

 교육부	<h1>Press Release</h1>	 대한민국 대전환 한국판뉴딜
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Publishing White Paper Titled

‘2020 Education Response to COVID-19’

- ◆ Put together educational responses to the sudden eruption of COVID-19 in 2020 to keep students learning and to get ready for future education.
- ◆ Provided cases of such responses from last year as practical references to those in the field amid the ongoing pandemic

- The Ministry of Education (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Yoo Eun-hae) publishes a white paper titled ‘*2020 Education Response to COVID-19*’ on Monday, May 10th. The publication contains the progress and assessment of the COVID-19 response made from the outbreak of the novel virus to the end of last year.
- This white paper has put together records of the COVID-19 responses in a systematic manner to show how the government, schools, families,

and experts from the relevant fields worked together in the face of the unprecedented pandemic crisis, with a common aim of securing the safety and health of students and also of supporting uninterrupted learning for students.

- While the pandemic persists, the Ministry of Education (MoE) is publishing an interim white paper on the topic to share the experience of joint efforts from all the educational agents against the abrupt spread of the virus last year. According to MoE, once the crisis comes to an end, the Ministry plans to issue a comprehensive white paper, building on the interim paper.
- To guarantee objectivity in writing up the COVID-19 response and its policy implementation process, a research team was organized of the Korean Educational Development Institute (President RYU Bang Ran) and related experts for this white paper; and
- It is to ascertain key takeaways in the subsectors for the education responses and to generate materials needed to effectively cope with not only with the present crisis but also a similar future infectious disease situation.
- The education response materials for 2020 against the pandemic will be handed out to metropolitan and provincial offices of education and their district offices, universities, and more. They can be freely viewed and downloaded at Nuri Compilation of the Ministry website (www.moe.go.kr).

together with the corresponding social distancing level.

- * ❶ Period after the first confirmed case of COVID-19 (Jan. 20, 2020~Aug. 22, 2020)
- ❷ Period after raising Social Distancing to Level 2 nationwide (Aug. 23, 2020~Nov. 18, 2020)
- ❸ Period after raising Social Distancing to Level 1.5 within Seoul Metropolitan Area (Nov. 19, 2020~Dec. 15, 2020)

- The course of actions taken against COVID-19 is divided into 11 areas* for readers to view the measures in each area from multiple angles.

* Response system, academic management (standard establishment and implementation), disease control and prevention system for schools, pan-government management for foreign students, childcare support, online school opening preparation and implementation, emergency on-site communication system, international cooperation, tests, budget support and compensation, and future education.

- The following is the main content of the education response against COVID-19 in 2020.

【Academic management: Bold attempt for uninterrupted learning】

- For 5.34 million elementary, middle, high school students, MoE had an online school opening for the first time with a conviction that learning must go on even in the spread of COVID-19, and also exerted a multilateral effort to enable 4.3 hundred thousand test-takers to take the 2021 College Scholastic Ability Test (CSAT), including those confirmed of COVID-19, in a safe environment.

- These unforeseen all-out online classes were a challenge to all teachers, students, and parents, but with continuous efforts made through trial and error online classes gradually achieved maturity and stability as real-time interactive online classes expanded* and teaching materials produced by teachers became common in the classes**.

* Rate of real-time interactive classes (1st semester) 14.8% → (2nd semester) 55.7%

** Rate of teacher-produced teaching and studying materials in the online classes 75.3%

【Disease control at school: Strict measures to ensure the health and safety of students】

- As at-school classes resumed after May 2020, student safety was given top priority, and educational authorities and disease control authorities together with those at schools exerted their all-out efforts in disease control and prevention at schools.
- While providing enough protective gears such as masks and hand sanitizers*, MoE continued to remedy shortcomings in the COVID-19 school operation guidelines gathering opinions from experts and those on-site and collaborated with metropolitan and provincial education offices and local governments to equip every private teaching institute, *Hak-won*, which is frequently used by students, with a disease control and prevention system.

* Stockpiling protective gears (2nd semester) : Number of face masks per student 6.1 (37.57 million), number of hand sanitizers per classroom 6.4 (1.78 million)

【Childcare and budget support: Thoroughly supporting the people to lessen their burden】

- Pan-governmental measures were carried out to resolve the childcare and education vacuum caused by COVID-19. Emergency childcare services till 19:00 and lunches were provided at kindergartens, elementary and special schools, and special childcare expenses (200,000 KRW per elementary school student) and distance learning funds (150,000 KRW per middle school student) were dispended.
- Moreover, MoE tried to lessen the people's financial burdens on education due to COVID-19—The first year of high school education was provided free of charge ahead of the schedule for free high school education, which reduced the related education costs up to 1,600,000 KRW per year, and the interest rate for a student loan was lowered from 2.2% to 1.85%.

【Response system and on-site communication: Getting through it together in close communication】

- The process of educational response to COVID-19 was a course of continued cooperation and communication between all the parties concerned including metropolitan and provincial offices of education, universities; relevant ministries such as Disease Control and Prevention Agency, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Ministry of Justice; experts in

the areas of medicine, disease control and prevention, and information technology (IT); and private institutions.

- On the other hand, fully aware that empathy and engagement on-site are key to overcoming the COVID-19 crisis, MoE strived for continual communication with those in the field. To this end, MoE held 27 on-site meetings, 43 nationwide briefings, field assistance to universities on foreign students (serving 468 universities thus far).

【Future Education: ‘Turning Crisis into Opportunity,’ New Challenge for Future Education】

- To get ready for a great transformation in education into the future, MoE made out the values and direction for future education by way of 16 times of discussion and dialogue with educational entities such as students, parents, faculty, superintendents of education, university presidents, and research institutes.
- This has been instrumental in further stressing the principle of universal education, which leaves no student behind, while prioritizing the safety and health of students and carrying on learning and growth in any circumstance.
- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Yoo Eun-hae emphasized that “To ensure student safety, MoE will spare no effort in disease control until the COVID-19 pandemic ends without putting guard

down.”

- Deputy PM stated that “with the publication of the interim white paper, the prospect for future education found in the COVID-19 crisis will be further pushed for realization.”

