

To combat pollution, Gurgaon schools install vertical gardens

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AS DELHI-NCR continues to grapple with poor air quality, schools in Gurgaon have taken multiple measures to try and minimise the adverse impact of pollution on students and staff. Apart from curbing outdoor activities and installing air purifiers, some institutions have also opted to install vertical gardens this year.

Lancers International School, has set up six vertical gardens within its premises for the purpose. Officials said students have been the driving force in this endeavour — they identified a set of houseplants and planted over 1,900 saplings in the gardens. The houseplants chosen include English Ivy, Golden Pothos, Spider plant, and different herbs such as basil and coriander.

At Delhi Public School (DPS) in Sector 45, the process of installing vertical gardens has also commenced. "One was installed a few weeks ago, and several more are planned in the coming weeks," said principal Aditi Misra.

Despite these measures, and in anticipation of the air quality turning worse during Diwali, schools have also started "limiting" outdoor activities.

At Suncity School, students are being encouraged to wear masks

outside to reduce risk of respiratory diseases, and outdoor activities have also been limited. At Lancers school, the Diwali break has been extended by a week.

Meanwhile, Delhi Director of Education Sanjay Goel said they are awaiting directions from the Graded Response Action Plan before issuing directives to schools.

EPCA chairperson Bhure Lal said, "As of now, there is no directive to shut schools, and there is no need to create panic."

<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/delhi/to-combat-pollution-gurgaon-schools-install-vertical-gardens-5433937/>

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