

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
132 Ft. Ring Road, Haripura, Maninagar (E), Ahmedabad-8
GC-02/August 24, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Greetings from S.D.A. Higher Secondary School, Ahmedabad!

It gives me immense pleasure to write to you. We hope and pray that all of you are healthy and happy during the Covid-19 Pandemic. Our prayers and best wishes are with you.

As our country is still reeling under Covid-19 Pandemic, like all other educational institutions, we too have been conducting online classes since the 2020-2021 academic year. However, for grades 9 to 12, we have been conducting both online & offline classes. The same will continue until we get the nod from Gujarat State Govt. to start the classes physically.

We thank you very much for your cooperation and support in all our endeavors. Our staff are striving their level best to conduct online classes effectively. They have been teaching the lessons in different ways to engage the students meaningfully and help them to learn their lessons. Some of them are:

A. Synchronous Teaching (for real time learning)

- Daily Live Interactive online classes are being conducted

B. Asynchronous Teaching (to learn in a more relaxed manner)

- Pre-recorded videos are being uploaded
- Regularly a good set of learning material and notes are provided

C. For Self-Studying

Students are encouraged to read a particular portion daily from the given textbooks and homework and projects are assigned.

D. Genius Hour

Normally students learn from their teachers directed/guided curricular, co-curricular, extra-curricular and cross curricular and pedagogical methods – all about fixed syllabuses year after year of an approved curriculum.

Besides the aforementioned, there are a few students who are very curious about their own passions and wonders and wants to learn more about them on their own and in their own way.

Therefore, the school is going to permit students from Stds. VI and above to utilize one hour per week (Sunday/any convenient day) for their own self directed learning. This way they will have an opportunity to accomplish their passion based work.

Hence, parents are requested to monitor their children's choicest interests as they are going to concentrate on them to find answers through their own discovery and to be able to find satisfaction.

Whenever they finish their own inquiry based learning or complete their project work, they will share it with their respective class teachers. And these innovative ventures and doing something new and worthwhile will be recognized and suitably awarded.

There are a few important guidelines that we wish to pass on to you. Kindly take note of the same and do the needful:

1. Age Limit for grade -1

The Gujarat Education Department has raised the age limit for admission to grade-1 from the current 5 years to 6 years from the academic year 2023-2024 in State Board Schools for parity with other Education Boards. In view of this, if there are any Pre-School (Nursery, JR.KG., SR.KG.) children who do not meet the above mentioned criteria as of June 1, 2023, please meet the respective Supervisors of your Child's class for necessary advice so that we can avoid any conflict situation.

2. Given below is the New Education Policy (NEP -2020) A Major change in School Education (see the table appended)

The present 10+ 2 structure has been changed to a 5+3+3+4 structure. This structure may be implemented by Gujarat State Education Department from the 2023-2024 academic session or earlier. However, if you require further clarification on this matter, kindly contact your child's respective Supervisors/HMs.

3. Financial Difficulties Due to FRC

As most of you are aware that due to some communication gaps with the FRC of Gujarat Govt., our school has been facing severe financial difficulties since the 2017-2018 academic session. In addition to this, we are also caught up with the Covid-19 Pandemic due to which, we are permitted to collect only 75% of the school tuition fees, nothing else. Although we are required to spend more on many other areas.

Because of the merger of banks, neither we are getting overdrafts nor loans from the bank. This is causing tremendous financial burden on us to meet various payment deadlines.

4. Non-Payment of School Fees

We regret to inform you that there are a few of you who have not been paying the school fees for the previous year/s. To have a smooth function of the school, you need to pay your child's/children's school fees promptly. You may have noticed that our school Management has not discontinued the service of any employee in the school despite our financial crisis. So far, we are able to pay only 75% of their salary every month. Many of them are struggling financially with such low salaries. Our school fee is very, very nominal in comparison to all other schools in the city that are affiliated with the same Board. But we provide better infrastructure and facilities and go an extra mile.

Hence, all the parents are requested to pay the school fees regularly. Our school fees matter is still with the FRC. Whatever decision the FRC will take finally, the same shall be implemented by making the necessary adjustments for the proposed fees you pay to the school. Please note that ours is a self-supporting

Christian Minority Society School. Your children and their fees are in safe hands.

We have been sending umpteen reminders to some of you about the school fee dues, but we don't get any response from you. Kindly note that if you do not pay the full quarter's fees along with the due amount on or before 31st of August, 2021 (or submit a valid request letter stating that you will pay later) , the school management may be forced to discontinue your child's name in the Attendance Registers and fill that gap with other paying candidates as we are required to balance our school budget.

5. Textbooks

Every student needs to have his/her textbooks, without which it is difficult for the teachers to teach. Our School Textbooks are available only till 31st August 2021. The Bookstore shall be opened during the following timings:

Sunday : 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon & 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Monday – Thursday: 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Friday : 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. only

6. Board Exams for classes 10 & 12

From the 2021-2022 academic year, Classes 10 & 12 will have Board Exams twice a year. The first semester exams will be conducted around November/December.

For these exams, only 50% of the syllabuses will be included. These exams will be conducted online and the same will be based on Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ). We have highly qualified, experienced and competent subject specialists preparing our students for first semester Board Examinations which is going to be quite similar to NEET & JEE. Hence, they may also focus on preparing the students for NEET and JEE entrance examinations while training our students for the Council Exams. I am sure our students will benefit greatly and appear confidently for the entrance examinations conducted by NTA.

7. Final Board Exams for Classes 10 & 12

Final Board Exams for classes 10 & 12 will be conducted around March/April. For the Final Exams, the remaining 50% of the syllabus will be included. The type of questions for the final exams will be intimated later on .

8. Conduct of Half-Yearly and Annual Exams for all Classes except Classes 10 & 12

Half-Yearly and Annual Exams for all classes except classes 10 & 12 will be conducted either online/offline. It depends on the Covid-19 situation and the government's guidance. We shall inform you about Half-yearly and Annual exams and syllabuses later on.

9. Suggestions/Recommendations

If you have any suggestions/recommendations to be made concerning online/offline classes/exams, etc, kindly meet the respective class teachers/Supervisors/HMs, etc.

Kindly help us to fulfill the dreams and aspirations of your children through our commitment. God bless

Sincerely,

Sd/-

Dr. G. Immanuel
Principal

NEP 2020 : MAJOR CHANGES IN SCHOOL EDUCATION

No	Existing Structure	No	Changed Structure
1	<p style="text-align: center;">10+2 system</p> <p>2-6 years Nur, Jr.KG & Sr.KG (this system exists only in private schools)</p> <p>6 years to 16 years Std. I - X</p> <p>10 years to 18 years Std.XI & XII</p>	1	<p style="text-align: center;">5+3+3+4 system</p> <p>Foundational Stage – 5 years 3 years -6 years Nur - Sr.KG 6 years -8 years Std.I & II</p> <p>Preparatory stage – 3 years 8 years -11 years Stds.III-V</p> <p>Middle stage – 3 years 11 years - 14 years Stds. VI - VIII</p> <p>Secondary stage – 4 years 14 years - 18 years Stds. IX - XII</p>
2	Right To Education(RTE) : 6 years to 14 years	2	RTE : 3 years to 18 years
3	MHRD	3	Education Ministry
4	Stream selection after Std. 10 Such as Science, Commerce, Arts	4	<p>A student can opt for any subjects of any stream of his/her interest. Eg. He/she can opt for a combination of Physics, History and Accounts.</p> <p>Hence, there is no streams. There will be semester system from 9th to 12th classes</p>
5	Focus on memorization and rote learning	5	<p>Focus on core capacities and adaptive learning.</p> <p>Computer Coding from Std. VI (Chinese model)</p> <p>No more heavy bags for small children.</p> <p>Reducing curriculum of core subject contents including alternate curriculum of other subjects like Indian values, Sanskrit, Yoga, Stories from Panchatantra, Jataka, Hitopadesh, etc.</p> <p>Focus on the physical development through games and activities.</p>
6	School level examinations in all the classes. Board Examinations only for Class X & XII	6	School level examinations only for classes 3,5 & 8. The remaining classes will have only CCE.

			<p>Board exams for classes X & XII. Board exams will test only core concepts.</p> <p>Board exams will be conducted twice in year. One main examination and the other for improvement, if desired.</p> <p>Classes IX & XI will have semester wise examinations in a year.</p> <p>There will be two semesters in a year.</p>
7	No vocational subjects	7	<p>Focus on vocational subjects such as Carpentry, Electric work, Metal work, Pottery making, Gardening, Computer Coding, Painting.</p> <p>Practical\Internship from class 6th onwards.</p>
8	Currently Schools are available to teach in Mother tongue / English	8	<p>Mother tongue to be the medium of instruction until at least grade V, but preferably till grade VIII and beyond. (European model)</p> <p>Sanskrit will be offered at all levels of school and higher education as an important, and enriching option to the students, including as an option in the three-language formula.</p>
9	Progress report cards are based on Scholastic development	9	<p>360^o Report Card will be Comprehensive based on skills + capabilities. These will be assessed not only by teachers, but also by self-assessment and peer assessment.</p> <p>National Assessment centre – PARAKH (Performance Assessment Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development) for standard setting of all the recognized school boards in India.</p>