

BEST PRACTICES IN MY INSTITUTION - I

Format of Presentation

Institutions may have many good practices that add value to the quality of education they offer. For presentation of each of those practices the following format may be used. Care may be taken to avoid general descriptions and focus may be on concrete practice.

1. **Title of the Practice :**

Imparting education to girls from the economically weaker sections of the society.

2. **The context that required the initiation of the practice :**

The College consistently aims to bring girls specially from the economically weaker sections of the society to the forefront of national life. Our guiding principles come down to us from Arya Samaj and from its founding fathers. These principles and concepts are adopted by us in accordance with the directives sent by the UGC and the Government. The broader principles always remain the same and it is only the focal point that keeps on evolving. Thus we aspire to raise the level of education of girls coming from the weaker sections of the society and help them achieve their goals.

For the upliftment of the weaker sections, the College encourages the girls to join NSS and participate in its multifarious activities which contribute towards their confidence building and personality development. It is encouraging to note that the broader thrust area of NSS itself is in harmony with the task that we have set before ourselves. To implement is very often to achieve social upliftment. The core design is governed by the single fact of woman's empowerment and we merely redesign according to the local requirements of time and space. The College is surrounded by people who mostly belong to the low income group and their backwardness is a foregone conclusion. It is within this context that we have to function and work to achieve the desired goal of women empowerment. To get them to the College for further studies and successful completion for their degrees is in itself a task which all of us must accept and fulfill if progress has to be brought and shared. The College tries to motivate the girls as well as their parents to join in for higher studies.

3. **Objective of the practice :**

The objective of the practice is to impart skilled and informative quality education to the students coming from the economically weaker section of the society so that they are not left out from the main stream of the society. Many of the girls are still not pursuing higher education. They are not exposed to the educational system of the time. We encourage them to study, join the college so as to empower them with new ideas and information about their rights. The point is to make them more familiar with the changing world and its requirements.

4. **The Practice :**

To achieve its mission the College has been successfully awarding Scholarships to the deserving and the needy students, organizing co-curricular activities and focusing on academics. Indian Higher Education requires the female students who are less exposed to the open society to be lectured upon various subjects related to life, career and the relevance of their courses. Therefore the College tries to organize these activities

throughout the academic year. Students have to be motivated to meet the challenges that lie ahead. The biggest limitations of our system is that the parents feel apprehensive and scared to send their daughters out due to their extremely conservative thinking and unsafe atmosphere outside. This becomes a major stumbling block. However, we have been able to successfully overcome it by and large with the help of counseling done by teachers. Thus by providing a wide range of such support services like counseling, scholarship to the needy, a rich library, educational tours, sports (outdoor and indoor games) and making them aware about their human rights through training programmes we have tried to educate the students and thereby achieve our goals.

Over the years our College has built a fine reputation for itself and this reputation rests on our achievements. It is because of our achievements that the society recognizes us and the testimony of our alumni has gone a long way in sustaining this reputation. Our task of fulfilling our mission becomes easier because we know the kind of expectations which our students have from us and over the years the College machinery has become geared to fulfill these goals to the maximum possible extent. The teachers and members of the staff are up on their feet and set themselves to their pre-assigned roles from the moment the forms are submitted and screened. It is in the first few days of the students in the College that we get to know through interaction with the students about their expectations and our well-oiled machinery which has evolved over the years start working in their general welfare, focusing all the while on academics because we never forget our primary aim of imparting a knowledge.

5. Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them :

Unfortunately our institution is situated in a locality of low-profile business community with a taboo to not to send their daughters for higher education. Secondly their economics constraints and social delimitas also prove a stumbling block to seek higher education. Still we grope for some social boost to bring them to our institution. We are making strategies to cause a deeper penetration in the slum areas through our contact persons. Closer monitoring and interaction also removes the stumbling blocks in the pathway of pushing higher education.

6. Impact of the practice :

The bigger evidence of our success in meeting our targets are the results that we have achieved despite all the limitations and shortcomings of the system. Our success in various aspects of collegiate life speak well and we have received praise from people belonging to a wide-cross section of our society. Many of our girls after taking their under-graduate degree from our College move ahead in life to pursue M.A. ,MBA, teachers training and even a doctorate degree successfully. Our students have become lawyers practicing in the Lower Court and High Court, some are running social organizations, often by heading themselves also. Our students have also entered the Performing Arts arena specially those who opt for Music as one of their subjects. After further training many of them pursue their own independent trajectories in classic and popular music independently.

7. Resources required :

We take the help of local people like corporators, contact persons and representatives of the society to act as our “ contact persons” – firstly to identify the targets i.e. the untouched/unrepresented students and secondly to arrange meetings with our contact groups for understanding their difficulties and bottlenecks that are thwarting their studies and exposure to the educational system.

Tuition waivers should be given because sometimes girls discontinue their education due to financial crises in their family.

Government should give more need-based scholarships. Moreover scholarships should be given at the beginning of the academic session.

The teacher-taught ratio should be improved by creating more posts and making new appointments so that teaching can be more student focused.

8. About the Institution :

- I. Name of the Institution : Arya Kanya Degree College
- II. Year of Accreditation : 2015
- III. Address : 886 Mutthiganj, Prayagraj
- IV. Grade awarded by NAAC : B
- V. E-Mail : akpgau16@gmail.com
- VI. Contact person for further details : Dr. Renu Jain
- VII. Website : www.akpgc.in

BEST PRACTICES IN MY INSTITUTION - II

Format of Presentation

Institutions may have many good practices that add value to the quality of education they offer. For presentation of each of those practices the following format may be used. Care may be taken to avoid general descriptions and focus may be on concrete practice.

1. Title of the practice :

Helping students to discover their hidden potentials to make them self reliant and independent.

2. The context that required the initiation of the practice :

Our College is situated in the old part of the city where students belonging to the lower or middle income group come. Their economic condition can be ameliorated only when their talents are exploited to the hilt. Their means and circumstances warrant that special attention is paid to them, to make them excel in whatever field they are. Once they are in a position to exploit their talents/ skill, nothing would be able to stop them to earn a decent living. Their hidden talents once developed would lead them to job oriented fields and exposures, which in turn would fetch more resources in terms of money, paving way to higher living standards and echelons. The awareness to career possibilities and consequent aspirations are circumscribed by little knowledge and constricted exposure as these students could not afford exposure to vast opportunities. Not only the students, but their families also need effective guidance, counseling and encouraged support.

3. Objective of the practice :

In today's world the watch-word for women is freedom because for the last several centuries they have been under the thumb of the patriarchy. To liberate oneself is to enjoy empowerment and all the benefits which accrue from it. Empowerment through education opens a gamut of choices, specially those which have their basis in higher education. Mahatma Gandhi believed that India is primarily a spiritual country and matters spiritual when combined with modern practices gives the best results. The College has a spiritual character and it goes to its advantage that this spiritual side should combine well with higher learning and training for the jobs which are opening up now-a-days. In the class-rooms we impart knowledge and the essence of this knowledge has to be put to good use with a firm footing in our own traditions. Therefore the College organizes havans on a regular basis and encourages the students in extra- curricular activities, discussions and skilled developing courses like Mehndi Application, Computer Course, Tailoring, Flower- making, Taikwando, Self- defence, Yoga, Clay making etc. so that they are skilled enough to start their own business and become independent.

4. The Practice :

Our Chairperson, Governing Body and faculty members equally vouch unrelenting efforts to help the girls to realize their actual potentials and talents which pave the way to make them self-reliant and gain confidence. This endeavour with untiring approach ensures that the students of the weaker section are facilitated to achieve their goals and

targets. Thus the College which imparts knowledge to the girls from a very wide cross-section of society has found that in many cases they are not even aware of their class moorings and the limitations that their family background itself has to impose on them. We ensure that the girls learn fast and develop their personality and by the time they reach third year they turn out to be fine young ladies, ready to take on the world with confidence and make a mark for themselves. Those girls, who due to limitations of their background find it difficult to keep up are provided help by other girls themselves. By the time our girls pass out the College, class distinctions which were very pronounced in the new students disappear and an egalitarian community of scholars and fine ladies, confident, self-reliant, proud, knowledgeable walk out of the College with an undergraduate degree and plenty of extra-curricular experiences to their credit, ready to take on the world. All the facilities which the College provides add up to a solid, meaningful whole and it is in this inclusive workplace that we try to foster creativity, non-hierarchical knowledge and ideas.

Infringement of Women's Rights and Human Rights, broadly-speaking, has been a major issue in the region which the College serves and it is on this count that our College has been trying very hard to disseminate information among the girls and encourage them to come forward to take the initiative themselves. Our girls are no longer mute spectators to their sufferings and the exploitation of women which is going on in the society. They are playing their roles as well-educated and responsible women. The College has successfully organized one day training programmes on Human Rights sponsored by National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi every year. The purpose behind such training programmes is that girls should know their rights and women related laws. Unless and until they know their rights, they cannot fight for them. They are made aware of the fact as to what to recognize as human rights and how to guarantee the protection of such rights after their recognition.

Over the year our College has built a fine reputation for itself and this reputation rests on our achievements. It is because of our achievements that the society recognizes us and looks up to us, and the testimony of our alumni has gone a long way in sustaining this reputation. Our task of fulfilling our practice becomes easier because we know the kind of expectations which our students have from us and over the years the College machinery has become geared to fulfill these goals to the maximum possible extent. The teachers and members of the staff are up on their feet and set themselves to their pre-assigned roles, imparting education along with character building.

5. Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them :

Our biggest problem in capitalizing over our best practice is the poor teacher-taught ratio. Each teacher has to handle far more students than is possible and this results in a relatively speaking poor teacher-taught relationship. It is absolutely necessary for the teacher to know their students on a personal basis to identify the students aptitude for skill-development. Modern gadgets required for the state of the art learning is inadequate. Fair payment is not available in the market and in some cases the girls fail to get jobs and thus become disappointed. There is a very strong feeling that the government should offer loans and make the process of getting these loans hassle-free and less time-taking. There should be more transparency at the lower level. We are

formulating strategies and making endeavors to appoint faculty members to improve the teacher-taught ratio. We are also contemplating a handful of strategies to address the problem of hiccups in the field of modern gadgetry. Proposal for smart-classroom is being formulated. We are converting our library into e-library and more computers will be installed so that more girls .

6. Impact of the Practice :

The biggest impact of the urge to empowerment and to become financially independent initiated by the teachers over the years has been that the girls have accepted this idea as a truth of their lives in the changing scenario. There are impediments that the teachers face undoubtedly but they try hard to motivate the girls to do better. It is this impassioned desire in the teachers which gets transfused in the students and the girls, despite all the handicaps, persistently try to make it and very often they do. Optimal results may not be possible but the goal appears reachable. Many of our students after passing out of the College opt for professional degrees like MBA, Company Secretary etc. Some of them do professional courses which are aimed at specific jobs like fashion designing, beauty treatment, computer programming, sales etc. A countless number of them have become business partners and associates in their husband's business, thereby enhancing their productivity.

7. Resources required :

- There is a need to start more skill-development courses sanctioned by the government.
- More computers are required to strengthen the infra-structure.
- Trained teachers should be appointed.
- Teacher-taught ratio should be improved.
- Well supported and effective library.
- E- library is in process.
- Need a market where the students can sell their products.

8. About the Institution :

- I. Name of the Institution : Arya Kanya Degree College
- II. Year of Accreditation : 2015
- III. Address : 886 Mutthiganj, Prayagraj
- IV. Grade awarded by NAAC : B
- V. E-Mail : akpgau16@gmail.com
- VI. Contact person for further details : Dr. Renu Jain
- VII. Website : www.akpgc.in