

# SCHOOLS' HEALTH MEASURE ON LIMITED FACE-TO-FACE CLASSES AND PUPILS' WELL-BEING

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## ABSTRACT

*The study dealt on limited face-to-face classes' school health measures and pupils' well-being protection in Alesan West District. It specifically, determined the level of limited face-to-face classes' school health measures; and the level of pupils' well-being protection. Further, it determined the significant relationship between limited face-to-face classes' school health measures and pupils' well-being protection and the influence of limited face-to-face classes school health measures to pupils' well-being protection. This research utilized descriptive – correlation research design to analyze the gathered data from the 116 respondents taken through complete enumeration. The instrument used was adopted. Results of the validity and reliability test using Cronbach's Alpha had 0.857 which meant that the instrument was highly reliable. Data gathering procedure by the use of communication addressed to Schools Division Superintendent, and the statistical tools utilized mean. While in determining the relationship of the study, Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient was used and the significant influence employed by multiple linear regression. On the limited face-to-face classes school health measures in terms of temperature check, display signages, facility enhancement, and washing facility were all implemented by the schools. On pupils' wellbeing protection in terms of personal and protective equipment, COVID-19 case management, including the most marginalized, and home-school coordination were all well-applied by the teachers. On the level of relationship, the limited face-to-face school health measures were correlated with the pupils' wellbeing protection on personal protective equipment, COVID-19 case management, and home-school coordination. On the level of influence, the limited face-to-face school health measures significantly influenced the pupils' wellbeing protection. It meant that temperature check was the predictor to on personal and protective equipment. On the other hand, washing facility was the predictor to COVID-19 case management. Lastly, display signages contributed to home-school coordination.*

**Keyword:** -Schools' health measure, limited face-to-face classes, pupils' well-being.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Health protection is the most crucial part for the reopening of the limited face-to-face in all public schools. In order for that to happen and avoid the risk of sicknesses among the students, teachers and all the school staffs, the school health must be considered and its facilities as well as those school users who have a COVID-19 background. Every public school must have to do a direct response in fulfilling a great responsibility for the good of all public-school users. The delivery of learning is highly dependent on school readiness in the new normal education [1]. School heads coping with the challenges of the new normal education affects the delivery of learning [2].

The reopening of limited face-to-face encounters challenges/problems where school did not maintain on its physical appearance and infrastructures. The inadequate resources like facility enhancement, washing facility, and

purchasing on protective equipment set by the DOH and IATF is difficult to attain. When these requirement in the reopening of limited face-to-face classes did not meet, the health of the teachers and the learners will also at stake. Learners were struggling and experience challenges in times of COVID-19 pandemic [3]. Thus, the school needs to be assessed and precautions should be put in order to reduce the risk of harms as observed by the researcher.

The Department of education urges all public schools nationwide shall conduct a self-assessment using the School Safety Assessment Tool (SSAT) in preparation for the expansion phase and onward transitioning to new normal of face-to-face [4].

In line with this, Cannon [5] schools must prevent further transmission, reduce the impacts of the outbreak and support control measures. The protection of children and educational facilities is particularly important. Precautions are necessary to prevent the potential spread of COVID-19 in school settings; however, care must also be taken to avoid stigmatizing students and staff who may have been exposed to the virus.

Most importantly, Tang [6] pupils' well-being and protection should not be put at stake during this pandemic. The health and safety of pupils during face-to-face classes should always observe. Support to their pupils, their own physical health, stress anxiety, and support their family's needs.

It is in this content that the researcher would like to see the relationship or influence of various health measures implemented by the schools to the well-being and protection of the pupils especially when face-to-face is allowed in school.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

This research utilized descriptive – correlation research design to analyze the gathered data from the 116 respondents taken through complete enumeration. The instrument used was adopted. Results of the validity and reliability test using Cronbach's Alpha had 0.857 which meant that the instrument was highly reliable. Data gathering procedure by the use of communication addressed to Schools Division Superintendent, and the statistical tools utilized mean. While in determining the relationship of the study, Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient was used and the significant influence employed by multiple linear regression.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Level of Limited Face-to-Face Classes' School Health Measures

The first research problem focused to determine the level of limited face-to-face classes' school health measures of COVID-19 in terms of temperature check, display signage, facility enhancement and washing facility.

#### Temperature Check

Table 2 shows the level of limited face-to-face classes' school health measures in terms of temperature check. The result revealed that the schools are implemented on checking the body temperature of the teachers, staff, and stakeholders upon entering the school campus. It implies that the schools ensure safety protocols to all school personnel for their health welfare.

The result conforms to the statement of [7] Ziebuhr explained that thermal screening at the workplace can be considered part of a package of measures to prevent and control COVID-19 at the workplace. Workers should be encouraged to self-monitor their health and take their own temperature regularly at home and in school.

Table 2. Level of limited face to face classes' school health measures in terms of temperature check.

Statements	Mean	Description
1. Checking of the teachers' body temperature before entering the school.	4.58	Highly implemented
2. Checking of the stakeholders' body temperature before entering the school premises.	4.26	Implemented
3. Recording of body temperature using logbook for easy contact tracing	4.42	Implemented
4. Using thermal scanner for checking of body temperature is available at the main entrance.	4.78	Highly Implemented
5. Checking of school personnel's body temperature before entering the school premises.	4.78	Highly implemented
Weighted Mean	4.49	Implemented

### Display Signage

Table 3 displays the level of limited face-to-face classes' school health measures in terms of display signage. Findings revealed that the schools have implemented on displaying signages in the school premises.

This goes to show that the schools disseminate the health protocols on the signs and symptoms and transmission of COVID-19. It means that displaying signages inside the school campus promotes stakeholders' awareness on COVID-19.

Kui [8] teachers, parents, medical professionals and government officials negotiate the safest way to re-open schools, colleges and universities, signage is at the forefront of any safe reopening strategy.

Covid 19 signage for schools is a must have in these strangest of times. As learning environments are modified, and guidance is set or changed, it is important to display clear messaging in and around your school for staff, pupils, parents and visitors. It has various signages available that can be used to display social distancing, hygiene, directional and safety messages [9].

Table 3. Level of limited face to face class school health measures on display signages.

Statements	Mean	Description
1. Posting of signage that encourage hand and respiratory hygiene practices.	4.40	Implemented
2. Displaying of printed materials about the signs and symptoms on COVID-19 in a conspicuous area.	4.34	Implemented
3. Posting of transmission on COVID-19 in school premises.	4.42	Implemented
4. Posting of health protocols at the main entrance for stakeholders' awareness.	4.26	Implemented
5. Distributing posters and pamphlets for social awareness on COVID – 19.	4.20	Implemented
Weighted Mean	4.32	Implemented

### Facility Enhancement

Table 4 depicts the level of limited face-to-face classes' school health measures in terms of facility enhancement. It can be gleaned in the Table that the schools are implementing facility enhancement. It can be meant that the schools have clean and disinfected classrooms, furniture, and other facilities to eliminate the probable growth of viruses. Cleaning and disinfecting and promoting hand hygiene are important everyday actions schools can take to slow the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases and protect students and staff. Center for Disease Control offers the following cleaning, disinfecting, and hand hygiene considerations to help school administrators make decisions, protect their students and staff, and communicate with families and communities [10].

Table 4. Level of limited face to face classes' school health measures in terms of facility enhancement.

Statements	Mean	Description
1. Cleaning and disinfecting school buildings and classrooms.	4.48	Implemented
2. Using disinfectant to enhance school facilities.	4.48	Implemented
3. Increasing air flow and ventilation where climate or weather condition allows (open windows).	4.46	Implemented
4. Using of water and disinfectants to eliminate the probable growth of viruses.	4.52	Implemented
5. Rearranging furniture in common areas to maintain physical distancing.	4.40	Implemented
Weighted Mean	4.47	Implemented

### Washing Facility

Table 5 presents the level of limited face-to-face classes' school health measures in terms of terms of washing facility. It can be noted in the Table that the schools are implementing on washing facility. This only manifest that the schools provide washing facility with soap and water to reduce the spread of diseases. It also

means that implementing washing facility in the school ensures the safety of the school personnel and stakeholders due to ravaging of COVID-19.

The finding is supported to what Zhang, Chen, Wang, Qin, & Holmes [11] have said that Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) are essential for health and are critically contributing to performance and educational success. Schools must provide a healthy environment where teachers and children feel safe and protected and where the basic needs of children, including access to water and sanitation to combat against the spread of coronavirus.

Table 5. Level of limited face to face class school health measures in terms of washing facility.

Statements	Mean	Description
1. Ensuring that soap and safe water are available in hand washing stations .	4.40	Implemented
2. Disinfecting facilities at least once a day, particularly surfaces that are touched by many stakeholders.	4.48	Implemented
3. Cleaning washing station with soap and disinfectants to reduce the spread of diseases.	4.52	Highly Implemented
4. Ensuring availability of running water in school for washing purposes.	4.28	Implemented
5. Using the washing facility before entering the school campus	4.32	Implemented
Weighted Mean	4.40	Implemented

### Level of Pupils' Well-Being Protection

The second research problem focused on the level of pupils' well-being protection in terms of personal and protective equipment, COVID-19 case management, including the most marginalized, and home-school coordination.

#### Personal and Protected Equipment

Table 6 presents the level of pupils' well-being protection in terms of personal and protective equipment. It can be gleaned in the table that the teachers well-applied on personal and protected equipment. It implies that the schools provide personal and protected equipment for the pupils to ensure that the pupils are safe and secure during limited face-to-face classes.

The finding is supported with what Kohls, Baldofski, Moeller, Klemm, and Rummel-Kluge [12] have said that keeping students and teachers safe during these unprecedented times is critically important. Having the right supplies is the key to stopping the spread of infectious diseases like COVID-19. This is one way where students safe during the limited face-to-face classes.

Table 6. Level of pupils' well – being protection on personal protective equipment.

Statements	Mean	Description
The school.....		
1. Secured sufficient supply of personal protective equipment (PPEs) for learners and school personnel.	4.38	Well-applied
2. Secured adequate supply of face masks, face shields, and/or other COVID-19 protective gears for learners.	4.30	Well-applied
3. Ensured that the available sanitation and disinfection materials were approved by the Philippine Food and Drug Administration (FDA).	4.48	Well-applied
4. Secured sufficient supply of disinfection materials for strategic school locations.	4.24	Well-applied
5. Ensured PPE requirements, specifications, and standards for different types of covid-19 management activities in accordance to DOH.	4.26	Well-applied
Weighted Mean	4.33	Well-applied

#### COVID-19 Case Management

Table 7 shows the level of pupils' well-being protection in terms of COVID-19 management. It can be gleaned in the table that the teachers well-applied on COVID-19 management. It implies that the schools constitute

on COVID-19 management during the progressive limited face-to-face classes to ensure high safety standards for the pupils not affected during limited face-to-face classes.

The result is concomitant to the statement of DepEd Memorandum [13] (2021) that the school Head, with the support of the School DRRM Team, shall ensure the monitoring of all COVID-19 cases (close contacts, suspect, probable, confirmed) among learners and personnel under his/her jurisdiction, as well as the coordination with DepEd school health personnel and local health authorities, and the provision of necessary support as the school may be able to provide.

Table 7. Level of pupils' well – being protection in terms of COVID – 19 case management

Statements	Mean	Description
1. Conducted daily rapid health checks in the classroom.	4.46	Well-applied
2. Conducted necessary disinfection activities especially in the areas of the school frequented by personnel or learners that tested positive.	4.40	Well-applied
3. Oriented clinic teacher by the school health personnel at the SDO for proper guidance on how to effectively run the school clinic.	4.40	Well-applied
4. Designated separate space where sick school- goers who have been managed in the clinic can temporarily stay, awaiting referral to the appropriate health facility, without creating stigma.	4.50	Very well-applied
5. Recorded students' health status and development, including immunization checks to prevent outbreak-prone vaccine- preventable disease (e.g., measles)	4.34	Well-applied
Weighted Mean	4.42	Well-applied

### Most Marginalized

Table 8 shows the level of pupils' well-being protection in terms of most marginalized. It can be gleaned in the table that the teachers well-applied on most marginalized learners. It implies that the teachers include the most marginalized pupils who are most vulnerable and disadvantaged in terms of access to learning as indicated in the eligibility of learners. This means that teachers during the progressive limited face-to-face the most marginalized learners are coordinated with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Case Managers of those learners who are Marginalized.

The finding conforms to what Baik, Larcombe, and Brooker [14] said that all marginalized children getting to school or due to phased school re-openings connected to learning platforms to avoid learning shortfalls will require targeted support and interventions.

In addition, Brief and Weiss [15] said that the key factors to take into consideration will be the economic impact of COVID-19 on the poorest households and the cost of going to school, targeted community engagement and messaging on school reopening as well as on the measures put in place such as safety, protection, water and sanitation hygiene, health, nutrition, psychosocial support to ensure the most marginalized children to return in school.

Table 8. Level of pupils' well – being protection on most marginalized

Statements	Mean	Description
The school.....		
1. Identified learners who are most vulnerable and disadvantaged in terms of access to learning as indicated in the eligibility of learners.	4.70	Very well-applied
2. Developed learning strategies to cater the needs of the marginalized learners such as modules, mother-tongue languages, and usage of Filipino Sign Language.	4.36	Well-applied
3. Ensured participation in school- based services which include but is not limited to feeding and nutrition programs, immunizations, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), prevention of Violence against Children (VAC) (bullying from social stigma) and other health services.	4.40	Well-applied
4. Established close coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Case Managers of those learners who are Marginalized.	4.56	Very well-applied
5. Coordinated with their respective local government units with the implementation of routine school-based immunization (SBI) and other school health- related services such as but not limited to deworming and weekly iron-folate acid supplementation.	4.42	Well-applied
Weighted Mean	4.42	Well-applied



### Home-School Coordination

Table 9 presents the level of pupils' well-being protection in terms of home-school coordination. It can be gleaned in the table that the teachers well-applied on home-school coordination. It implies that the teachers coordinated with the parent and guardian through consent form allowing their children to be included during the re-opening of progressive limited face-to-face classes. This means that the school developed a strategy in orienting parents on health protocols and safety measures.

The results agree with what Hobfoll, Halbesleben, Neveu, and Westman [16] said that home-school partnerships are focused on setting joint goals for a child and ensuring consistency and continuity in how these goals are achieved across home and school. Effective partnerships will benefit from clear and open communication with a focus on shared goals, shared language and shared supports.

Table 9. Level of pupils' well – being protection on home-school coordination.

Statements	Mean	Description
The school....		
1. Developed a plan in coordinating with the Barangay Local Government Unit (BLGU) or the Barangay Health Emergency Response Team (BHERT)in ensuring that protocols are observed properly.	4.20	Well-applied
2. Developed a strategy in orienting parents on health protocols and safety measures.	4.54	Very Well-applied
3. Identified a designated waiting area with proper ventilation f or parents/guardians.	4.38	Well-applied
4. Conducted safety precautions and preventive measure upon entering the school premises.	4.40	Well-applied
5. Conducted safety precautions and preventive measures while commuting (e.g., wearing of proper face masks and face shields, refrain from talking and eating).	4.44	Well-applied
Weighted Mean	4.39	Well-applied

### Relationship between Limited Face-to-Face Classes' School Health Measures and Pupils' Well – Being Protection

The third research problem focused in finding out the significant relationship between limited face-to-face classes' school health measures and Pupils' wellbeing.

The correlation matrix in Table 10 reveals the relationship between limited face to face classes' school health measures and pupils' well-being protection.

Result indicates that limited face to face classes' school health measure in terms of temperature check is correlated with pupils' well-being protection on personal protection equipment ( $r=0.292^*$  with a p-value of 0.040); display signage is significantly correlated with home- school coordination a ( $r= 0.269^*$  ; p- value = 0.046); and washing facility that also significantly correlated with COVID-19 case management that has a ( $r=0.244^*$ ; p-value= 0.047), respectively.

Having a probability value that is less than the set 0.05% level of significance, the hypothesis in this part of the study is rejected.

However, other variable like facility enhancement has no correlation with pupils' well-being protection. Result implies that when there is a high level of implementation on limited face-to face classes' school health measures in terms of temperature check, display signage and washing facilities; there is also a high level of application on pupils' well-being protection through personal protection equipment, COVID -19 case management and home- school coordination.

Drosten [17] added that by understanding one's own individual body temperature, noticing changes that might indicate an infection, and taking immediate measures to prevent spreading it to others, an individual can help family, friends, and co-workers stay safe, healthy, and productive.

Covid 19 signage for schools is a must have in these strangest of times. As learning environments are modified, and guidance is set or changed, it is important to display clear messaging in and around your school for staff, pupils, parents and visitors. It has various signage available that can be used to display social distancing, hygiene, directional and safety messages [18].

Table 10. Correlation matrix showing the relationship between limited face to face classes' school health measures and pupils' well – being protection.

Measures		Personal Prot. Equipment	COVID – 19 Case Mgt.	Most Marginalized	Home – School Coordination
Temperature Check	Pearson R	0.292*	0.068	0.022	0.163
	Probability	0.040	0.638	0.878	0.254
Display Signage	Pearson R	-0.039	-0.094	-0.104	0.269*
	Probability	0.786	0.514	0.468	0.046
Facility Enhancement	Person R	-0.055	0.014	0.085	0.038
	Probability	0.702	0.920	0.555	0.789
Washing Facility	Pearson R	-0.109	0.244*	-0.030	-0.047
	Probability	0.448	0.047	0.835	0.742

\*Correlation is Significant at 0.05 level.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

The schools implemented the different limited face-to-face classes school health measures. Teachers had well-applied on different pupils' well-being protection. The limited face-to-face classes school health measures were associated with pupils' wellbeing protection. The limited face-to-face classes school health measures significantly influenced pupils' well-being protection.

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