



Update on our activities during lockdown and till date

We started our new academic session in April conducting our classes online due to the lockdown. These have been trying times for some parents who had experienced job / business losses. When we contacted parents, some after persistent efforts, many of them were willing and joined in the classes held every day for their child. While connecting online has been a challenge due to no means to even retain a Wi-Fi facility, ASHISH has spared no efforts to impress upon them the need to continue with us so that their dreams for their son/daughter to lead fulfilling lives will not be shattered.

Initially, they kept most of our activities on hold hoping that in a few weeks' time the lockdown will be lifted, but to their dismay it kept extending every fortnight and is now extended indefinitely.

They are now providing social learning activities online till we reopen. Class get-togethers, birthday parties and virtual board games are being played to build social skills. They have adapted the programme to have the students do activities which could be done at home for e.g. Making coffee/cold coffee, cooking to promote independence, gardening, filing, computer skills/data entry.

Although making products is a group activity by the vocational students is not possible due to the current circumstances, because our students with autism have low immunity to infections. But the activities that would involve such processes are being practised at home- for e.g., cutting & pasting for making bags, beading for jewellery etc.

The hands-on training at the job site will be resumed after the employer is ready to have their students back.

Additionally, they have also used this time to professionally up skill themselves, with whatever new technology available. Our staff team have been encouraged to participate in several online webinars and training to upgrade themselves professionally, which has been meaningful.

Case study

Manav and his father Chander Prakash were eager to enrol for the online classes right from the start in April. Due to lockdown, Chander Prakash was also at home and was happy to invest his time on Manav's online classes. He is so thankful to Ashish Centre that the online classes helped him to keep his son engaged in activities and carry out all the exercises for occupational therapy. Manav is a willing learner and he especially enjoyed his time learning with his father during the lockdown.