



Kemendikdasmen

Kompleks Kementerian Pendidikan Dasar dan Menengah,
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Press Release

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Education Minister: Schools in Unsafe Areas Should Not Conduct In-Person Learning

Jakarta, 6 September 2026 — The Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education (Kemendikdasmen) has urged all members of the school community to remain calm and prioritize safety and health amid the eruption of Mount Anak Krakatau. Learning arrangements may be adjusted according to local conditions and developments, based on policies set by local governments, which have the best understanding of conditions on the ground.

Minister of Primary and Secondary Education Abdul Mu'ti stressed that the safety of students and teachers must be the main consideration when determining learning arrangements. "Protecting the safety and health of the school community is the priority," he said on Sunday, 6 September.

Mu'ti said areas affected by the eruption and experiencing poor air quality could adjust learning arrangements based on the Air Pollutant Standard Index (ISPU). "In areas affected by the eruption of Mount Anak Krakatau, learning arrangements can be adjusted based on the ISPU. In areas experiencing severe conditions, such as Serang Regency in Banten province and South Lampung Regency in Lampung province, learning can take place at home online or at designated safe locations through distance learning. It does not have to take place at school," Abdul Mu'ti explained.

For areas not directly affected, learning can continue at schools provided strict health protocols are implemented. "For areas that are not directly affected, learning can continue at school by following health protocols, such as wearing masks, avoiding outdoor activities, keeping doors and windows closed, and prioritizing safe teaching and learning activities," Abdul Mu'ti said.

He added that the duration of learning activities could also be adjusted to local conditions. "The length and hours of learning can be adjusted and do not have to follow the full schedule of normal learning activities."

During a disaster, schools are also expected to provide a space that helps students remain calm and prepared.

"Alongside the learning materials, students can be given important information about the importance of safety, remaining calm and maintaining their health, while continuing to follow policy updates from the relevant authorities," he said.

The Education Minister also stressed that decisions on learning arrangements, including distance learning, should follow local conditions and policies set by local governments. "Distance learning can begin as early as tomorrow, in accordance with the authority of the local government, because each region knows its own conditions. Each regency or city can provide updates to the public. We are monitoring developments through the Meteorology, Climatology, and Geophysical Agency (BMKG), because the situation surrounding the eruption is highly dynamic and we cannot yet determine which areas will implement distance learning."



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Abdul Mu'ti reiterated that the safety and health of students and teachers are the top priorities. If the competent authorities declare conditions dangerous, learning should not be conducted at school. If learning does take place, strict health protocols must be followed and outdoor activities should be avoided. For indoor activities, schools should ensure that doors and windows are managed appropriately to prevent ash from entering classrooms.

"In areas that are unsafe, in-person learning at schools is strongly discouraged. However, everything should follow the authority of the local government. We urge teachers and students to follow local government policies. If Jakarta has decided that learning will be conducted online starting tomorrow, everyone must follow that decision," Abdul Mu'ti stressed.

For other areas that have not yet issued a decision, he urged local governments to provide information to the public as soon as possible to help prevent unwanted consequences.

Learning policies during disasters are guided by Minister of Education and Culture Regulation No. 33 of 2019 on the Implementation of the Safe Education Unit for Disaster Program (SPAB); Secretary-General of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology Regulation No. 6 of 2023 on Technical Guidelines for Implementing the SPAB Program; Circular of the Minister of Primary and Secondary Education No. 1 of 2026 on Learning in Education Units Affected by Disasters; and the 2026 Guidelines for the Implementation of Disaster Education. Related information and regulations are available at bkpdm.kemendikdasmen.go.id/TanggapBencana.

On the same occasion, Minister of Home Affairs Tito Karnavian said the government was continuing to coordinate with the Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysical Agency (BMKG) and the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) to monitor developments and reduce the impact on communities.

Tito also urged members of the school community and the public to continue following official information. "If learning activities are still possible, members of the school community should continue to monitor the situation. Outdoor activities must be adjusted according to developments in safety conditions. Follow official information from BMKG, BNPB and other authorities. Reduce activities outside the home if there is an increase in ash distribution. Be careful about ash contamination of food and water sources," he said.

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#KemendikdasmenRamah

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