

## CORONASYS INNOVATION SHEET 38

### TV SCHOOLING

#### Background

Homeschooling has been a challenge for parents and caretakers all over the world since the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic interrupted education systems in an unprecedented manner<sup>12</sup>. Against the background of high infection rates and the virus mutant recently discovered, the United Kingdom imposed a new strict lockdown on its citizens<sup>3</sup>. After opening the schools again in summer and autumn they are now forced to close again posing renewed challenges to education<sup>45</sup>.

#### Features

Because not all pupils in the United Kingdom have access to the internet and online learning tools, BBC and some other television networks will broadcast educational programs for several hours per day during the lockdown. Since Monday, January 4, 2021, three hours of primary school lessons will be broadcasted every day, plus at least two hours for secondary school pupils<sup>67</sup>. Mexico had adopted a similar approach early in the pandemic to support students without internet access. The Mexican government cooperated with several networks to produce a comprehensive set of lessons for all grade levels and broadcast those lessons via TV and radio<sup>8</sup>.

**State of information:** 01/07/2021

**Launch:** 01/04/2021

**Country:** United Kingdom

**Focus area:** Education

**Developers:** BBC

**Beneficiaries:** Pupils in the UK

#### Potentials

TV-based education could help to reach students who do not have sufficient access to online learning tools.

#### Points to consider

Since television does not really allow for interactive and participatory learning, online tools will remain an important part of remote learning. This is why some experts are demanding a cut of internet fees and the distribution of laptops and other devices to help low-income families in the UK to enable their children to take part in remote learning<sup>9</sup>. Obviously, none of the remote learning techniques can fully replace the face-to-face teaching in schools where pupils can also socially engage with their classmates.

#### Conclusion

The TV education might be an addition to existing remote learning techniques and devices but it certainly cannot fully substitute online tools or even face-to-face teaching in schools.

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<sup>1</sup> UNESCO. “Education: From Disruption to Recovery.” UNESCO, March 4, 2020. <https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse>.

<sup>2</sup> WHO, and UNICEF. “Considerations-for-School-Related-Public-Health-Measures-in-COVID-19-20201-1.Pdf,” September 14, 2020. <https://covid19humanitarian-rwla.temp-dns.com/covid19db/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Considerations-for-school-related-public-health-measures-in-COVID-19-20201-1.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> Deutsche Welle. “Coronavirus: Boris Johnson Orders New Lockdown for England | DW | 04.01.2021.” DW.COM, January 4, 2021. <https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-boris-johnson-orders-new-lockdown-for-england/a-56128556>.

<sup>4</sup> Wirtschaft.com. “Boris Johnson announces closure of school as part of stricter virus measures.” Nachrichten zur Wirtschaft - aktuelle Wirtschaftsnachrichten. Accessed January 7, 2021. <https://wirtschaft.com/boris-johnson-announces-closure-of-school-as-part-of-stricter-virus-measures/>.

<sup>5</sup> Coughlan, Sean. “Thousands of Primary Pupils Face Closed Schools.” BBC News, January 4, 2021, sec. Family & Education. <https://www.bbc.com/news/education-55525681>.

<sup>6</sup> Ärzteblatt, Deutscher Ärzteverlag GmbH, Redaktion Deutsches. “BBC sendet täglich Schulfernsehen während Lockdowns.” Deutsches Ärzteblatt, January 6, 2021. <https://www.aerzteblatt.de/nachrichten/119909/BBC-sendet-taeglich-Schulfernsehen-waehrend-Lockdowns>.

<sup>7</sup> Mast, Noa Lara. “British Broadcasting Corporation unterstützt Kinder im Homeschooling.” Nau. Accessed January 7, 2021. <https://www.nau.ch/news/europa/british-broadcasting-corporation-unterstutzt-kinder-im-homeschooling-65847595>.

<sup>8</sup> Rivers, Matt, Karol Suarez, and Natalie Gallón. “Mexico Launches School Broadcasts on Television and Radio for Kids - CNN.” CNN, August 27, 2020. <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/08/22/americas/mexico-covid-19-classes-on-tv-intl/index.html>.

<sup>9</sup> Kelion, Leo. “Online Schooling: Calls to Cut Data Fees during Covid Lockdowns - BBC News,” January 6, 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-55544196>.

### **Background on Innovation Sheet Series**

As part of a real-time evaluation of the SARS CoV 2 pandemic (with focus on epidemiological, medical, economical, societal, technical, and cultural developments in Germany and Armenia) the CoronaSys research team, under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Martin Voss, is conducting a continuous monitoring of developments and medical, technical, and social innovations concerning Covid-19.

Multiple national and international media outlets, research platforms, and scientific and organizational guidelines, briefs, and updates are screened to feed into this outlet. The rationale behind this is to support the projects' network partners in Armenia and Germany with short summaries of key developments and promising innovations that are shaping the global, German, and Armenian outbreak response and recovery.

The aim of these short briefs is to give condensed and structured information on selected innovations emerging out of the conducted horizon scanning. This could be mainstream big-ticket items or fringe subjects that are easily overlooked in the global flood of information. Some innovations will be followed through their evolution in time while others may only appear once. While subjectively selected, the briefs are descriptive in nature and leave analysis and critical interpretation to the reader. Network partners in both countries are invited to provide feedback on their interest areas and suggest particularly relevant topics for the CoronaSys Workshop series.

The CoronaSys Innovation Sheet Series is published by the [Academy of the Disaster Research Unit](#), which is, as a non-profit limited liability company, a spin-off of the [Disaster Research Unit](#) at the Free University of Berlin. The series is part of the research project "[CoronaSys](#): Addressing the corona pandemic in Armenia through systemic risk management", sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

*If you have any questions, suggestions, or if you wish to be taken on (or off) the project mailing list for CoronaSys updates, innovation sheets, and workshop invitations, please send a message to Janina Schäfer ([schaefer@a-kfs.de](mailto:schaefer@a-kfs.de)). For general project inquiries, you may contact the team lead Sara Merkes ([merkes@a-kfs.de](mailto:merkes@a-kfs.de)) or the project lead Martin Voss ([voss@a-kfs.de](mailto:voss@a-kfs.de)).*

### Previous CoronaSys Innovation Sheets

- 1 "New" Antiviral Face Masks
- 2 "Dyphox" Surface Coating
- 3 MOVES SLC Portable ICU
- 4 Portable TRI- KLEEN 500UV
- 5 Convalescent Plasma Therapy
- 6 ASIC-App
- 7 BinaxNOW Antigen Test
- 8 Corona Traffic Light
- 9 Aproof at Home Antibody Test
- 10 IVAT Hygiene Tower
- 11 LY-CoV555 Antibody Treatment
- 12 4C Mortality Score
- 13 Regional Corona Prediction Model
- 14 Computer-designed Mini- Proteins
- 15 Covid-19 Simulator
- 16 Trimodulin
- 17 BNT162b2-Vaccine
- 18 SARS-COV-2 Rapidplex
- 19 European Corona- Map
- 20 FELUDA Paper Strip Test
- 21 Humanitarian Action Mapping Tool
- 22 IKKA Score
- 23 WHO Digital Implementation Investment Guide
- 24 RCCE Toolkit
- 25 Cough-Analyzing App
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- 28 Lucira™ COVID-19 All-In-One Test Kit
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- 30 AI-Epidemiology-Model
- 31 Solar- Powered Steam Generator
- 32 Gradian CCV
- 33 Rapid Hospital Readiness Checklist
- 34 School Reopening Checklist
- 35 CURIAL AI Screening Test
- 36 Prioritization Roadmap
- 37 Ellume Test

All previous CoronaSys Innovation Sheets are available online:

<http://coronasys.a-kfs.de/category/innovation-stream/>

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