

Focus Group Discussion 2

Inclusive Education for Social Transformation

Date: 31th August, 2019

Venue: The Riverside School, Ahmedabad

Total attendees: 25

1. Mr. Kamal Mangal (ANAND NIKETAN SCHOOL)
2. Ms. Madhu Singh (B.M INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH)
3. Ms. Charu Dhoklia (B.M INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH)
4. Mr. Niraj Lal (SHARDA TRUST SCHOOL)
5. Ms. Sheetal (SHARDA TRUST SCHOOL)
6. Ms. Deepa Avashia (RIVERSIDE SCHOOL)
7. Ms. Hiral Dholakia (RIVERSIDE SCHOOL)
8. Ms. Purvi Kamdar (RIVERSIDE SCHOOL)
9. Mr. Girish Ravuri
10. Ms. Karishma (RIVERSIDE SCHOOL)
11. Mr. Sreenarayanan PC (PODAR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL)
12. Dr. Homiyar Mobedji (ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCESS TECHNOLOGY CONSULTANT)
13. Dr. Jinesh Shah (CONSULTANT CHILD, ADOLESCENT AND FAMILY PSYCHIATRIST)
14. Dr. Harshal Brahmbhatt (ANOORA SPECIAL SCHOOL)
15. Mr. Maitreya Shah (DISABILITY ACTIVIST)
16. Mr. Kinnari Desai (BLIND PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION)
17. Mr. Hitendra Joshi (SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN)
18. Mr. Keshav Chatterjee (PRABHAT SPECIAL SCHOOL)
19. Ms. Denisha Agravat (GCSRA)
20. Mr. Punit Lalbhai (ARVIND LTD)
21. Ms. Divya (UNICEF)
22. Ms. Krupa Velani (BLIND PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION)
23. Ms. Nivisha Shah (FREELANCER TECHNOLOGY EXPERT)
24. Dr. Ruchi Mehta (Strategy Lead, DEEPAK FOUNDATION)
25. Ms. Promila Zalpuri (Secretariat In Charge CIE)

Objectives:

1. To share and brainstorm the perspective of schools, special organizations, policy makers, special educators of inclusive education,
2. To discuss and share the strategies of implementing inclusiveness in the teaching styles,
3. To share the results of the FGD with the policy makers and the key stakeholders,
4. To go a step forward in implementing inclusive education by discussing the various perspectives,
5. To provide a platform for the beneficiaries of the education system to share their challenges and concerns of inclusive education,
6. To develop and disseminate improved educational techniques and practices in schools,
7. To prepare and publish the results of the FGD,
8. To provide academic assistance and guidance to mainstream primary schools to implement inclusive education.

The event aimed to provide these opportunities to schools sharing their innovative ideas of inclusive education for social transformation. To find solutions to problem, identifications, to investigate different group ideas in group discussion.

Methodology:

The focus group discussion methodology was used to gain deeper understanding of the cooperation mechanisms of different institutions, schools, and of their capacities to provide support to children with disabilities.

Outcomes of the discussion:

Indicators of an inclusive school campus were created. The indicators discussed by both the groups are asunder:

- A physically and culturally inclusive school- infrastructure and way of thinking of the teachers and students will be different
- Special schools roles will be that of mentoring and facilitate inclusion- academically and therapeutically
- Teacher training - every educator a special educator
- Parents and students will be sensitive to the issue of inclusion
- Accesses and concessions will be provided in every school
- Community awareness regarding academic and social inclusion to be high
- All experts in various fields to form a network of support for these schools.

Dr Homiyar and Benetech offer the following:

- Re-production of inaccessible content
- Training of publishers for creating 'Born Accessible' content
- Conducting Awareness workshops for both teachers and students for use of Assistive technology
- Short and medium term training modules for training students in the use of modern assistive technology
- Technological expertise to convert traditional schools for the blind to include modern technology as their teaching methodology.

To start this movement of inclusive schools, four schools in Ahmedabad have pledged to be the pioneers of inclusive education- The Riverside School, Podar International, Anand Niketan, and Rachna/Sharda School. Consortium will follow up for conducting Accessibility Audits for these institutions.

Action points:

1. The Blind People's Association (BPA) will collaborate for sensitizing in schools– for teachers and children. They will be able to help for curriculum adaptation and infrastructure designing and consultation
2. The B.M Institute of Mental Health (BM) can provide workshops for overall school behavior to be able to reach out to people for mental well-being. They can also help with audits. The Brotherhood is an organization that has already designed the indicators and it is a good place for refer
3. Benetech will provide doable minor changes to make the content program accessible for different needs
4. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) will provide awareness for resource center in schools
5. UNICEF will bring the right people at state level and expertise with schools to come together to look at creating state level resource room
6. Deepak Foundation will be responsible for creating an exhaustive list categorized under disabilities and services, and will turn it into an application so that it is accessible to all – parents/teachers/NGO etc across the country
7. Anooora will provide customized curriculum for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Autism. They will also provide parent awareness for therapies and environment for students with above disabilities
8. Sharda Trust would want to open the space for need analysis and teacher training
9. Leadership training in schools on inclusion to be made mandatory.

Agenda

Date: Saturday August 31th, 2019

Venue: The Riverside School, Ahmedabad

Time	Particulars
9:00-9:30	Registration
9:30-10:00	Introduction to Consortium for Inclusive Education and participants
10:00-12:00	Focus Group Discussion (FGD)
12:00-12:20	FGD 1 Presentation
12:20-12:40	FGD 2 Presentation
12:40-13:40	Discussion and interaction
13:40-14:20	Lunch
14:20-14:30	Vote of thanks

Pledged action points

:)

INCLUSION
Focus Group Discussion

I/We DR JINESH SHAH

pledge to :

1. RAISE AWARENESS / SENSITISE
FOR MENTAL / EMOTIONAL HEALTH
TO CONSORTIUM / SCHOOLS
2. PARTICIPATE IN EVENTS BY
CONSORTIUM
3. BE PART OF AUDIT TEAM

Over the period of : FOR AS LONG AS

Sign : JSH

:)

INCLUSION
Focus Group Discussion

I/We Prabhat Edu. Foundation.

pledge to :

1. Prabhat is happy to intera
ct with young mind in
Schools and college to
2. Understand needs of
special needs.
3.

Over the period of : It has been doing
and would like to continue

Sign : Prabhat

:)

INCLUSION
Focus Group Discussion

I/We Diya Singh

pledge to :

1. Analyze the existing mainstream ~~existing~~ policies and strategies to suggest improvements.
2. Connecting resource organizations to the government.
3. Contributing towards creation of a directory of organizations.

Over the period of : 6 months

Sign : Diya

:)

INCLUSION
Focus Group Discussion

I/We SREENARAYANAN. P. C

pledge to :

1. Open our school for Inclusive And it
2. Ready to share the resources after getting necessary approvals
3. —

Over the period of : 2 months

Sign : Amey
31/08/19

:)

INCLUSION
Focus Group DiscussionI/We GIRISH RAYURI

pledge to :

1. able myself to understand Inclusive Education
2. in a more deeper stage thereby
3. having a holistic approach
3. towards the challenges in implementing the Inclusive Education Component

Over the period of :

Sign :

R. Girish Rayuri

Photos





