

EDUCATION *Updates*

27 April 2020

SOUTH EAST ASIA

Malaysia, Apr 26 : Noraini: Tertiary students to start returning home in stages from Monday (April 27) [Star]. KUALA LUMPUR - Students stranded in public and private institutions of higher education, polytechnics and community colleges in green zones will start the process of returning home in stages beginning Monday (April 27). [LINK](#)

Malaysia, Apr 26 : Solve e-learning issues, teachers urge [Star]. Issues with the online learning and teaching process has caused students from the low-income group to be left behind, said the National Union of the Teaching Profession (NUTP). [LINK](#)

Philippines, Apr 26 : Start school year in August but no classes in classrooms: private schools [ABS-CBN]. MANILA - A group of private school administrators said Sunday that they are looking at August as a "realistic" month to start the next school year to avoid educational institutions from laying off employees or shutting down. [LINK](#)

Singapore, Apr 25 : Circuit breaker tough on special needs children, but parents find creative ways to cope [CNA]. When the "circuit breaker" measures were announced on Apr 3, Cindie Tay told her son he could not visit the nearby minimart to buy his snacks any more. [LINK](#)

Singapore, Apr 24 : Coronavirus: All six local universities will let fresh graduates continue learning for free to access more jobs [Straits Times]. From May, 16,000 fresh graduates from the six autonomous universities will be able to take four continuing education and training (CET) modules offered by their alma mater for free. [LINK](#)

Singapore, Apr 22 : Coronavirus: June school holidays brought forward to May 5 [Straits Times]. June school holidays will be brought forward to begin on May 5, to coincide with the one-month extension of the national circuit breaker period announced yesterday. [LINK](#)

Singapore, Apr 22 : How education system changes can help more kids succeed [Straits Times]. There is more to education than getting good grades. Recent changes to Singapore's education system aim to allow children to find joy in learning and to succeed beyond academics. [LINK](#)

Singapore, Apr 21 : Singapore extends 'circuit breaker' partial lockdown measures until June 1 [CNBC]. Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said on Tuesday that partial lockdown measures to

stem the spread of the coronavirus in the country will be extended by four weeks to June 1. [LINK](#)

EUROPE

Austria, Apr 24 : Austria will reopen schools with split classes next month [Reuters]. VIENNA - Austria, which is loosening its coronavirus lockdown, said on Friday that most pupils will go back to school on May 18, with classes split in two groups that will each attend lessons half the week to ensure their desks are far enough apart. [LINK](#)

France, Apr 26 : Older French school kids should wear masks: advisory body [Reuters] PARIS - French school children aged 11-18 should wear masks to help curb the spread of the coronavirus, the scientific council advising the government on the pandemic said on Saturday. [LINK](#)

France, Apr 23 : French school reopenings will be voluntary: President [CNA]. PARIS - Parents will not have to return their children to French schools when classes resume beginning May 11, when officials hope to start easing the coronavirus lockdown in place since mid-March, the presidency said Thursday (Apr 23). [LINK](#)

Germany, Apr 20 : With COVID-19 'under control', Germany begins opening up [CNA]. BERLIN - Germany takes its first steps back towards normality on Monday (Apr 20), with smaller shops in some regions opening up for the first time in a month after politicians declared the coronavirus "under control". [LINK](#)

Netherlands, Apr 21 : Experts advise Dutch government to reopen primary schools [Reuters]. THE HAGUE - The experts advising the Netherlands on handling the coronavirus outbreak on Tuesday advised the government to reopen day care facilities and primary schools, documents released by broadcaster NOS showed. [LINK](#)

Norway, Apr 20 : Norway begins reopening nurseries after month-long closure due to COVID-19 [CNA]. OSLO - Norway, which says it has COVID-19 under control, on Monday (Apr 20) started opening up pre-schools after a month-long closure, an AFP correspondent reported. [LINK](#)

Sweden, Apr 22 : Sweden eyes benefits of spurning lockdown in the face of pandemic [CNA]. STOCKHOLM - While much of Europe remained in lockdown, students played table tennis and made weekend plans at Kunskapsskolan, one of many Swedish schools kept open in a country that bucked the global trend of severe shutdowns to fight the coronavirus pandemic. [LINK](#)

EUROPE (CONT.)

Poland, Apr 24 : Poland extends school lockdown until May 24 [Reuters]. WARSAW - Poland's government is to extend the closure of schools, and pre-schools by a month, until May 24, Education Minister Dariusz Piatkowski said on Friday. [LINK](#)

UK, Apr 19 : UK minister says no decision on reopening schools has been taken [Reuters]. LONDON - British education minister Gavin Williamson said on Sunday that no decision had been taken on when to reopen schools, as the coronavirus lockdown enters a fourth week. [LINK](#)

ASIA PACIFIC

Australia, Apr 21 : Road to recovery: Australia eases restrictions as COVID-19 spread slows [CNA]. SYDNEY - Declaring Australia was on the road to recovery with new coronavirus infections almost stamped out, Prime Minister Scott Morrison said on Tuesday (Apr 21) that hospitals will resume many elective surgeries and schools will be re-opened for more children. [LINK](#)

Japan, Apr 20 : Coronavirus crisis offers chance to update Japanese schools [Japan Times]. When Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced the sudden closure of schools at the end of February amid concerns over the spread of COVID-19, teachers and parents alike were left scrambling for alternatives to classroom learning. [LINK](#)

Hong Kong, Apr 24 : Masked Hong Kong students take final school exams after COVID-19 delay. [CNA]. Thousands of Hong Kong students were among the first in the world to take their final secondary school exams on Friday (Apr 24), all wearing face masks and having their temperatures checked after being stuck at home for months due to the COVID-19 outbreak. [LINK](#)

South Korea, Apr 26 : Universities refuse to refund tuition [Korea Times]. Colleges have decided to not refund tuition despite facing growing calls from students as classes are being disrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the association of university presidents Sunday. [LINK](#)

South Korea, Apr 26 : Old working habits die hard? Pandemic will break the norm [Korea Times]. More People worldwide are being forced to adjust to new ways of working and studying in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. [LINK](#)

South Korea, Apr 24 : Online learning goes mainstream as new normal [Korea Times]. Seven-year-old Lee Sae-ran was supposed to become a first grader at Eulji Elementary School in Seoul in March at the start of the new school year. [LINK](#)

AMERICAS

Canada, Apr 21 : Education community mourns death of teacher during a deadly mass shooting [Education International]. Nineteen people were

killed in a shooting rampage in Nova Scotia, a maritime province in Eastern Canada. [LINK](#)

El Salvador, Apr 23 : El Salvador student takes to treetops to pick up signal for online classes [Reuters]. ATIQUEZAYA - When Alexander Contreras and his father planted a guava tree next to their house in rural El Salvador six years ago, he never dreamed that beyond providing shade and food, it would become key to his college education. [LINK](#)

USA, Apr 23 : Coronavirus school shutdowns threaten to deepen U.S. 'digital divide' [Reuters]. Liz Peasley, a special education aide in the rural Grand Coulee Dam School District in Washington State, drives 10 miles from her home on the Colville Indian Reservation just to get a workable cellphone signal. [LINK](#)

USA, Apr 20 : 'Schools are survival': U.S. coronavirus closures put homeless students at risk [Reuters]. WASHINGTON - For U.S. student Samantha Kinney, high school is about more than education: It has also given her a support network, a sense of accomplishment — and, at times, even access to daily necessities like food and hygiene products. [LINK](#)

EDUCATION ARTICLES

Apr 26 : World Intellectual Property Day: Open access to research and educational resources for educators and researchers is imperative during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond [Education International]. On World Intellectual Property Day, 26 April, Education International calls for copyright legislation to be urgently updated to ensure open access to research and education materials for teachers and researchers across the world. [LINK](#)

Apr 24 : Technology Is Here to Help and Will Stay for the Future [Jakarta Globe]. The world is in a race to respond to Covid-19. This pandemic has disrupted and continues to disrupt societies. [LINK](#)

Apr 24 : 4 Key Aspects of Teaching an Online [Edutopia]. What an educator with experience teaching online has learned about structuring students' online and offline experiences and how to provide feedback to keep the learning going. [LINK](#)

Apr 23 : Coursera offers 100 free online classes taught by universities, tech giants [Jakarta Post]. American learning platform Coursera is now offering 100 free online classes for those who wish to expand their knowledge while in self-quarantine. [LINK](#)

Apr 23 : How to Make Effective Videos for Learning [Edutopia]. Instructional videos can help students learn at their own pace and free up time for teachers to support students individually. [LINK](#)

Apr 20 : Tips for parents [Straits Times]. Epidemiologist and paediatrician Lim Hong Huay advised parents, especially those with special needs children, not to stress themselves too much. [LINK](#)