

Funding Request for Academic Year 2026-2027

KOLOTAN: Shaping Chaos into Cosmos



Proposal Submitted to Asha for Education, Danbury Chapter - Introduction

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Asha for Education, Danbury Chapter, for its continued support and encouragement of Kolotan's educational initiatives. Your support has enabled us to provide meaningful learning opportunities to children from economically disadvantaged families in rural West Bengal and has strengthened our efforts to create an inclusive, child-centered educational environment.

Kolotan was founded in 2019 by a group of educators inspired by the educational philosophy of Rabindranath Tagore and the belief that education should be joyful, meaningful, and connected to life. We strive to provide holistic education that nurtures curiosity, creativity, critical thinking, social responsibility, and respect for nature.

About Kolotan

Kolotan is a community-based educational initiative located in Santoshpur, Mirhati, under Amdanga Block of North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. The school primarily serves children from economically vulnerable families, many of whom are first-generation learners.

Our vision is to nurture each child to become a compassionate, confident, responsible, and thoughtful human being. We believe that education should not be confined to textbooks but should engage children with their environment, community, culture, and the wider world.

Kolotan integrates academics with art, music, craft, environmental education, critical thinking, and social awareness, creating a joyful and meaningful learning experience for every child.



Current Programmes and Initiatives of Kolotan

Kolotan is not merely a school but a community-based educational and cultural initiative that seeks to create opportunities for holistic development among children, parents, and the wider community. Alongside its formal school programme, Kolotan continues to run several educational, cultural, and community-oriented initiatives.

1. Kolotan: Shaping Chaos into Cosmos

The flagship programme of Kolotan is a co-educational community school that provides holistic education from Play Group onwards. The programme emphasizes experiential learning, creativity, environmental awareness, social responsibility, and emotional well-being while ensuring academic development.

2. Haate Khorī: Bhalobese Shekhar Bornomalay

This initiative supports foundational literacy and numeracy through joyful and activity-based learning methods. The programme helps children develop language and mathematical skills while nurturing a lifelong love for learning.

3. Wings: Let Your Dream Fly

Wings is an English language enrichment programme that helps children communicate confidently and engage with the wider world. Through storytelling, conversations, games, and creative activities, students strengthen their communication skills and self-confidence.



4. Art Workshops and Creative Learning Activities

Kolotan regularly organizes art workshops and creative learning sessions that encourage imagination, self-expression, and innovation. These activities help children develop confidence, creativity, and problem-solving abilities.

5. Annual Art Scholarship Competition

To encourage artistic talent among rural children, Kolotan organizes an annual Art Scholarship Competition. The programme provides recognition and encouragement to talented students while fostering appreciation for arts and culture.

6. Cultural Programmes and Community Celebrations

Throughout the year, Kolotan organizes cultural events, festivals, performances, exhibitions, and community celebrations that promote creativity, cultural awareness, and social cohesion.

7. Parent Awareness and Capacity Building Programmes

Recognizing the critical role of families in children's development, Kolotan conducts regular awareness workshops for parents and guardians. These sessions focus on child development, health and nutrition, positive parenting, education, gender sensitivity, and emotional well-being.

8. Environmental Awareness Initiatives

Kolotan integrates environmental education into everyday learning and organizes nature-based activities, environmental campaigns, tree plantation programmes, and discussions on sustainable living practices.



9. Sumangali – Women's Livelihood and Artisan Development Initiative

Sumangali, a sister initiative of Kolotan Trust, works to empower rural women through skill development, preservation of traditional art forms, and livelihood generation. The programme helps women artisans create sustainable income opportunities while preserving local cultural heritage.

Together, these programmes reflect Kolotan's commitment to building a vibrant learning community where education extends beyond the classroom and contributes to the holistic development of children, families, and society.

Progress and Achievements

The support received during the academic year 2025-26 helped Kolotan continue all of its educational and community programmes successfully.

The grant supported:

- School rent and operational expenses
- Honorariums of teachers and support staff
- Parent awareness programmes
- Educational books and learning resources

During the year, Kolotan continued to provide child-centered education while strengthening community engagement and parental participation.

One of the most significant achievements has been the increase in student enrolment. The number of students has grown from 85 students to 107 students during the current academic year. This increase reflects the confidence that families and the wider community have developed in Kolotan's educational approach.

As enrolment grows, the need for educational resources, qualified staff, and operational support also increases.



Need for Support

Most families associated with Kolotan belong to low-income households and have limited capacity to bear the actual cost of quality education. Many parents are daily wage earners, small farmers, agricultural labourers, or informal-sector workers.

Kolotan deliberately keeps educational costs affordable to ensure that no child is denied access to learning because of economic hardship.

The requested support will help sustain essential educational services and operational requirements, including school rent, teacher honorariums, support staff salaries, educational resources, and parent engagement programmes.

Without continued external support, maintaining the quality and reach of these programmes would be extremely challenging.

Parent Awareness and Community Engagement

Kolotan believes that meaningful education requires active collaboration between school and home. Therefore, regular workshops are organized for parents and guardians on:

- Child development
 - Health and hygiene
 - Nutrition
 - Positive parenting
 - Gender sensitivity
 - Mental and emotional well-being
 - Environmental responsibility
- These programmes help create a supportive environment that contributes to children's overall development.



Expected Outcomes for 2026-2027

With support from Asha for Education, Danbury Chapter, Kolotan aims to:

- Provide quality education to 107 rural children.
- Improve attendance and student retention.
- Enhance access to books and learning materials.
- Strengthen parental involvement in education.
- Retain committed teaching and support staff.
- Promote creativity, critical thinking, and confidence among students.
- Continue all existing educational, cultural, and community programmes.
- Strengthen community participation and ownership of educational initiatives.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Kolotan will monitor progress through:

- Student enrolment and attendance records
- Teacher observations and assessments
- Student portfolios and project work
- Parent participation records
- Documentation of workshops and community activities
- Staff review meetings
- Financial monitoring and reporting

Regular reviews will ensure accountability, transparency, and continuous improvement.



Sustainability

Kolotan continues to mobilize support through community participation, individual donors, philanthropic organizations, and well-wishers. Community involvement remains central to our work, and efforts are continuously made to strengthen local ownership and diversify funding sources.

However, institutional support remains essential at this stage, particularly as enrolment and programme activities continue to grow.

Budget Request for 2026-2027

Description	Unit	Per Unit Cost (INR)	Months	Amount (INR)
Rent for the School Premises	1	22,500	12	270,000
Honorarium – Pre-Primary Teachers	2	13,000	12	312,000
Honorarium – Primary Teacher	1	13,000	12	156,000
Honorarium – Science Teacher	1	12,000	12	144,000
Honorarium – Attendants	2	7,000	12	168,000
Parent Awareness Workshops	1	6,000	12	72,000
Annual Book Purchase	-	-	-	18,000
Total Grant Requested				INR 1,140,000



Conclusion

Kolotan respectfully requests support from Asha for Education, Danbury Chapter, for the academic year 2026-2027. The requested grant will directly benefit 107 children and indirectly support their families and the wider community by ensuring the continuity of quality, holistic, and affordable education.

We are deeply grateful for your continued trust and partnership. Together, we can help create opportunities for children to learn, grow, dream, and contribute meaningfully to society.

Thank you for your consideration.

