Attendance register can be a tool to reduce drop out in primary education

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A need-based NGO that works with hard to reach and marginalized communities in Bangladesh
Established in 2002, Friendship works to restore the dignity of marginalized communities delivering effective development solutions a holistic needs-based approach.
Our Vision
A world where people, especially the hard to reach and unaddressed, will have equal opportunity to live with dignity and hope.
Where Do We Work?

- Since 2002, we have been working in northern river islands (locally known as ‘chars’) that change their shapes round the year.
- Later Friendship expanded its work in southern coastal belt areas that are, in most cases, far from the other developed regions.
Friendship developed the ‘Integrated Development Model’ to provide a holistic way of uplifting the quality of life of the ultra poor and disaster prone communities. The model operates by providing integrated support in healthcare, education, sustainable economic development, disaster risk management, good governance and cultural preservation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>78</th>
<th>Primary School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>Adult Learning Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>distant Secondary school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) Proximity to community homes
2) Least threat of river erosion
3) Land above flood line, away from ponds
4) Easy commute for students
Primary School
Distant Secondary Education

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Adult & Adolescent Functional Literacy Programme
Why dropout is a big concern?

2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Expected</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrolment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dropout</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Action Framework to Reduce Dropout (AFRD)

- Absenteeism tracking (AT)
- Mobilize parents (MT)
- Connecting services beyond school (CSBS)
- Creativity for quality education (CQE)
Friendship Action Framework to reduce dropout (AFRD)

Absenteism tracking (AT) using attendance register

Identify reason for absent and take necessary action

Home visit

Connect with services beyond school (CSBS), i.e.: health care, income generation etc.

Mobilize Parents (MP) through one to one motivation and group meeting

Reduce dropout from school

Creativity for Quality Education (CQE)
Action Framework to Reduce Dropout (AFRD)

Absenteeism tracking (AT)
Attendance register book: Monitoring absenteeism to reduce dropout rate
## Attendance register

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>January</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ID#</td>
<td>SL#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>001</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>002</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>003</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Let's take today's attendance:

- Ruhul Kuddus: Present
- Fatema Begam: Absent

‘P’ = Present
‘A’ = Absent. But instead we mention actual cause of absence:

- Fatema Begam is absent. Teacher she is sick.

I hope it is nothing too serious. Hope she will join us tomorrow.

‘S’ for sick
‘T’ for travelling
‘W’ for work
‘O’ for others

This enabled effective follow up of absenteeism.
Self-Attendance
Digital Students' Record
Action Framework to Reduce Dropout (AFRD)

Mobilize parents (MT)
Mobilizing Parents
On way school during Flood
Action Framework to Reduce Dropout (AFRD)

Creativity for Quality Education
Creativity for Quality Education

Interactive education

Use of Map
Listen to Learn

Use a speaker to listen.
Portable Library
Cultural Preservation
Action Framework to Reduce Dropout (AFRD)

Connecting Services beyond School
Connecting services beyond school (Health, Income, Legal)
Friendship Cluster village for Homeless due to Disaster
Vocational Training and Employment Generation
Legal Aid, Income generation, Water and Relief
Objective of this study

The Main objective of this study is:

- To examine the effectiveness of the Action Framework to Reduce Dropout (AFRD) in primary schools.
- Personal and Familial reasons of student
- 78 Friendship schools

Specific objectives:
- To assess the effectiveness of the Action Framework to:
  1. Increase enrollment
  2. Improve attendance
  3. Reduce drop out of students from school
Methodology

- Action research study
- School-based and Teacher-initiated.
- Systematically collecting data from schools’ attendance records
- Analyzed to some conclusions and future direction.
- It involved a self-reflective cycle: situation or problem, planning, acting, observing the processes and consequences, then re-planning, and so forth.
Methodology

- **Data**: 78 Primary school
- **Location**: 04 districts
  - Gaibandha, Kurigram, Patuakhali and Satkhira in Bangladesh
- **Instrumental**: The continuing students and teachers
- **Period**: Jan 2014 to Dec, 2015
  - Jan 2013 to Dec data used as baseline.

**The dropout calculation method**

Proportion of students from a cohort enrolled in a given year/grade/schools’ NO longer enrolled in the following schools’ year.
Home visit: Identify and validate reason for absent and take Action

Number of Home visit

- 2013: 117
- 2014: 432
- 2015: 1327

Increased Home visit to follow up

Home visit
Increased Enrolment

Enrollment in Friendship primary school

Year

2013 2014 2015

4451 4661 4927

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Increased Attendance

- 2013: 91.6%
- 2014: 95.5%
- 2015: 96.9%
Reduced Dropout

Year

Percent

2013  17.5
2014  5.0
2015  4.3
Reasons of students dropouts in 2015

- Migrated to other chars (village): 93%
- Early Marriage: 5%
- Work (Child Labor): 2%
Home visit and dropout

- Home visit
- Drop out

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Friendship Action Framework to Reduce Dropout (AFRD)

### 2013

- **Enrolment**
  - Expected: 90.47%
  - Actual: 90.47%
  - Gap: 0%

- **Attendance**
  - Expected: 91.4%
  - Actual: 91.4%
  - Gap: 0%

- **Dropout**
  - Expected: 0.5%
  - Actual: 17.05%
  - Gap: 16.55%

### 2015

- **Enrolment**
  - Expected: 92.75%
  - Actual: 92.75%
  - Gap: 0%

- **Attendance**
  - Expected: 96.5%
  - Actual: 96.5%
  - Gap: 0%

- **Dropout**
  - Expected: 4.44%
  - Actual: 4.44%
  - Gap: 0%
PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

Major Activities …
- Teaching students at school
- School Administration
- Functional Literacy / Adult Education
- Regular Supervision
- Extra Teaching Support for the weaker
- Regular and Periodic Monitoring
- Teachers’ Training
- Capacity Building
- SMC Meeting
- Parents Meeting
- Students’ Assessment and Evaluation
- Listen to Learn
- Module Development for Training
- Community Mobilization
- Communication with Stakeholders
- Resource Management
- Emergency Responses
- Research and Documentation
- Data Management & Reporting

Infrastructural Activities …
- School Construction
- Construction of Sanitary Latrine
- Tube-well Installation
- Earth Filling for School
- School Shifting in Emergencies
- School Repair and Maintenance

Other Activities …
- Code of Ethics
- Annual Sports
- Exchange/Exposure Visit
- Cultural Activities (singing, drawing)
- School Gardening and Plantation
- Day Observation
- Liaison with GO-NGO
- Wall Magazine
Thank you