



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION V – BICOL
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF CATANDUANES
San Andrea West District
CATAGBACAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Embracing the New Normal in DepEd

by: Lilibeth B. Manlagñit

Accepting challenge is not easy amidst pandemic.

Two weeks before the opening of Limited Face to Face Classes, school heads, teachers, learning support aide (LSA), parents and other stakeholders are busy in the preparation of the school following the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) Guidelines and School Safety Assessment Tool (SSAT). The Division Memorandum # 95, s. 2022 dated February 24, 2022, on the Conduct of Limited Face to Face Classes reiterated the start on March 7, 2022 with 86 schools in the division of Catanduanes in which Catagbacan Elementary School is one of the schools listed compliant with the SSAT.

Prior to the opening of the limited face to face classes, meeting was held with the barangay officials to disseminate informations regarding the School Safety Assessment Tool (SSAT). During the orientation queries about the SSAT were answered and given clarification.

With all the preparation and assistance given by the District Composite Team headed by our Officer In-Charge, Office of the Public Schools District Supervisor Mrs. Marisol T. Lim, Catagbacan Elementary School made it and is compliant with the SSAT. The offered schedule of classes are based on the guidelines, from Kindergarten to Grades 3- Monday to Wednesday to start at 7:30 to 10:30 in the morning, three hours a day and three times a week. The classes were divided into two groups or set, one group/set is for morning session and the other one is afternoon session and compost of 12 pupils per session. The afternoon session will start at 1:00 up to 4:00 p.m. while for grades 4-6, the schedule is from Wednesday to Friday four (4) hours a day from 7:30 to 11:30 with a maximum of 20 pupils per grade level. The remaining two days of each grade is for conduct of modular distance learning.

The pupils are now excited in going to school to meet their classmates and friends for the first face to face classes. The parents are thankful for this for they know that the teachers are more knowledgeable in giving instructions to the learners on different subject areas.

With all these situations mentioned, priority on health protocols should be given for the face to face classes. It should be properly monitored for the safety and security of all teachers and learners.