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'Our teaching methodology focuses on a happy child'

Express Features

Early Years Centre (EYC), a branch of Jain Group of Institutions was started in Shantinagar in 2013 by the Chenraj Roychand. Sanjana Merlecha, director of the the play school-cum-kindergarten speaks with *CE* about the unique features of the school, teaching methodology and her future prospects.

There are many kindergartens in the city following various forms of teaching methodology. What format does EYC follow?

From the last five years, EYC has followed the methodology of Multiple Intelligence. This year, we have added a new methodology which focuses on core principles of nurturing imagination and creativity, using play as a tool for learning, developing social and emotional skills, fostering cognitive development, facilitating physical development, and infusing values and life skills. The vision is to provide a foundation for holistic development of the child, by fostering love for learning in a happy, safe and engaging environment, so that the child is ready for life and formal education.

There is equal focus on material and books, practical and theory as well as activity and knowledge. This in turn leads to a happy child. EYC helps a kid learn about himself, about other people, the world and how to work with numbers and understand communication. Children are taken for the field trips every month.



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— Sanjana Merlecha, director of Early Years Centre

What is the current strength of children? What are the facilities provided and how have you ensured proper security measures?

We currently have 35 children and the teacher student ratio is 1:15. The physical and psychological safety of children is a top priority in our school. We do not compromise on either of these two aspects. The physical layout

of the classroom, the materials we use and the quality of food for breakfast and lunch that we provide, follow the standards of safety requirements. Our teachers are well trained in child's rights and safety laws including POSCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act).

Facilities provided include smart boards in all the classes, physical sports activities for the children's mind development using the methodology of multiple intelligence and different types of activities related to sensory, auditory, fine and gross motor skills development. Transportation is available within 10kms of radius with well-trained lady security staff to pick and drop. We have GPRS systems and speed governance in the bus.

What is the marketing strategy being followed?

Marketing has solely been through word of mouth. But this year, we plan to go ahead with a full-fledged marketing plan and are looking at increasing the student strength.



Is getting a good faculty member a challenge?

Getting good faculty to handle small kids is indeed a challenge, but we have a centralised human resource department under JGI, which handles all recruitment for us.

What are your expansion plans?

We plan to open centres in areas such as Indiranagar and Koramangala.