

SWABODHINI SCHOOL AND VOCATIONAL CENTRE FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

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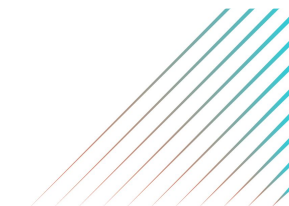
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About Swabodhini

Swabodhini School and Vocational centre for Special children, established in 1989, is a nonresidential school with about 55+ students, having 2 branches in Thiruvanniyur and Velachery, Chennai. Swabodhini Charitable Trust wholly manages the special school and the vocational training centre and is recognized by the Tamil Nadu State Government.

We impart Functional Academics, Therapy services (Occupational and Speech), Physical fitness (Yoga, Fitness and Dance), Life Skills and Vocational skills to students with Autism and related challenges so that they can adapt themselves to the varying day to day requirements. Swabodhini aims to transform the lives of individuals with autism to be contributing members of their family and society.

Our Vision

We aspire to be the leading institution in special needs education and training

Our Mission

Swabodhini provides high quality education and structured training and therapy services. In partnership with parents and society we empower individuals to reach their potential for all-round development and transition them to sheltered or open employment thus enabling them to lead an independent life with dignity in mainstream society.

Milestones



Our alumni C.R.Balaji was handed the Best Employee Award by Honourable Chief Minister M.K.Stalin at World's Disability Day



4 more students selected to be a part of Grundfos Employment Initiative

Milestones



We have won the winner shield at 34th Rota Talent Contest



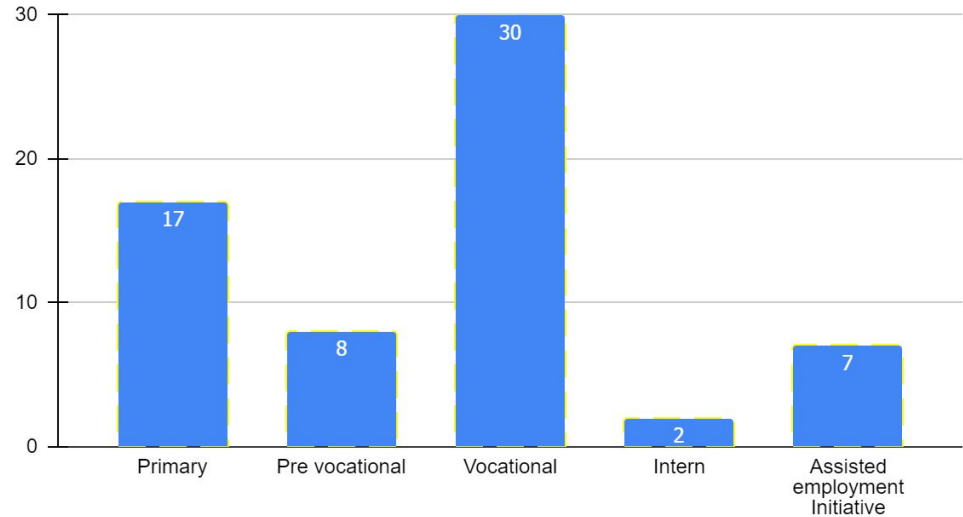
“Assisted Employment Initiative” won “Community Engagement Award 2022” instituted by Grundfos Foundation

Special Education

Primary classes have students from ages 5 to 14. They are taught basic language and arithmetic skills. Primary students graduate into the pre vocational classes and here, they are assessed based on their aptitude to learn various life skills and put into different streams. The prevocational students from age 14 to 18 are given preparatory training for vocational skills. Students who successfully complete the pre vocational training now start their vocational training.

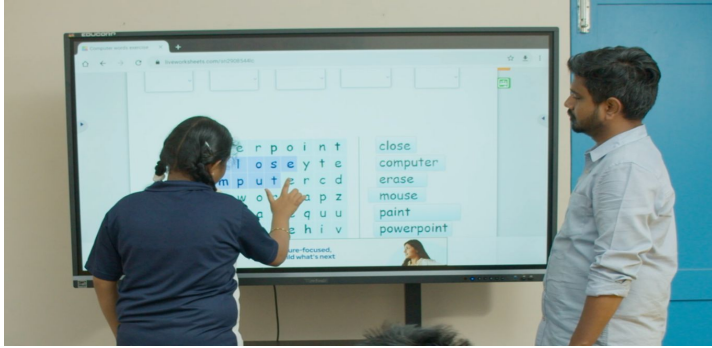
We have an IEP Individualised Education Plan for each child. IEP is divided into two main divisions: Functional academics and Life skills.

Student strength



Special Education

We have workbooks based on the student's need. They use both online interactive worksheets and offline reusable **interactive worksheets**.



We provide **life skill** training such as crossing residential intersections, shopping and communication skills. .



Special Education

Art therapy helps to express the student's emotion and also act a stressbuster



We have included the **motor skills** in curriculum to improve their fine motor skills



Special Education

Counselling helps to create self-awareness, self-confidence and to increase their emotional strength.



Activities of Daily Living are an important skill for every special child to lead their lives independently. We train our students in activities like brushing, buttoning shirts, etc.



Vocational Skill Training

Our 1-year Vocational Courses in Retail skills, Culinary Skills and Computer Skills are accredited by Guru Nanak College and the students receive their certificates from Guru Nanak College (Autonomous) on successful course completion. For those students who have an aptitude for art and aesthetics, and for those where open employment and internship is a challenge, we actively train them in making vocational products like decorative diyas, paper bags etc, and we take corporate orders and bulk orders for the same.

01

Retail Skill

Retail store management, Supply chain management, Store processes, Functional mathematics

02

Computer Skill

Ms Office, Mails, Browsing, Photoshop, Corel Draw, Tally, Pagemaker etc

03

Culinary Skill

Human physiology, Nutrition, Cooking processes, Kitchen management and Kitchen safety

04

Vocational Products

Diyas, Paper bags, Block printed duppattas, anklets, keychains

Vocational Skill Training

Weaving Unit

This year we have introduced weaving as part of their curriculum. Weaving helps the students to improve their gross & fine motor skills. It also helps them to reduce anxiety and improves self-esteem.

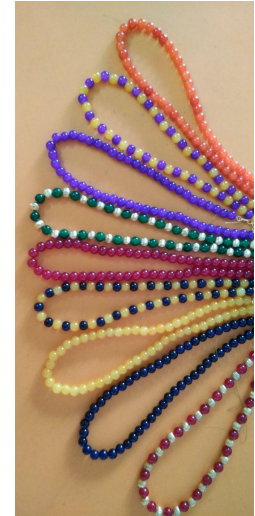


In **culinary skills**, we also train our students in baking cookies, cupcakes and chocolates



Vocational products

Our students are trained in making paper bags, hand painted diyas and beaded jewelries. We set up stalls at corporates and events. We also take bulk orders of these vocational products.



Therapy services

Therapy plays a major role in the holistic development of students. Group therapy targets on students helping each other on attaining the particular target action.



Speech Therapy



Occupational Therapy



Group Speech Therapy sessions

Therapy services



Yoga



Dance



Physical training

Integrated Therapy services



Group Occupational Therapy



Physical Training combined Occupational Therapy

Assisted employment Initiative-Grundfos

This year Mr. Hari Kumaresh, Ms. Kavya and Mr. Shrinath and Mr.Karthik were selected to be a part of the Grundfos Assisted Employment Initiative.



New Assisted Employment Initiative-Pop corn Manufacturing Unit

We inaugurated our new assisted employment initiative “Popcause” partnering with Advantage foods Pvt. Ltd. in association with Grundfos Pumps India Pvt. Ltd. This popcorn manufacturing unit provides in-house employment for individuals with special needs.



Community Outreach Program

Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department, Government of Tamil Nadu conducted an Assessment Camp for Kids with Special Needs, in association with BumbleB Trust's Kalvi40 and RAMCO Cements. The event was launched by Mr.K.Vijaya Bhaskar (District Adi Dravidar Welfare Officer, Ariyalur). We have partnered with BumbleB Trust's Kalvi40 team for their community based rehabilitation program to assess children with special needs in rural areas.

Our Senior Special Educator has spearheaded this initiative. 16 special needs students of Adi Dravidar Welfare School went through a detailed assessment and received an eight- page assessment report.



Staff Report

Details	No.
No of teaching staff	16
No of heads	5
No of therapist	3
No of support staff	12
Management and non teaching staff	7



Workshop for Staff

Ms. Malavika (one of our Trustees) conducted a workshop “English for Communication and Confidence”. It was an interactive workshop with many well thought out group and individual activities and was very well received by our staff members.

Ms. Sowmiya (Head of Therapy Department) conducted a workshop for staff on the topic “Functional communication in special needs”. All the staff from both the centres attended the session and were benefitted.



Workshop for Staff

Yoga Instructor Mr.Jagadeesan conducted a workshop on the importance of Yoga and Yoga for special children. It was massively relaxing and the Yoga techniques he shared were very helpful.

Principal Ms.Nandini Priyakumari conducted a session on “Learning styles” with interesting activities. The session was very informative and got to know more about different learning styles.



Workshop for Staff

We had a one-day workshop for staff in association with SPANDHAN Life Skills Enhancement Centre. **Mr.Murali Krishna** presented the workshop on “Understanding and Managing the Behavioural Problems in Young Adults with Special Needs”. It was a great interactive session which gave a clear understanding of the behavioural issues of our students.



Events



Chennai Runs Marathon

On 11th December our students participated in a 1km run in aid of Pediatric Cancer treatment as a part of the Chennai Runs event. It rained heavily that day, but the rains could not dampen their spirit and they turned up on time at the venue and participated actively.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Trophy 2022-2023

Sports Meet

On 27th February our students participated in the Sports Meet, organised by the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, Chennai District for the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Trophy 2022-2023.



Events

Competition at NIEPMD

Our students participated in a Talent Contest conducted at NIEPMD (National Institute for Empowerment of People with Multiple Disabilities) in commemoration of “World Down Syndrome Day”. Aysha Zara won first place in dance, Sanjay won first place in drawing competition, Jayant won consolation prize in group dance, Jabez won first place in group dance.



Carrom Tournament

On 23rd September, our students participated and won prizes in the Carrom tournament “Tussle” conducted by the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu in honour of 75th Independence Day at Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium, Egmore. Our students, Ajay Krishna won 2nd prize, Joshua won 3rd prize and Thejaswini won 4th prize in the tournament.



Field Trips



Guindy Children's Park

On July 22nd, 2022 our students went on a field trip to Children's Park, Guindy. They had a lot of fun observing the animals and birds. During lunch break they gobbled down the tasty treats that their parents had packed for them in their lunch boxes. Watching the children enjoying themselves, all our staff were really happy.

Metro Ride

We took 26 students from the Vocational stream on a metro ride to expose them to a group travel experience in public transport and to help them improve their social interaction skills.

This initiative has been covered by leading newspapers in English and Tamil like The Hindu, Dinamalar, Dinakaran and DinaThanthi. We are thankful to the PRO and DSO CMRL who received our students and staff and ensured that all of them had a nice memorable ride.



Field Trips

Experiential Learning



As part of our vocational retail program, our students visited Supermarket to experience real life situations. Students independently purchased the intended products and successfully billed the items and handled money with confidence. Such experiential learning methodologies act as a supplement to their learning at academic level and prepare them to live their life independently.

Field Visit to Grundfos

On 20th December, Grundfos Pumps India Pvt. Ltd. hosted our vocational students and staff for a Field visit. Our students were exposed to the safety regulations observed on the shop floor. They interacted with the CEO Mr. George Rajkumar, Plant Manager Mr. Debashis, and other employees of the factory.



Field Trips



Field trip- Marine kingdom

On 2nd February our students went to Marine kingdom, a big aquarium. Our students enjoyed thoroughly watching animals housed in life-sized tanks. They walked through the underwater tunnel and enjoyed clicking pictures. Parents shared their heartfelt appreciation and feedback on the field trip, after seeing pictures and hearing from their kids.

Diwali Celebration at VGP

On 15th October our students attended the ROTARY DIWALI program at VGP. Every year, Rotary celebrates Diwali, by arranging a fabulous outing to VGP Universal Kingdom to students from various NGOs. This year, our vocational students had a wonderful time at VGP Universal Kingdom by enjoying fun rides and dancing with other students from various NGOs.



Sports Day



On 27th August, 2022 we celebrated our Annual Sports day at Guru Nanak School.

The day was graced by Mr. Ganesh (Autonomous production unit Manager, Grundfos), Mr. Sakthi (Senior Manager CSR, AGS Health), Mr. Selvarajan (Principal, Guru Nanak School), Ms. Daisy Devakumar, (Education Officer, Gurunanak), Ms. Mandeep Kaur(Vice Principal, Gurunanak).

All students participated with great enthusiasm in various events such as running, short put, partner games and group games. Students rejoiced their triumph with certificates, medals and prizes and shared their joy with parents.

We are grateful to the Management and students of Guru Nanak School for supporting us in making the event a grand success. Student volunteers from Guru Nanak School partnered with our students during group games and encouraged the respective teams to excel. We are also thankful to the volunteers of NSS, Guru Nanak College for their immense help during and before the sports day celebrations.



34th Annual Day



Our Chief Guest Mr. Ramkumar Ramamoorthy, who is well known for his great oratorical skills, delivered a stellar address with many takeaways for us. He also handed over prizes/ gifts to our students and staff members. We also launched a new Assisted Employment initiative “Pop Cause” partnering with Advantage Foods Pvt. Ltd and in association with Grundfos India Pumps Pvt. Ltd. Overall it was a great evening with everyone having a smile on their face..

We celebrated our 34th Annual Day on the 18th of March. The event was attended by our sponsors, parents and well-wishers. The students had been practising for more than a month and they were more than happy to show-off their moves on stage. The highlight of the evening was the Avengers Fashion Show which was well-choreographed and executed to perfection.

The cultural programs were interspersed with updates on activities of our school.



Accolades



Nov 22, 2022 – We won the Winners Shield at the Rota Talent Contest where over 1400 students from 27 schools had participated. Our school has been a part of this event for the past 25 years and was awarded the winners' shield multiple times. We are happy to receive the rolling shield this year too. The energy and the vibe at the event was infectious and the kids really enjoyed participating in dance, drawing and singing competitions.

Accolades



Jul 26, 2022 – We received an award from the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Mr. MK Stalin on the occasion of Golden Jubilee Year Celebrations of Guru Nanak College, Chennai.

Internships

Interns from Guru Nanak College

4 interns pursuing Masters in Social Work in Guru Nanak College completed internships at our Centre in Guru Nanak School Campus. They helped our students during yoga sessions, culinary and retail classes and in jewellery making, diya painting etc.,

They conducted activities to engage our students such as playing carrom board, peg board and passing the ball game.



Intern from MIT University

An intern, who is pursuing Masters in Art Therapy at MIT University, Pune, commenced her internship, assisting students with their art work by observing them and helping them explore their creative potential by setting goals based on their individual strengths.

Donor Report



Donor Report

“Individual Sponsors”

Mr. Sundar Chanrai

Ms. Sujatha Narayan

Mr. Venkateshwaran

Mr. George Rajkumar

Mr. Vijayaprasad

Ms. Sravanthi Sridhar

Mr. Dilip Venkatachari

Mr. Kishore Sarathy

Mr. Rajesh Ramaswamy

**Thank
You!!**



Future plans

- Strengthening and expanding - Reaching out to more schools and institutions working for Children with autism and related challenges
- New Assisted Employment Initiative- To scale up the production in our new assisted employment unit
- Community Outreach program- To reach out more community based outreach program



Thank you

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