COVID-19 profoundly impacted students’ learning environment and strategies. Therefore, we are curious about how this global pandemic correlates with school closures all around the world as time passes, which is one of the main influencing factors that entirely changed our way of learning and living.

As a group of students, COVID-19 changed our way of learning from face-to-face to online for quite a long time. However, after COVID-19 eased a little bit, some of our schools reverted to the traditional in-person learning classes. Frequently switching between different learning environments and methods is unhealthy for our personal development because we need time to get accustomed to new things, and it is hard for us to normally keep up with the pace of our teachers in this condition.

Besides, as international students, we were energetic and excited about future university life. However, everything became harsh and unpredictable after the emergence of COVID-19. We are now bothered by expensive flight tickets, personal safety issues, and potential school closures as a result of the pandemic.

Therefore, we aim to discover a general relationship between COVID-19 and school closures. With the help of the observed correlation, we could be more prepared in countering the impacts of COVID-19 as individuals. For example, we could reasonably predict the next virus outbreak based on our project and switch to online classes beforehand.

Additionally, from a broader scope, our project could provide intuitions to educational institutions about the trend of school closures and COVID-19 cases. Therefore, they could identify whether they made a correct decision of closing/opening schools during the pandemic, and draft plans to minimize the impacts in the future. In other words, we could utilize our project as a guide to help prevent future impacts that could rain onto the educational sectors that suffered during the current pandemic.