

# **SANKALP SPECIAL SCHOOL, KANPUR**

**2022-2023**

**RENEWAL**

# BACKGROUND

**Caters to children with special needs (autism, intellectual impairment, behavioral problems, speech/language issues, developmental delays)**

**Project's goal is to nurture these kids with targeted attention and therapy so eventually they become self-sufficient**

- Individual progress plans for each child, 5-7 children per teacher, Physio/Speech/Behavioral therapy

**Supported by Asha-SV since Fall 2009**

- Asha Stars project: Like any other Asha-SV project except the funds sent are only those that have been directly donated to the project.
- Asha Kanpur oversees the project (funds are sent to Asha Kanpur, they do the disbursements and monitor funds utilization); they also try to raise funds locally

**FB page - <https://m.facebook.com/Sankalp-Special-School-1717996268428138/?ref=bookmarks>**

# **CURRENT STATISTICS** (AS ON 1-1-2022)

**Students - 27 students**

## **Staff**

- Principal
- 1 Coordinator
- 2 Psychologists
- 1 Physiotherapist (part time)
- 1 Speech teacher (part time)
- 6 teachers
- 2 Supporting staff

**•2 Hired vans (1 doing double round)**

# OUR TEAM



# REVIEW 2021

**Jan** – The school reopened full time from 16<sup>th</sup> January after more than 9 months. Only 21 children started coming to school because of ongoing fear of COVID. Some of the children (precisely 9) could not come because we did not resume the 3 of our vans. We started only 2 vans instead of 5 this time because we had only 2-3 children on rest of the van routes so restarting those vans was not feasible. The children took some time to adjust to the long sitting hours at school but gradually, they adjusted to their old school routine. We celebrated our 14<sup>th</sup> founder's day on 23<sup>rd</sup> January by organizing fun games for children and teachers and cutting a cake.

**Feb** – We appointed a new speech therapist from 1<sup>st</sup> February (the old one was not keeping well so had to leave the job). We also appointed an occupational therapist from 15<sup>th</sup> February. Since we had only 21 children with us in the regular classes, we had some spare space. So, we decided to set up an EARLY INTERVENTION UNIT in that space for children below 5 years of age where the occupational therapist would work with sensory and motor skills of children to minimize development of disability in the children. The children enrolled in the early intervention program were supposed to come to school with their parents for therapy purposes only.

**Mar** – We continued with the regular activities of school during this month. We celebrated Holi with our parents group this time. The idea was to reconnect with them after the pandemic and create an atmosphere of hopefulness and joy. Also, we introduced them to our new therapists.





HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

# SANKALP SPECIAL SCHOOL

14 YEARS OF SELFLESS SERVICE  
JAN 23, 2007-2021



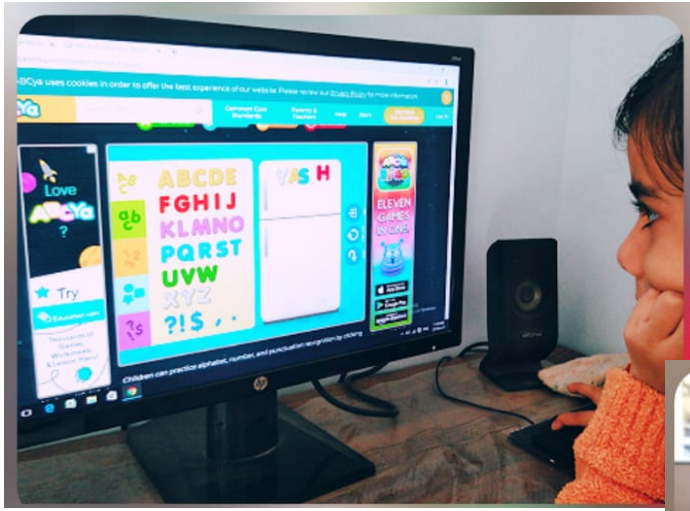
**Apr** – The second wave of COVID started and we had to close the school from 13<sup>th</sup> April onwards. Since we already had a model for the online classes, we started the online classes and therapy sessions from 20<sup>th</sup> April. Online therapy classes for the smaller children were a bit difficult but since their parents used to sit with them during the regular therapy sessions, they could follow the instructions and helped their children in doing the exercises.

**May** - The lockdown continued and the online classes also continued.

**June** – As always, June is holiday month. However, this time, we had complete holiday for 15 days only and the teachers resumed the online classes from 16<sup>th</sup> June. Since there was a relaxation in the day time lockdown during the weekdays, we decided to reopen the school from 1<sup>st</sup> of July and for that, the teachers started coming to school from 25<sup>th</sup> June to arrange the classes.

**July** – School opened for children from 1<sup>st</sup> July but only 17 children started coming to school. However, we got some new admissions for the classes as well as for therapies. We did the routine annual assessments and goal planning for the children and the routine classes were resumed.







**August** – We conducted our normal activities along with celebrating Independence day, Rakshabandhan and Janmashtami. As part of our social partnerships, we had members of Innerwheel Club of Kanpur South and We Care Foundation visiting us. Innerwheel club donated a desktop computer for our use while We Care Foundation organized a drawing competition and fun activities for our children.

**September** – This was a special month for us as we got the funding for setting up our Vocational Training Centre from Asha India. We decided to couple the inauguration of Sankalp VTC with our annual pre-Diwali sale in October. We also had members of Innerwheel Club of Kanpur East visiting us in September. They donated a display almirah to us for displaying the craft items made by the children.

**October** – The annual craft exhibition cum sale was organized on 23<sup>rd</sup> October within the school premises. We did not put up any other sale stall anywhere else due to the ongoing fear of COVID infection.

**November** – Routine school activities were carried out along with children's day celebration with children and some the parents who could spare their time.

**December** – Apart from the fancy dress show organized on Christmas, routine school activities were carried out and children's progress reports were prepared. We decided to terminate the services of the occupational therapist after December '21 because he was not regular at school.







# CHANGES MADE IN 2021

- We started the *early intervention services* from February under the supervision of the occupational therapist. In this, we target for sensori-motor stimulation of children of 0-5 years age so as to minimize development of disabilities in them. We will have to decide whether we want to continue this service in future or focus only on grown up children and adults with intellectual disability...
- We also imparted 15 days proper *caregiver training* to mothers of all new admissions under early intervention. They were taught simple therapy exercises which they can do at home with their child. they also learnt about managing behavior and other issues at home.
- We have restarted the weekly classes for the teachers where we discuss different issues that come up during the week such as managing the problem behaviours, preparing IEPs etc.
- We have included Mrs Alka Mishra (Dip Spl Edu, MA psychology, M.Phil clinical psychology), a special educator with almost 30 years of experience as a visiting trainer for our teachers. She is also district coordinator of unified sports venture of Special Olympics, Bharat. We hope to get many valuable inputs from her related to special education, vocational training and sports activities.
- We have substantially increased the honorariums given to the teachers and therapists this year (eg teachers average salary has increased from Rs 3500 per month to Rs 5500 per month).
- We were finally able to set up a proper vocational unit for our special needs adults.



# CHALLENGES

- Every time we regain the flow, COVID flares up once again. Due to this, our functioning is suffering.
- Student's strength has reduced to 27 which is less than 50% of the pre- COVID strength. And the children who are coming are mostly the low functioning ones who were difficult to manage at home. This is hampering our vocational activities, sports activities etc.
- There are some children who wish to join school but we are not able to restart the vans because of low student strength. Also, we are not getting many new admission queries due to ongoing state of uncertainty.
- The uniformity of classes, in terms of type of students, is disturbed so teachers are facing some problem in managing the activity schedule.
- There is a definite negative shift in parental involvement with children's activities which is probably because the life conditions have become tough after the pandemic.

# FUTURE PLANS

- This year, our efforts will be directed towards stabilizing and enhancing the already existing system rather than creating something new.
- The main focus this year will be to make the vocational unit smooth running. We are still struggling with creating a system for the vocational unit. This is proving to be a challenging job because we don't have any pre-existing model for this.
- We also plan to find a new therapist for our early intervention unit because we did see very encouraging results from early intervention.
- While working in the vocational set up, we realized that the children should be exposed to the actual functioning in various vocational trades from an early age so that by the time they are 16 years of age, we have an idea of their inclination and interest towards specific trades. So we plan to add “observing the vocational workshops” in the curriculum of normal classes.

# Financials



# MONTHLY EXPENSES AS ON DECEMBER 2021

| Category                | Details  | Expense |
|-------------------------|--|---------|
| Rent + Electricity bill | School building (24000 + 4000)                 | 28000/- |
| Van Payments            | 2 Vans ( 1 doing double round)                 | 31000/- |
| Staff salary            | Principal (honorary)                           | 84000/- |
|                         | 1 Coordinator (6000)                           |         |
|                         | 1 Psychologist (8000)                          |         |
|                         | 1 Occupational Therapist (12000)               |         |
|                         | 1 Physiotherapist (7000)                       |         |
|                         | 1 Speech teacher (7000)                        |         |
|                         | 6 Teachers (32000)                             |         |
|                         | 2 Supporting staff (12000)                     |         |
| Miscellaneous expense   | Maintenance, cleaning, repair, stationary etc. | 1800/-  |
| Fee received            |  | 40100/- |
| Covered by Asha         |  | 88000/- |
| Covered by Asha Kanpur  |  | 16700/- |

# FUNDS EXHAUSTED TILL DECEMBER '21

| Month        | Payment from Asha FC account |         |                 |
|--------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
|              | Rent                         | Salary  | Total           |
| April        | 24000/-                      | 63600/- | 87600/-         |
| May          | 24000/-                      | 63600/- | 87600/-         |
| June         | 24000/-                      | 68800/- | 92800/-         |
| July         | 24000/-                      | 68800/- | 92800/-         |
| August       | 24000/-                      | 68800/- | 92800/-         |
| September    | 24000/-                      | 80050/- | 104050/-        |
| October      | 24000/-                      | 82800/- | 106800/-        |
| November     | 24000/-                      | 82000/- | 106000/-        |
| December     | 24000/-                      | 91000/- | 108000/-        |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |                              |         | <b>878450/-</b> |

# ESTIMATED MONTHLY BUDGET FOR APR 2022-MARCH 2023

| Category                | Details   | Expense |
|-------------------------|---|---------|
| Rent + Electricity bill | School building (24000+4000)                                | 28,000  |
| Van payments            | 3 vans  | 47,000  |
| Staff salaries          | Coordinator (6000)  | 77,500  |
|                         | Psychologist (8000)   |         |
|                         | 1 physiotherapist (7000)                                    |         |
|                         | 1 speech teacher (7000)                                     |         |
|                         | 7 Teachers (37,500)   |         |
|                         | Supporting Staff (12000)                                    |         |
| Misc. expenses          | Maintenance & cleaning, repair work, school stationary etc. | 1,800   |
| Fee received            |   | -55,000 |
|                         | Total monthly deficit                                       | 99,300  |



**So, total funds needed for one year are-**

$$99,300 \times 12 = 11,91,600/-$$

$$+ 2.5\% = 29,790/-$$

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$$12,21,390/-$$

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# SUCCESS STORIES

- **Anmol Rawat** is a 15 years old boy with moderate retardation & below average weight. He is non verbal yet very friendly. He came to us in July 2021 with improper motor functioning, stiffness in limbs, hyperactivity and poor appetite. With the collaborative efforts of our staff, therapist and parents, Anmol showed a remarkable progress. He can now walk and move properly. With OT, his hyperactivity is reduced and with introduction of a proper diet plan, his appetite has improved. Parental training was given due to which, he has become more self dependent for his ADL activities within 6 months.
- **Priyanshu Chaurasia**, a 15 years boy with mild MR, came to us in February 21. Even though he has been attending some special school since his early years, he had very little knowledge of basic academics. He had severe phobic personality. He was afraid of new places and new people (especially the school setup because of his previous experiences). He did not talk (even though he is verbal) and did not make any eye contact. At home also, he was depended on his parents for his daily activities. With the help of peer learning model, Priyanshu gradually started feeling comfortable with his classmates and is now friendly with some of them. His functional academics has improved. His ADL activities have also improved when we did parental counseling (his parents used to never leave him alone out of love and fear that he may have to struggle and suffer). Now, we are working on his speech, social skills and prevocational skills.

- **Sukhmeet Singh**, a 9 year old non-verbal child with severe autism joined us for therapy in March 21. He had very limited social exposure and would feel uncomfortable in public. He started having fits in public, due to which he and his mother both largely remained confined at home. He took a lot of time to adjust to the school atmosphere but once he was adjusted, he started actively participating in all his activities and became friendly with teachers and therapists. His eye contact has improved remarkably and the parental stress is markedly reduced.
- **Yash Gupta**, a 5 years old boy with moderate ADHD, had difficulty in concentrating and making friends. He also had some problem in reading and writing. Within few months of starting therapy, his focus has improved and he has started taking initiatives to learn new things. The child is now able to attend a normal school and started his primary academics.
- **Prince Rathore** is a 5 year boy with moderate autism. He had speech and social issues and was bit aggressive and temperamental with his peers, due to which he had difficulties in making friends. He was attending a normal school, but had to repeat a grade. Within few months of starting therapy, the child showed remarkable improvement in concentration and speech. We provided basic training to his mother and his home tutor by which, he was able to pass his grade successfully in single attempt. The parents were given guidance regarding rights of special children and concessions given by CBSE to special children. When they got the disability certificate made and approached the school for seeking the rightful support, the school management complied to the request and even opened admission for more students like him.