

# 10 IMMEDIATE WASH in SCHOOLS (WinS) ACTIONS

## PREPARING FOR REOPENING OF SCHOOLS – SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL HEADS TO MANAGE THE RESPONSE TO COVID-19

### 1 HANDWASHING

Set up available handwashing facilities with soap at the entrance of schools (tippy taps, buckets with taps, group washing facilities) with sufficient water taps that allow physical distance so that children, teachers, staff and visitors can wash hands before entering school. Make sure that toilets have functional handwashing facilities with soap and water. Facilities should be accessible to all users.

### 2 WATER AVAILABILITY

Ensure water is available for handwashing, drinking, and other uses. If inconsistent or inadequate water supply is a concern for the school, increase the water storage capacity with the help of the community or ask children to bring a bottle of water from home, if possible.

### 3 SUPPLIES

Calculate the need and ensure sufficient supply for consumable resources, including: soap (bar or liquid), hand sanitizer (with at least 70% alcohol concentration, only if contextually relevant) and sodium hypochlorite for cleaning/disinfecting (household bleach diluted to 0,1%), sponges, brooms and buckets, and protective equipment such as face masks and gloves for cleaners. Alcohol-based disinfectants with at least a 70% alcohol concentration may be used as an alternative to bleach.

### 4 CLEANING & DISINFECTING

Ensure regular cleaning and disinfecting according to national guidelines and global recommendations. High touch surfaces should be prioritized for disinfection. Always clean surfaces with soap and water or detergent to remove organic matter prior to disinfection. Calculate the time needed, ensure that staff for cleaning and disinfecting are available and uses gloves and face masks. Involve the Parents Teacher Association, community members and students as needed and appropriate for cleaning. Ensure handwashing stations and toilet facilities are usable and clean.

### 5 WASTE MANAGEMENT

Ensure bins are located in classrooms, in toilet blocks and at strategic locations on school grounds and are safely emptied daily using waste management system.

### 6 PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Make sure children and school staff adhere to physical distancing keeping at least 1 metre apart (or as recommended by national guidelines). Possible options are: Assign children to specific shifts, stagger the beginning and end of the school days as well as during breaks, create space between desks or teach outdoors or with open windows, if possible, and paint or tape lines on the floor to demonstrate physical distance at places where students line up or gather (e.g. in front of toilets or washing stations).

### 7 ESTABLISH A MONITORING TEAM

Assign staff member(s) – teachers and staff like cleaners, guards, gardeners or older students, community members and WASH clubs, etc. – to oversee handwashing stations and toilets (availability of water and soap, maintenance issues, handwashing behavior and compliance of rules for physical distancing etc.).

### 8 ORIENTATION/TRAINING

Organize orientation for all teachers, non-teaching staff and community members on WASH in Schools and Covid-19 and ensure that everyone understands their specific role. Ensure teachers orient the learners, by using age appropriate hygiene promotion materials.

### 9 CHECKLISTS

Introduce and ensure the use of checklists (including: date, time when checked, name of responsible person) for teachers and non-teaching staff to ensure routines are implemented daily. Specifically, introduce checklists for:

- > School entrance (handwashing behaviour, handwashing stations, water and soap availability)
- > Classrooms (cleaning & disinfection protocol)
- > Toilets and waste management

### 10 HYGIENE CULTURE

Establish a culture of hygiene in school and encourage hygiene behavior change in the community. Emphasize that all teaching and non-teaching staff are part of a team working to address pandemic preparedness and response and make sure that education can move on and schools are clean and safe places. Recognize individual WASH champions in school and community.

CONTACT: [WinS-COVID-19@susana.org](mailto:WinS-COVID-19@susana.org)

FURTHER INFORMATION: [www.susana.org](http://www.susana.org)

- > '10 IMMEDIATE WinS ACTIONS' (latest version): <https://bit.ly/367F7ur>
- > KNOWLEDGE MAP 'WASH in SCHOOLS & CORONAVIRUS': <https://bit.ly/2JDvM39>
- > 'SAFE BACK TO SCHOOL: A PRACTITIONER'S GUIDE': <https://bit.ly/2zS3UHR>

