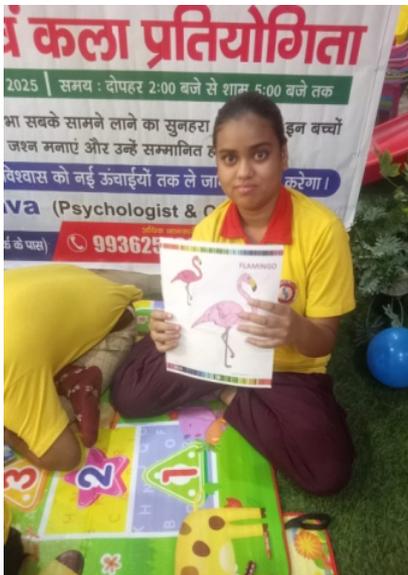


Sankalp Special School, Kanpur



2026 - 2027 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 to make them self-sufficient as far as possible
 - Individual progress plans for each child, 5-7 children per teacher, Physio/Speech/Behavioral therapy/Special education
 - Vocational training for high functioning children above 16 yrs age
- 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.
 - Project runs as part of Asha Kanpur and funds are sent to Asha Kanpur for meeting out the project expenses; some funds are also raised locally

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

Current statistics (as on 01-03-2025)

- Students - 64 students
- Staff
 - Centre head (honorary)
 - 1 Coordinator cum computer instructor
 - 1 Vocational consultant (part time)
 - 1 Physiotherapist (full time) and 1 physio assistant (full time)
 - 1 Speech teacher (full time)
 - 2 Psychologists (full time)
 - 10 teachers
 - 3 Supporting staff
- 2 Hired vans (1 doing triple round)

Challenges (as mentioned in 2025 renewal) and how we handled them....

- Teachers keep coming and going due to various reasons. This has been happening in past also but now, we are facing a difficulty in finding replacements probably because the new generation is more after money and they are otherwise also very fickle-minded.

This issue is currently resolved (by luck probably) and currently, we have a stable cohort of teaching staff since last 1 year.

- Though the principal is trying to do her best but she has no vision for future and her standards are below what I would approve of. The coordinator has a taste for good things and appreciates quality but he lacks assertiveness and leadership quality. The vocational incharge has a vision and a dream to create something beautiful for the differently abled children but because she is involved in a variety of activities on personal front, she is not very focused. So, inspite of involving so many people, I am still at a point where I have to keep pushing everyone.

The principal discontinued her services after last March and I have again started giving time at school regularly and things are going steady at present.

- Vocational unit still lacks a stable market though we are in a much better place compared to last year.

This year, we collaborated with a club called Young Indians which is a unit of Kanpur chapter of Indian Industries Association. They have provided us some avenues. Also, we connected with some schools for putting up our sales counter time to time and received very encouraging response from there.

- There is a lack of consistency in the vocational unit, probably because of a casual attitude which prevails in U.P. Since many of our products are edibles, lack of consistency affects the sale and people's trust on us.

We have tried to sort this out by a better quality check system which includes tasting all edibles before packaging. Also, production quantity is regulated by preparing monthly targets beforehand.

- As always, space is a challenge for us and we keep getting more and more admission queries which we are not able to attend.

For this, we have tried to create some additional space by redesigning the space using aluminium partitions. Other than this, we have more or less decided to not bother and keep doing our best for all the children we already have with us.

- Since we don't have conveyance facility to most of the areas, it is difficult for many children to come to our centre. As a result, we are now getting mainly those children who are very poor and can't afford fees of other centres or those children who have severe problems and so have been refused admission from other centres. Though this state is in sync with our motto of working for under-privileged (in this case, socially under-privileged ones too!), this scenario at times become somewhat frustrating as we don't get to see many success stories.

On re-thinking, I guess this is not an issue. We just have to keep doing the best for all children who are with us.

Review 2025

- **Jan** – We resumed with our work on 16th January 2025 after the winter vacations. We started with settling the children after winter break, doing their assessments and preparing their educational plans for next 6 months. Class 12th psychology students from Allen House School visited our school for preparing case report on special needs children. B.Ed students from Akbarpur Mahavidyalaya also visited us for attaining an insight on how to handle special needs children. Psychology graduation students from Jagran College of Arts and Science also visited us with an aim to understand the psychological needs of special needs children. Republic day was celebrated on 26th January with our staff and flag hoisting was done.
- **Feb** – February began with parent’s meeting where the parents were shared their child’s six monthly goal sheet. We participated in a disability awareness walk “Sugamya Yatra” along with various other local NGOs. It was organized with an aim to create awareness about making the facilities more accessible for people with disabilities. We also participated in “Divyang Hunar Mela” along with many other NGOs and organizations and displayed the products made in our vocational unit. On 25th February, a dental checkup camp for our children and staff was conducted at school premises to promote oral hygiene among the children. The students and staff in our vocational unit prepared aloo chips, aloo papad, sabudana papad, namakpare etc. for Holi and the products were sold.
- **March** – Apart from the regular teaching activities, the children were made to plant small plants in pots. They were told about the environment and importance of greenery. Holi was celebrated at school and we also participated in a cultural program organized by Prerna Special School along with 7 other centres. Down’s syndrome day was celebrated at our school by Paediatrics Association on 21st March and a sale counter of our products was also put up.



- **April** – Our children participated in art competition organized at Mind Marvel Healing Centre and at Pragati Learning Centre. The children enjoyed and Nancy and Priyanshi got prizes in their age groups. A workshop for children and parents on “Good touch and bad touch” was organized. Parents of our girl children were especially called to attend the session to ensure safety of the children. The workshop was very well designed by the volunteers of “Project Masoom” of YI group so as to make our children understand the concept of bad touch. Apart from these activities, we had 10 interns from the psychology department of Kanpur University for 1 months internship. We were happy to get this opportunity to influence these young minds with basic concepts about the children with special needs.
- **May** – This time, it was quite hot in April itself, so we had changed our timings to 9am to 12.30 pm from 1st May. We celebrated Mother’s Day on 10th May when the children made beautiful cards for their mothers. 23rd May was the last working day for the children so a small dance party was organized for them. On 24th May, the parents were handed the annual reports of their children and after this, the school closed for one month summer break.
- **June** – The school was closed for summer vacations till 24th June and we re-opened on 25th June with new zeal and enthusiasm. An eye check up camp was organized by the team of Kanika Hospital for our children and staff.



04 April 2025 11:15 am



27 June 2025 11:12 am



25 April 2025 1:22 pm



24 May 2025 10:42 am



- **July** – School activities were resumed and we had 5 new admissions while there were 3 dropouts. Two were because of shifting of the families from Kanpur while one child was asked to discontinue after an argument with the parents regarding their insincere attitude towards the school and the child. We had a general health check-up camp organized by Medical Association for the children, staff and the parents. We also had a disability identification and assessment camp at our school which was organized by “Divyang Sashaktikaran Vibhag”. Also, 15 of our children and their teachers went to watch the movie “Sitare Zameen Par” in multiplex theatre. This event was also organized and sponsored by YI group.
- **August** – Along with the regular teaching activities, we celebrated Independence day and Raksha bandhan during this month. For Rakshabandhan, delegates from “Saksham”, a NGO working India wide for upliftment of persons with disabilities, came to our centre and tied rakhis to all children and distributed gifts. Like previous years, IAP charity day was celebrated at our centre on 26th August. We were invited for singing prayer at the inaugural ceremony of a workshop conducted by NCERT at IITK for the stakeholders for “development of guidelines for establishing resource rooms for inclusive education of children with disabilities”. They also ordered gift hampers for their distinguished guests from our vocational section . These hampers were greatly appreciated by all.
- **September** – On Teacher’s day, our teachers were felicitated by the “Vikasika” a literary society. Rest of the month was spent in the routine school activities along with ongoing preparations for upcoming Diwali sales in the vocational section. Dusshera was celebrated by burning Ravan effigy made by the teachers and dandiya dance.



शिक्षकों को किया सम्मानित



शास्त्रीनगर स्थित संकल्प स्पेशल स्कूल में साहित्यिक संस्था विकासिका की ओर से शिक्षकों का सम्मान करते पदाधिकारी। अमर उजाला



- **October** – B.Ed students from Haleem Muslim PG College visited our school on 15th and 16th October as part of their academic curriculum. Rest of the month was mostly occupied with routine academic activities in academic section and Diwali sale in Vocational section. We had put up our stall at ESI office, Merchant's chamber, United Public school and Jaipuria School. From this month, we also decided to carry out outdoor games like cricket, badminton etc. regularly till the weather was good.
- **November** – This month, B.Ed students from Kanpur University and M.A Psychology students from VSSD college visited our school and interacted with our students. Children's day was celebrated at school where the teachers performed a play for the children. Some of the students went to a Book Fair to perform in their inclusive cultural activity. A group of 30+ students from Wendy school visited our school with their principal and teachers to distribute gifts to our children as part of their charity activity. For Saturday group activity, we decided to take out the children in batches of 20 to a nearby children park.
- **December** – On world disability day, we participated in We Care Film Festival organized by Brotherhood foundation which shoots and screens disability related small films to sensitize the general population towards the issues faced by people with disability. Our children performed a dance in its opening ceremony and our vocational stall was also put up there. We also participated in Christmas Carnival Charity sale at The Sports Hub. Our stall was sponsored by Young Indians. We also participated in the Inclusion Fest organized by YI and Wellness Community Foundation on 24th Dec. It included fun christmas activities for our children, putting up disability related issues before the Municipal Commissioner and Mayor of Kanpur and a placement drive for Special needs adults. Three of our children also gave interviews for various posts. Though they were not selected but they were able to face the interview and answer the questions asked was itself an achievement for us! The school closed for the winter break on 30th after a PTM.





What we did in 2025

- When I decided to give time at Sankalp regularly, I decided to reverse few decisions which were taken previously. First thing that I decided was to restore 6 days week for the children (It was reduced to 5 days week during the last year). This I decided because the 2 days weekend was becoming disruptive for many families. Plus the activities that the teachers were doing on Saturdays did not turn out to be very useful.
- Home visits were also stopped because it was not bringing out desired results since the teachers were not trained for very keen observation and family counselling.
- Preparation of monthly and weekly activity plans as this was also not useful since our teachers are not very sound in documentation. Also, because of the severity of problems in the students we have, we don't really see any real change every week so there is practically no real need of weekly activity sheet.
- Monthly PTMs were also not very useful since we observed that very less parents were actually turning up for PTMs because there was not much to be discussed every month. Instead, we decided to hold PTMs every 2 or 3 months.
- We have appointed a new physical therapist from July 2025. She is seeing few small children who are not old enough for sitting in class. She receives the fees of the children she sees and it is apart from our regular budget. With this arrangement, we will be able to cater to more children on OPD basis without any extra financial burden on us.

- By moving the existing aluminium partitions and using few more partitions, we have created a reasonable separate space to attend to the children who come for therapy.
- We have signed a MOU with Kanpur University where they will send their M.Phil psychology students for training in child psychology at our school. They will also be sending their counselling diploma students to us for internship.
- Two of the counselling students who came for internship last year have joined us as psychologists this year. They are helping in handling the children with specific behavioural issues and in providing counselling sessions for the parents.
- I, along with the two psychologists, am connecting with the parents one by one to extract more cooperation and efforts from them.
- We have started regular Saturday group activities.
- Sports activities are also being carried out routinely now which has made the school time more lively and interesting for the children.
- Our vocational unit is more stable and we reached out to many more people this year.
- We have segregated few (about 10) students who have the potential to grow academically and they have been placed in 2 specific classes. We have downloaded NIOS level A syllabus and are now trying to teach the children according to that syllabus.
- 6 teachers and myself have enrolled for a course from IGNOU which will make us eligible for getting registered with Rehabilitation Council of India. This will be helpful as the government rules regarding the qualification of employees at special schools are becoming tougher.

Activities of our vocational unit





Challenges faced

- The space issue is still there and we can take new admissions only when some previous child drops out but we are more or less ok with this situation now. (may be this was only my personal desire and now I am associated with another centre so I feel a satisfaction of serving more people. Also, may be my energy level is declining with age so I feel whatever we are doing is enough for now)
- Although I always wanted my staff to be very knowledgeable and methodical and they are not upto my expectations in this regard, I have realized that these are as good as the staff at any other centre. And it is not that if we can pay better and hire more qualified people, our performance will improve manyfolds.
- One thing which I wish for is to have an occupational therapist in our team because occupational therapy, if done properly, produces very good results. However, I think addressing this issue can wait because we have only 3 or 4 qualified occupational therapists in Kanpur and they all are self employed and extremely busy.
- Another thing that really pinches me is that I am not able to find any person who has a realistic vision, sincerity, dedication and willingness to learn to share my responsibilities so that I am reasonably free for further work.

Plans for the coming year

- Starting a residential centre for the adults with intellectual disability has been a dream since long. I am planning to move one step ahead in this direction by starting a day boarding within the existing premises. As per my understanding after talking to many people, I have planned to run this day boarding for about a year at get accustomed with the needs of the children after school hours. The next step would be to start a short stay home where the parents can leave their wards for 4-5 days whenever there is a need in the family. Once we are accustomed with handling the children during their short stay, we will be ready to start the proper residential centre.
- We have few mothers who are single or the husbands are not very supportive. We have planned to start a self-help-group for these women where they can work and earn something to support themselves and their children. As per how the equation is at present, this initiative will be headed by mother of one of our students who has retired from the post of professor in Food Technology.
- Improving the current functioning in whatever ways we can is ofcourse in agenda as always.
- Finding steadier channels for the sale of items produced at our vocational unit is also a target. The aim is to generate adequate funds so that we can give stipend to atleast 2 of our students who are doing majority work at the vocational unit.

Financials

Actual Monthly expenses as on FEBRUARY 2026

Category	Details	Expense
Rent + Electricity bill	School building (35000 + 5000)	40,000/-
Van Payments	2 Vans (1 doing triple round)	42,000/-
Staff salary	1 Principal (honorary)	135,764/-
	1 Coordinator cum computer teacher (12800)	
	1 Vocational instructor (8000)	
	2 Psychologists (12700)	
	1 Physiotherapist + assisstant (14166)	
	1 Speech teacher (9300)	
	10 Teachers (62495)	
	3 Supporting staff (16303)	
Miscellaneous expense	Maintenance, cleaning, repair, stationary etc.	4335/-
Fee received		86,100/-
Covered by Asha		114,498/-
Covered by Asha Kanpur		21,501/-

Funds exhausted till february '25

Month	Payment from Asha FC account		
	Rent	Salary	Total
April	35000/-	80197/-	115,197/-
May	35000/-	81029/-	116,029/-
June	35000/-	77535/-	112,535/-
July	35000/-	81662/-	116,662/-
August	35000/-	80463/-	115,463/-
September	35000/-	73079/-	108,079/-
October	35000/-	75335/-	110,335/-
November	35000/-	72749/-	107,749/-
December	35000/-	73258/-	108,258/-
January	35000/-	82210/-	117,210/-
February	35000/-	79498/-	114,498/-
TOTAL			12,42,015/-

Estimated monthly budget for

Apr 2026-March 2027

Category	Details	Expense
Rent + Electricity bill	School building (35000+6000)	40,000
Van payments	2 vans	42,000
Staff salaries	Principal (Honorary)	154,500
	Coordinator+computer teacher (13500)	
	2 Psychologist (12000)	
	Vocational instructor (8000)	
	1 physiotherapist + assistant (10000 + 6500)	
	1 speech teacher (10000)	
	10 Teachers (75000) (salary hike of around 1500/- per person is proposed)	
	3 Supporting Staff (19500)	
Misc. expenses	Maintenance & cleaning, repair work, stationary etc.	4,000
Fee received		-83,500
	Total monthly deficit	157,000

So, total funds needed for one year are-

$$157,000 \times 12 = 18,84,000/-$$

Funds requested from Asha

$$\begin{array}{r} 18,84,000/- \\ + 2.5\% = 47,100/- \end{array}$$

$$\underline{\underline{19,31,100 /-}}$$

Funds to be paid for 2026-2027

- Funds paid in 2025-2026: INR.14,44,300
- 8% Inflation

After chapter discussion ,

Requested amount -> (INR. 16,50,000)

Proposed budget for renovation

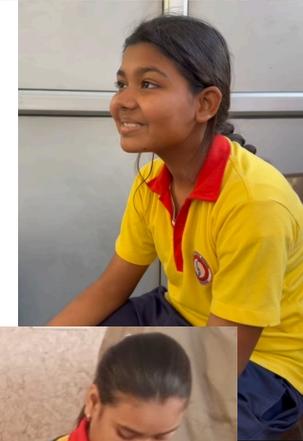
S.No.	Proposed work	Estimated cost
1.	Repair and renovation of the toilet area (including floor tiles, replacing wash-basins, changing 2 toilet seats and replacing plastic doors)	40,000/-
2.	Replacing 2 steel almirahs and buying 2 new almirahs for the therapy section	40,000/-
3.	Chairs for teachers (10)	15,000/-
4.	Table tops repairing (10)	20,000/-
5.	Benches for keeping bags (8)	15,000/-
6.	Removal of counters in the open area	5,000/-
7.	Flooring repair and polishing	40,000/-
8.	Sliding partitions for the open area (3)	60,000/-
9.	Roofing over the building (to prevent rain water coming in through the open verandah)	3,50,000/-
	TOTAL	5,85,000/-

Success Stories

- **DHANANJAY CHANDEL**– Dhananjay , a 30 yrs adult with ID, is a very old student. He had discontinued school few years back due to family’s restrains. He again joined school about an year ago and now we have appointed him as an employee and his name is written in the employees register. He is also given a monthly stipend of Rs 1000/- (from the vocational sales) for the miscellaneous work that he does. Due to him, we have not kept the fourth helper staff after one of them left in September due to health reasons. He also sits at the vocational stall and is now learning how to behave with customers and motivate them to buy various items.



- **ANIKA DWIVEDI**– Anika is a 12 years old girl with autism and is with us since last 2 years. She had good functional ability but used to keep absolutely quiet at school and did not obey most of the commands. On giving individual attention to her and using music to motivate her to speak, she has shown exceptional improvement. She now interacts with the teachers and answers all questions. Ofcourse she communicates in slightly peculiar way but atleast she can now express her needs, wants and wishes. Due to this, the teachers and parents can manage her more efficiently and her productivity has increased.



- **NANCY SINGH** – Nancy is a 18 years old girl with autism and she has been with us since last 9 years. She is functionally very good and has a creative disposition. She helps us in all activities of the vocational unit. She has learnt cooking and prepare a simple meal herself. She is also very good at dancing and drawing. We have recently appointed a drawing teacher for her who comes once a week. We get her paintings framed and we have sold 3 of her paintings till now, though at a nominal cost (because we are still in experimentation stage). We plan to promote her skill and give her a stipend soon.



- PRIYANSHU CHAURASIA** – Priyanshu is a 21 years old boy with Intellectual Disability and he is with us since last 5 years. When he came, he was behaviourally and emotionally not very stable. He had the abilities but he never participated in any activity and took a lot of time to respond to any instruction. The family had shifted to Kanpur from Karnataka after his father lost his job during COVID. His mother was psychiatrically unstable and had very negative attitude. With repeated counselling of the mother and regular work with, Priyanshu, he has become quite active and responsive now. He talks, plays cricket with other children, follows instructions during activities and interacts with other children and teachers. Mother is also much stable now and the family is reasonably settled.
- JASHANPREET SINGH** – Jashanpreet is a 8 years old child with severe autism with severe intellectual disability. He is with us since last 3+ years . When he had joined us, he was very irritable and kept on crying most of the time and was totally non-responsive. He did not show much progress till last year but now, he is actively responding to commands and enjoys the activities. He now comes and goes in school van and enjoys his ride in the van along with other children. Parents are very happy and relieved with this progress.
- VARUN SAXENA** – Varun is 22 years old boy with autism. He is with us since last 6+ years. Before that, he was taking home tutions and individual therapy sessions. He had severe social anxiety and behavioural rigidity. He did not want to try any new thing and he had all sorts of excuses for not doing things. Due to this, it was very difficult to teach him anything and make him indulge in new experiences. However now, he has become quite open and even if he doesn't want to do something, he agrees to try it if properly convinced. He has completed a basic computer certificate course from NCSC-DA. We are currently preparing him for data entry and basic graphic designing work.

