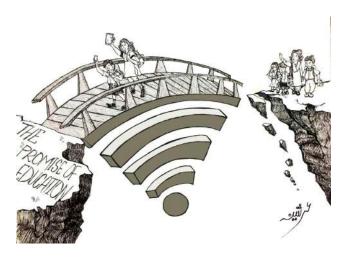


We hope that in these difficult times you and your loved ones are healthy. As the world grapples with the current impact and future implications of Covid-19, Teach For Pakistan has a renewed sense of urgency about our mission to nurture the leadership it will take to build an equitable, safe and joyful world.

Since March 13, when the virus spiked, schools closed and economic activity came to a halt, Teach For Pakistan has rallied to understand and respond to the needs of the most vulnerable children and families. Working closely with each other, parents and school-community partners, Fellows are weaving safety nets to protect their students from the potentially devastating impact of Covid-19 on their well-being, learning and continued education, so that when schools reopen, they can go further, faster. The adaptability, ingenuity and collective leadership we have been witnessing gives us tremendous hope for Pakistan's future, and we are writing today to share that hope with you.

Given that **80%** of our students' families are dependent entirely or in part on daily wages, Fellows have taken a phased approach in their support.



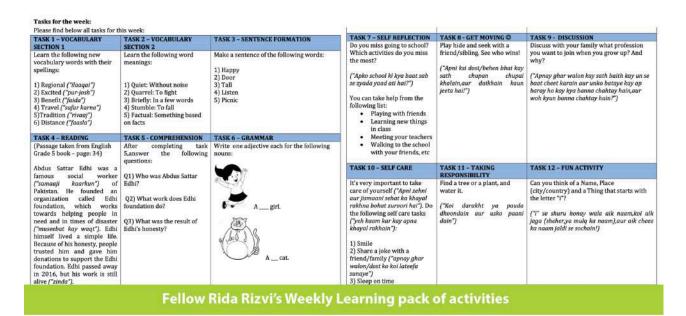
Fellow Arsheena Gowani captures in a sketch the digital divide that Fellows are overcoming to keep their students safe and learning



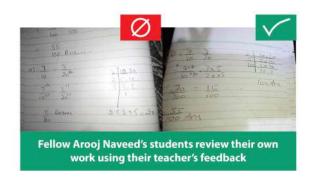
Staff Member Zohra Moazzam's illustration symbolizes our organizational response to Covid-19 for students.

- Delivering critical health information. Fellows first acted to ensure that students and their families have accurate knowledge to deal with COVID-19 and that students play a leadership role in ensuring others in their communities are also informed and able to respond to this pandemic effectively. Given limited access to the internet and ability to read, Fellows have curated and created relevant information and content in Urdu and Pashto, and disseminated that to parents and students via SMS, phone calls and WhatsApp messages.
- Providing Food Rations. Knowing that children cannot learn when their basic needs for food and security are unmet, Fellows mobilized their individual networks to raise funds, procure supplies, and organize ration distributions amongst the households and communities severely debilitated by the crisis. They have independently raised over Rs. 1.81 million for basic supplies for 1,059 families from rural communities in Islamabad and in their own hometowns across Pakistan. They continue to receive tremendous support in these efforts, especially from Chiraagh, Corona Solidarity Campaign, Green Volunteers and Chadar.
- Collecting Data for Remote Learning Design. A rapid, two-week assessment of students' technology access for remote learning commenced. Watch 2019 Fellow Rabiah Chaudhry describe how teachers are leveraging community resources to try and reach every child. The data collected so far shows that 60% of our students are accessible right now. Out of those who teachers can reach, about 61% have access to a smartphone, 35% can access an SMS-enabled phone, and 4% cannot access a phone for learning.

• Ensuring that Learning Continues Remotely. Leaning into the challenge of teaching remotely with uneven and limited tech access, Fellows have identified specific learning outcomes in Maths, English, Science and Social Studies that they are working with students on while schools are closed. With help from parents, Fellows have established learning routines for children: Targeted content that Fellows develop is being delivered to students via WhatsApp and SMS. Students are engaging with the content, and practicing the skills and knowledge through assigned tasks, and submitting the completed assignments back to teachers for feedback. For students who do not have reliable access to WhatsApp, SMS and/or a phone, Fellows are designing special units and content packs that are physically delivered to the students, in cooperation with community members and school staff. Read on for some examples of the different shapes this teaching and learning is taking right now.



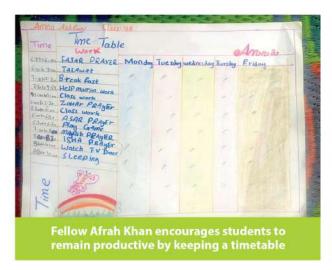
2019 Fellow Rida Rizvi distributes weekly 'Learning Packs' though WhatsApp, planning for days when parents can top up their 3G credit to download and upload work.



2018 Fellow Arooj Naveed holds daily classes on WhatsApp for her 18 students and shares live feedback as students share their answers in the group. With the help of the voice messages, students apply their teacher's feedback and send corrected versions of their work.



Fellows Ayesha Jamshaid and Dania Khalil created WhatsApp and SMS content for subjects they teach but they were concerned about students missing out on Urdu and Islamiyat learning. So they reached out to 3 other teachers from their school and helped them organize and produce additional subject content.





• **Providing Emotional Support.** Because children are under unprecedented emotional strain, particularly without nurturing and supportive classrooms, Fellows are working into learning routines **special exercises**, **games and activities** that give them structure critical to their cognitive development, connect them to their friends, help them process anxiety, instil self-care and community-care habits, and – most importantly, keep them hopeful about their future and committed to their learning and life-goals.

Each week, we will share stories of such micro acts of collective from teachers, students and parents, in hopes that they will inspire educators everywhere to embrace the challenge of providing customized learning and holistic support to kids from disadvantaged backgrounds during COVID-19 and beyond. There is simply too much at stake for us not to act.

In the meanwhile, I wish you a blessed Ramzan. I hope that as you plan your charitable giving now, and in coming months, you will **donate to Teach For Pakistan**, which relies on your support to ensure that our children can continue learning and feeling safe in these uncertain times.

With warm regards, Team Teach For Pakistan

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