to school. Kudos to our School CERT team members for establishing, governing & adhering to all covid-19 control measures.



#### 2. Safe guarding Level 2 certification Course

Continuing with our efforts to empower the school teams, 21 members of our school HSCP committee have completed Certification Level-2 course on Safeguarding Children through Udemy online learning platform. The Course content included topics like Introduction to Safeguarding Laws, Child Abuse, Sexual Abuse, Risk Assessment, responding to Disclosure and Reporting, Things to Do after Referral and Record Keeping.

It was insightful learning experiences for most of our team members who have shared a very positive response about the learning outcomes of this course.





#### 3. Road Safety Week Celebrations

Schools have executed various activities on the occasion of 32nd Road Safety Week. Few events that schools have conducted included awareness training, transport safety quiz/poster making events for students.



#### 4. Safer Internet day Celebration

All of our schools celebrated the 18th edition of Safer Internet. This year with a theme "Together for a better internet", the day called upon all stakeholders to join together to make the internet a safer and better place for all, and especially for children and young people. We started the celebration 2 weeks' prior with poster competition among grades, followed by webinar (for students and staff) on Fighting Misinformation and culmination of the event on 9th February with Inter School Quiz Event. The event saw participation by 3 students from each school with great enthusiasm and competitive spirit. The team from JGS Habsiguda emerged as the overall winner.



Winning Team -JGS Habsiguda



Sreyam Bhattacharjee



Bhanu Prakash Reddy Sadhu

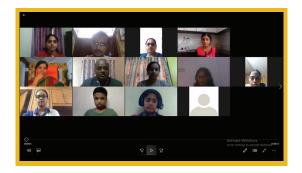


Bhavesh Kankatala



#### 5. Anti-bullying meeting in Schools

Last quarter's anti-bullying meeting have been held in our schools during this period. Key discussion agenda of the meeting included; Safeguarding case referrals & Counsellor intervention, Online classes inappropriate behaviour cases and disciplinary actions, Safeguarding certification course; storytelling event for mental health and wellbeing.





#### 6. First Aid and Fire Safety Training at Schools

Annual fire and first aid training was held in many of our schools. This was to enable our community to handle any fire and first aid emergency situations. Staff mainly from admin team, support staff members and students who has visited the school participated in this training programs.



#### 7. National Safety Day

This year we celebrated 50th National Safety Day/National Safety Week on first week of March adhering to the event theme **"Learn from disaster & prepare for a safer future".** 

Schools organised special assemblies on importance of safety in day to day life and participated in administrating of Health and Safety Pledge by Staff and Students





#### **B. Feedback on School HSCP activities**

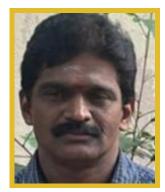


#### Ms. Poonam Gopu Parent of Medha Gopu Grade X and Krisha Grade V, Tattva School, Bangalore

The webinars and the health and safety awareness created an awareness on how to take care and what precautions should one take during and after the pandemic. Children realized the need of safety measures and protocols to be followed. Online safety classes helped my children to keep their accounts, mails and the online interaction safe.

#### M. Murali Krishna Parent of M. Sri Naga Chaitanya (6N) & M. Padmavathy (5J.) JGS Habsiguda

JGS has taken a step ahead in conducting various sessions to the students to create awareness. I really appreciate the school for educating students regarding the health safety measures to be taken during such pandemic. The sessions like Webinar on Cyber safety, Internet Safety Quiz competition, Online HSCP Learning regarding Online Safety has helped them a lot to understand cybercrimes and how to aid themselves from being the vulnerable. JGS has once again proved that Health safety and child protection remains the utmost priority regardless of the teaching platform.





#### G. Raghunath Reddy. Father of G.Likith Reddy Grade 10, JGS Mallapur

School management deserves an appreciation for following SOPs as per the government guidelines and taking preventive measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 in the school premises. We are very much thankful to the school management, teachers and staff for keeping the kids in a safe environment during these tough times.

#### Mili Panchigar, Mother of of Ms. Khushvi Panchigar, Grade 8, TMPIS Surat

I am glad that my child is studying in T M Patel school where HSCP is given so much of importance. The school is very sensitive and intolerant against the child's safety.

Even if the child is unwell they are examined by a nurse at school and even the parents are informed over the phone.





#### Annual Edition, 2021



#### Rishi Manjunath-Student Grade 9, Tattva School Bangalore

"I would like to thank all members who put in their time and effort in order to make us all understand the attributes of online safety. I really appreciate the initiative of organizing Online safety quiz event on a topic that is crucial to today's digital era yet the least spoken of. Holding a quiz and exposing each team to the likes of five other teams was a clever way of getting students engaged about the topic and made us all learn something new from it. In my opinion, the quiz was conducted in an engaging manner and it was structured fairly. "

#### Sreyam Bhattacharjee Student -Grade 7, JGS Habsiguda

Internet safety quiz was great! Personally, it was a great way of learning and testing our skills! The questions were challenging and we could also see what we are against in the future! Thank you for this wonderful opportunity!





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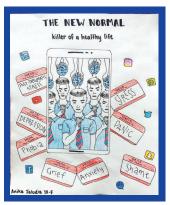
Safer Internet Day 2021 Poster Competition Winners

#### **Amanora School**



Avaneesh Kulkarni Grade VI C





Vaishnavi Parab Grade 9A

Anika Jalodia Grade 9F

#### Johnson Grammar School, Habsiguda



N Shusanth Grade 8J



Silvia Grade 8E

#### Johnson Grammar School, Mallapur



Viswa Praneet Yatham Grade 85



Y Khyaathi Grade 6A





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#### Ryan Edunation School, Jaipur



Anika Soni Grade 8



Yashad Gaur Grade 7

#### Ryan International Academy, Pune



Rudraneel Parwate Grade V

#### Tattva School, Bangalore



Dhruti Grade 9



Ganavi Grade 5A



### NEWSLETTER Annual Edition, 2021

#### Other HSCP Events' updates from the school





CERT training on Covid -19 protocols at Ryan Edunation School, Jaipur



Awareness program Against Voilence & Bullying at Johnson Grammar School, Mallapur



School reopening readiness training for CERT Members at Johnson Grammar School, Habsiguda





Construction safety site inspection by HSCP team at Ryan Edunation School, Jaipur



### NEWSLETTER Annual Edition, 2021





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Other HSCP Events' updates from the school



Health and Safety awareness session for junior children at Ryan International Academy, Bhavdhan



Corporal punishment training for support staff at Amanora School



Firefighting training for staff conducted at T.M. Patel International School



Samvad 13 Webinar on Safeguarding the Physical and Mental Health of Children.





HSCP committee members Amanora School, Pune



HSCP Committee members Johnson Grammar School, Habsiguda





HSCP committee members Johnson Grammar School, Mallapur



HSCP committee members Ryan Edunation School, Jaipur





HSCP Committee members Ryan International Academy, Bavdhan



HSCP Committee members Tattva School, Bangalore





HSCP committee members T.M. Patel International School, Surat



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#### Leveraging Technology- Risk Assessment-back bone of safety

#### **Risk Assessment**

Risk assessment is an important part of occupational health and safety management plan in all type of business. When you implement a proper assessment, you determine hazards and risks, identify the people who might be at risk, and discover where control measures are needed to prevent illness and injury.

#### Why is risk assessment important?

- Create awareness of hazards and risk.
- Identify who may be at risk (e.g., employees, support staff, visitors, contractors, the public, etc.)
- Determine whether a control program is required for a particular hazard.
- Determine if existing control measures are adequate or if more should be done.
- Prevent injuries or illnesses, especially when done at the design or planning stage.
- Prioritize hazards and control measures.
- Meet legal requirements where applicable.

#### When should a risk assessment be done?

- Before new processes or activities are introduced.
- Before changes are introduced to existing processes or activities, including when products, machinery, tools, equipment change or new information concerning harm becomes available.
- When hazards are identified.

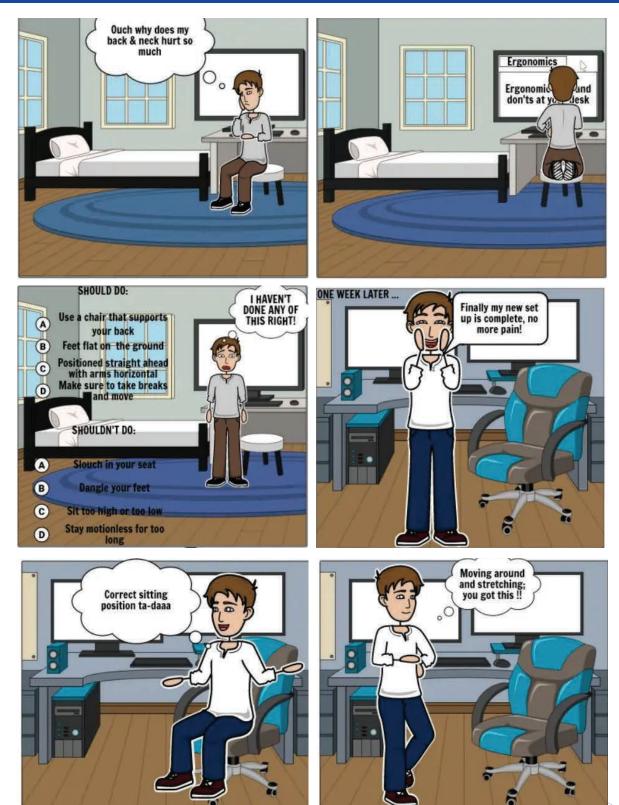
#### 5 key Steps in the risk assessment process







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#### Nurturing Engagement: Improving Ergonomics



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### **Quiz Section: Online Safety**

1					
1.	Which part of the fire triangle does a water extinguisher control?				
	Α	The heat			
	В	The fuel			
	С	The oxygen			
	D	All of the above			
2.	2. When attempting to extinguish a fire you should use a maximum of				
	Α	One extinguisher			
	В	Two extinguishers			
	С	Three extinguishers			
	D	Four extinguishers			
3. What does PPE stand for?					
	Α	Protective Preventative Equipment			
	В	Personal Protective Equipment			
	С	Personal Preventative Equipment			
4. Why is it important to wear PPE?					
	Α	Because it looks right			
	В	Because it protects the tools			
	С	Because it protects you			
5. Why should accidents in the workplace be reported?					
	Α	To prevent a similar accident in the future			
	В	To enable staff to learn from their mistakes			
	С	Reduce levels of paperwork			

#### Wish you all a very Happy and Safe summer vacation. Stay Home, Stay Safe.

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