EFFECTIVENESS OF MODULAR DISTANCE LEARNING

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The Department of Health declared the first Covid-19 case in the country last January 30, 2020. It was reported that the 38-year-old woman travelled from Wuhan, China to Philippines. From there, the threat for the health of ourselves and our loved ones started.

With conversations and conferences done by the management of the Department of Education with our President Rodrigo Duterte, school year 2020-2021 officially started last October 5, 2020. Whereas, the implementation of Learning Delivery Modalities in schools showed success with the students learning at the comfort of their homes and with their own pace.

One of the LDMs offered is Modular Distance Learning (MDL) wherein the students are provided with Self-Learning Modules (SLM) either in print or in digital form. In lieu to that, MDL is also the most popular type of Distance Learning due to its accessibility compared to the other types of DL. As well, additional learning resources such as Learner’s Materials, textbooks, activity sheets, study guides, lectures, and other study materials if necessary and available.

MDL could be sometimes difficult for learners due to the fact that they do not have their classmates and their teachers around like what they are used to with. However through the use of mobile phones, they may seek assistance and clarify queries via phone class and text messages. The teachers gladly respond while giving an alternative and much simpler approach with the directions included in the SLMs.
Since learning no longer takes place in the school premises, parents and guardians play a vital role in the continuous education of the learners. They pose as the home facilitators in order to guide the child in answering the provided SLMs. With that, rapport and connection with their parent or guardian is being strengthened whilst gaining a sense of responsibility in accomplishing the tasks provided in the SLMs.

This pandemic might have caused mishaps, but catering of education for the Filipino learners won’t stop. The Government of the Philippines, Department of Education, parents, guardians and the students are all working together to adapt with this sudden shift and overcome the challenges brought by Covid-19 pandemic.

References:

Tropical Medicine and Health, First COVID-19 infections in the Philippines: a case report, April 2020
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7154063/

Learning Delivery Modalities Course 2 (LDM2) for Teachers