

## DOOR STEP SCHOOL, MUMBAI

### School on Wheel Project

### Supported by Child Action

### Progress Report for the period of April 2021 to August 2021

**Project title- School on wheels-  
Non formal education for street children and pavement dwellers**



*“Our children were able to continue their study due to Door Step School - School on Wheels during the lockdown” Parents expression.*

### Number of beneficiaries location wise

| Sr. No. | Location  | No of Beneficiaries |
|---------|---|---------------------|
| Sow I   | Obraoi Mall & Film City, Kandivali - Raghulila Mall, Boriwali -Indira Nagar | 111                 |
| SOW II  | Boriwali East -Flower Market, MTNL, Poisar & Tumnipada                      | 131                 |
|         | <b>Total Beneficiaries</b>  | <b>242</b>          |

## **Introduction**

The situation in this year too, at beginning of new academic year was not encouraging for education. With school closures across 188 countries (as of April 2020), many are exploring alternative ways to provide continuous education using technologies such as Internet, TV, and radio. However, access to these technologies is limited in many low- and middle-income countries, especially among poor households.

While more than 90 per cent of the countries adopted digital and/or broadcast remote learning policies, only 60 per cent did so for pre-primary education. [\[†\]](#)

31 per cent of schoolchildren worldwide (463 million) cannot be reached by the broadcast- and Internet-based remote learning policies either due to the lack of necessary technological assets at home, or because they were not targeted by the adopted policies

Online platforms were the most used means by the governments to deliver education while schools remain closed, with 83 per cent of countries using this method. However, this allowed for potentially reaching only about a quarter of schoolchildren worldwide.

***Globally, 3 out of 4 students who cannot be reached by the remote learning policies come from rural areas and/or belong to the poorest households.*** [\[†\]](#)

Considering this data, it is important that countries do not rely on any single remote learning channel to reach all children. The experience at Door Step School using various offline strategies has been pragmatic and effective. It has proven that non formal schooling by taking education to the childrens' doorsteps has been an excellent option to meet the needs of children in need throughout the pandemic.

In fact we have been notified that State Karnataka high court in India has given an order to follow Doorstep School's project for educating children.

## *Story of Change*



*7 years young **Akash Jadhav** residing on pavement near Raghuleela mall Borivali. He has one young brother and both parents.*

*Aakash's parents are uneducated, they live on road side in plastic shanty with no light & electricity. Aakash's father arrested by police for some issues and he is in jail. Aakash and his mother collect garbage from the road to earned & survived. Aakash also takes care of his younger brother when his parents are not around. During class time he used to go to temples & on roads to begs with his younger brother. His mom was also careless about her children not allowing them to come to School on Wheels for study.*

*After long discussion and follow up visits by DSS coordinator and teacher with mother and neighbours, she was convinced to keep the children away from begging and the robbery. Mother was encourage by giving various examples and visit to the classroom for sending the children to school for better future.*

*Akash was persuade by DSS and made him understood the importance of education in one's life. Instead of begging he was encouraged to sell the flowers or garbage bags on signal to earn money. His interest to education was urged by introducing digital learning in classroom. Now Akash discuss with other children in class, he want to become good person in life by completing his education and want to help family. He has reached to level of reading and writing much above his expectation. We are encouraging him to get enrolled to formal school for higher education.*

## ***Major Achievements of Project:***

- 242 children continue to benefit directly from Child Action's Schools on Wheels (SOWs), with more 1000 indirect beneficiaries such as parents, siblings and other stakeholders.
- 55% girls from the streets were impacted through these educational programmes.
- 88% of the children had greater than 50% attendance in class.
- 87% of the children successfully completed the academic year; 13% of children dropped out because their families migrated back to their family home villages.
- Despite a strict lockdown, we still conducted 900 classroom sessions in 1 year.
- Digital learning was the major highlight of the period. Children were enjoying and curious to know more online learning.
- Teachers were provided with 10 android devices which were loaded with educational apps and connectivity. Groups of 10 children were called at a time for about 1 hour learning at a physical classroom and 1 hour of digital learning.
- Academic performance is key achievement in any educational programme but there were a range of additional priorities.
- Knowing how to use mobile applications to further learning was of foremost importance for children.
- The importance of continuing education through digital learning was the primary focus of parent meetings.
- Environment awareness, paper craft, drawing competitions were a few additional activities organized to motivate and to encourage potential skills.
- Mental health awareness sessions were conducted to address current emotional issues of children and parents such as handling anxiety, anger and fear.
- At the beginning of the year, language skills were at a preparatory level for 83% of children. By the end of the year, 54% moved to language level 1 and 32% to level 3 of reading and writing all letters, words and sentences by end of the year.
- In maths at the beginning of the year, 74% of children could not recognise or write numbers; by the end of the year 46% were beyond level 2 and could do simple addition, subtraction and multiplication.
- Awareness on Covid safety measures was part of everyday learning with supply of safety material.
- Teaching online via zoom and google meet, how to open and use learning apps, classroom learnings, refresher training was part of our redesigned teacher training programme.

### **Roshni Gorava (9 years, Location MTNL)**

Young Roshni Gorava, 9 years old living on pavement near Telephone exchange Boriwali. There is no shelter neither any shade as their house. She has three siblings younger to her. Father is alcoholic and mother sells the flowers on street. Being alcoholic father always drunk and beat the children very often. Roshni was regular to SOW class despite of taking care of siblings. She is good in study and used to enjoy learning and mingling around with other children.

The situation has changed and become worsen during the lockdown, when the local authorities has started removing people from the street., she shifted to other location. It was difficult for Roshni to come to school by leaving behind her sister and brothers as well she also needs to look after her household things.

Because of her irregularity SOW coordinator met her mother in flower market, a number of meetings to convince her mother to send Roshni to class which resulted positively. Mother was guided that while going to market; she can drop Roshni and other children to SOW and can pick up returning to home.

Once again Roshni has started learning enthusiast with message if girl learns she will teach the whole family.



## ***Best Classroom Activity - Daily timetable***

### ***Objective –***

***To teach children how to be disciplined and make the best use of their time.***

### ***Process***

- *Each child has prepared their own timetable.*
- *The change has included under the guidance of class teacher*
- *As per new schedule, Children started following the time table like wake up timing, food time, study timings etc.*
- *Same time table has been shared with their parents & parents were equally involved to see whether children are following the same or not.*

### ***Parents Feedback***

- *Parents of 25 children said that they are very happy since their children are well disciplined & mannered.*

### ***Outcome***

- *Children maintained discipline & share their experience with other children.*
- *Children learn good habits through such activities.*



## ***Challenges***

- *The situation is still not normal because of the pandemic, there is still migration and as a result, children drop out from the programme*
- *The program cannot be fully digital because availability of devices and connectivity is a big challenge.*
- *The disturbance of noise outside the class is out of our control which makes it difficult for children to concentrate on study.*
- *Frequent job lost and financial crisis of parents badly affect children learning's.*

Photo Gallery



Shot on Y83 Pro vivo dual camera







