



# YEARS OF EDUCATION EXCELLENCE

## **PROSPECTUS**



Personifying Excellence For More Than A Decade

## **ABOUT US**

Akshara International School (AIS), one of leading schools of Pune, is a co-educational private school affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), New Delhi. Being located near Hinjewadi Information Technology Park, it caters to a community of highly educated and well-travelled parents who expect world class quality education for their wards with Indian value system. The school was set up with the aim of meeting this expectation by developing the students holistically into global citizens with good human values and 21st century life skills.

The journey started in the summer of 2007, when Akshara began as a pre- primary school to make 'happy early learners' by providing them with a wide range of experiences. In 2010, the school shifted to its current campus at Wakad(a suburb of Pune) to embark on a journey to touch more lives for years to come. At its inauguration, it was blessed by the first woman President of India, Hon. Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil whose public work and leadership is an inspiration to the management and staff.

Today, AIS stands tall in a sprawling campus of 3 acres with the school infrastructure supporting all aspects of its holistic (intellectual, physical, logical and spiritual) development program.

- Digital classrooms and several subject labs (Academics)
- Playgrounds with international standard basketball court and football ground (Sports)
- 4 Auditorium, Amphitheatre. Music rooms, Dance hall (Fine Arts)
- Meditation Hall(Mindfulness)

During its journey so far, the school has received awards and recognitions from various forums. British Council has given International School Award in 2019 to the school for embedding an international dimension within the curriculum and for nurturing intercultural understanding and appreciation of sustainable dimension goals. The school has also been conferred with **Global Innovative School Award, GISA-2019, Dubai** for excellence and innovation in the field of education, under the category of Innovation in Pedagogy.

The school has been granted accreditation by the **National Accreditation Board for Education and Training** (NABET) after assessment of its processes for Quality School Governance.

# **MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON**



#### Dear parents and students,

Every academic session, a batch of Aksharites completes their schooling from this institution after giving their Board exams to pursue their dreams and aspirations. We, as an institution, feel proud to see them mature from kindergarten kids to adolescents and wish them success in their future life.

During the years at Akshara we consciously make an effort to instill in each one of them values which will make their lives meaningful, purposeful and happy.

The foremost one is to "Be a learner all your life". 'Akshara the school that instills continuous learning' is our motto. A motto in which we earnestly believe and endeavour to make our students – the global citizens who would continue to learn and grow. In fact, Continuous Learning is an attitude which needs to be inculcated because "The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn".

The other important value which we want our students to imbibe is "**Learning to respond and not react**" – Most of us react to a situation and not respond. Reactions are instinctual and stem from the subconscious mind. There is no filtering process when you react in a situation. Responses on the other hand are more thoughtful. When you respond, you weigh the pros and cons of the situation, take a pause and analyse the situation and then choose a response which is befitting for both you and the others in that situation. We imbibe this in our students through continuous and conscious daily practice of Anapana (Mindfulness through breath meditation).

Our school team is committed to helping each Aksharite steer his life journey to a purposeful destination and to make the ride joyful.

Ivoti Rathore

Jyoti Rathore
Founder & Chairperson

akshara International School

https://www.akshara.in/about-us/chairpersons-message/

" **akSHara**" from the Sanskrit signifies "Imperishable" and "Inexhaustible" and thus the name chosen for this institution of lifelong learning

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

"To nurture a global outlook by equipping each student to creatively and critically think with a good balance of knowledge, values and life skills which will help them face with resilience, the challenges of life and inculcate a sense of responsibility towards the needs of self and society in the 21st century."



#### **OUR CREDO**

Education at Akshara is based on 3 I's:



- 1. **International Vision:** Our goal is to create future global citizens with broad-based knowledge of the world we live in and capabilities for success in an international environment.
- 2. **Indian Heritage:** The rich Indian tradition and cultural values are instilled in the students through the school environment, activities and moral teaching.
- 3. **Individual Development:** The focus is on holistic development of each child through a variety of co-curricular and extra curricular activities in addition to the academic program; and for recognition of individual differences.

#### Pre-Primary - A Saga of **Innocence and Play**

"A small step for a giant exposure in a child's life."



## Foundational Years

Pre Primary is the first learning space which ensures a smooth transition from the child's comfort and secure zone to a new world. Pre-Primary has always been the first place where each and every child builds his / her self-esteem and is prepared well to adjust in his / her primary years.

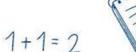
In these 12 years, we have always strived to create a positive learning attitude and build a basic foundation in language, comprehension, and management. Our teaching methods have evolved over the years wherein, a good head start for learning is followed, a fun-filled play way method is adopted, more exposure is provided to the children to enhance their communication skills.

Ms. Neelima Gandhi Coordinator, Pre- Primary











#### PROJECT BASED LEARNING

https://www.akshara.in/pre-primary/



# **Pre Primary**

Akshara Nurtury is a combination programme of the world's best practices in Pre-school segment along with Montessori methodology. The programme appreciates and focuses on developmentally and age appropriate curriculum.

This programme provides opportunities to build self-esteem and confidence learn social skills and develop learning dispositions.

#### We believe that:

- Love and security is the foundation of positive childhood development
- Social and emotional development is critical for young children
- Following the lead of the child is the core Montessori philosophy
- An enriched and well prepared environment is the key for a satisfying experience for children at school







# Formal Schooling Primary Years 21st century Education

# **Primary**

The <u>curriculum</u> is based on the NCERT guideline, albeit with several innovations which are introduced after much research.

The focus is on holistic development (physical, intellectual, logical and spiritual) of the child through a broad multidisciplinary and balanced curriculum to enable learning through a structured schooling program.

The teaching approach is centered around activity-based experiential learning to stimulate the development of multiple intelligences, inherent in each child.

We do this by adopting the modern methods of teaching like use of LCD projectors, Audio-Visual, Story Method, Exploration and Research, Group Discussions (Debate) to make learning effective and an enjoyable experience.



# **Secondary**

In the Secondary section, the curriculum and pedagogy focus is on equipping our students with life skills and 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies beside holistic development.

The curriculum followed in Secondary classes is according to CBSE guidelines and NCERT curriculum.

Integrated studies, sometimes called interdisciplinary studies, brings together diverse disciplines in a comprehensive manner, enabling students to develop a meaningful understanding of the complex associations and influences within a topic. This endeavour involves extensive research and enhances the creativity, innovation, time management skills and social skills of the students.

Activity based learning: Every topic in all subjects is reinforced with research based, skill based or hands-on activities.

Use of ICT: The class room learning experiences are supported by audio visual aids like Powerpoint presentations, Audio/Video clippings etc.

Microsoft Teams: Notes and assignments are regularly uploaded on Microsoft teams for students, as a revision exercise.

Sports options: Sports options offered are Foot ball, Basket ball, cricket, archery, Badminton and Volley ball.

At the senior secondary level, the school offers Science, Commerce and Humanities streams) with broad selection of subjects choices.



https://www.akshara.in/secondary/

#### **21ST CENTURY SKILLS**































# Atat Tinkering Labs in Akshara





# **INFRASTRUCTURE**

Akshara follows an activity based, experiential learning approach to stimulate the development of multiple intelligences. The school program aims to bring out the inherent talent in each child through a wide range of curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular (e.g. sports, performing arts) activities.

#### **Classrooms** (Digitally Enabled for Learning)



Akshara classrooms are digitally enabled with smart board, projector and computer to supplement the traditional classrooms teaching with audio-visual aids.

Each child has secure cubby to keep his books so that all books need not be carried home and thus the school bag weight gets reduced.

The pre-primary classes are designed for activity based learning with corners like a Reading Corner with story books.

Click here to read more about "Classrooms - Digitally Enabled for Learning"

#### **Amphitheatre (a Hub for Cultural Activities)**

The school has an amphitheatre in the center of its building wherein morning assembly is conducted.

Various co-curricular activities and inter house competition are regularly hosted here amidst a competitive but energy filled environment.

Children practice and perform on the stage from pre-primary onwards which develops communication skills and helps in removal of stage fear.



Click here to read more about "Amphitheatre - Hub of Cultural Activities"

#### **Auditorium**



The school auditorium has seating capacity of 520 and is equipped with state of the art sound and stage lighting systems.

The stage has been designed to give students high quality theatre experience so that they get exposure to not only acting but also to stage operations as part of their drama classes.

Inter-house competition like debates and life skill workshops are hosted here.

#### Library (a Knowledge Resource Centre)

For development of good language skills, Akshara believes that children should develop the love for reading books from an early stage. For this at pre-primary level we have Reading Corner in each class. At the primary level we have introduced concept of a class library wherein a set of age appropriate books are issued from the central library to each section.

The school library is well equipped with books, digital resources and a large reading room.

National Library Day is celebrated on 12th of August every year in memory of Dr. S.R. Ranganathan, an exceptional librarian and mathematician. We do activities like DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) on this day besides organizing quizzes and literary games.

Click here to read more about "Library - Knowledge Resource Centre"

#### **Computer Labs**

The School has two well equipped computer labs for imparting ICT knowledge. The school has one computer per child policy and the school computer lab is adequately equipped for the same. Sessions on cyber safety, cyber bullying and judicious use of Internet/ social media are regularly conducted by the computer teachers. Click here to read more about "Computer Labs – Life At Akshara"



#### **Science Labs**



The school has well-designed separate science labs for Physics, Chemistry and Biology subjects, which are fully equipped as per the guidelines laid by CBSE.

**Atal Tinkering Lab** (ATL) has recently been set up in the school with the objective of creating a scientific temperament as well as cultivating the spirit of curiosity and creativity among our young students. The student will be exposed to emerging technologies like Robotics, Internet of Things, 3-D printing and drones through practical hands-on experiments.

Click here to read more about "Science Lab – Life At Akshara"

#### **Activity Rooms**

The music rooms for teaching guitar, keyboard, drums and table are equipped with 30 instruments provided by the school so that each child in the class gets exposure to music. Similarly the Art & Craft room is equipped with appropriate furniture and material to facilitate individualized teaching.

Click here to read more about: https://www.akshara.in/life-at-akshara/activity-rooms/



#### **Play Areas**



Segregated and age appropriate play areas have been created for outdoor and indoor sports activities.

The one acre play ground has a football zone and fenced basketball court.

An indoor hall is equipped for table tennis, chess and carom.

The pre-primary outdoor play area has rubberized flooring for safety of the students

**Masti Ki Pathshala** is an indoor play zone designed for playful activities and learning through exploration. It has play equipment, doll house, library and music corner.



#### **Dining Halls**

The school has two dining halls with age appropriate seating. It provides two nutritional meals (breakfast and lunch).

Click here to read more about "Dining Halls – Life At Akshara"

#### **Sports Ground**

The school has a one acre playground which includes:

- ❖ 15000 sq. ft. FIFA certified artificial grass football field
- ❖ 5 layer synthetic acrylic surface basketball courts (senior & junior)
- ❖ Artificial grass practice pitches for cricket
- Clay court for volleyball and Indian sports
- Outdoor gym for senior secondary fitness classes





## **AWARDS & RECOGNITION**



#### **International School Award (ISA)**

British Council International School Award 2019-2022.

https://www.akshara.in/isa-award-2019-22/

#### **Maharashtra School Merit Award**

In a survey conducted by the Education Today under the category of the Top 20 CBSE schools, the school is ranked No. 15 in Maharashtra and 4th in Pune.





#### **National Education Excellence Award**

The National Education & Human Resource Development Organization (NEHRDO) recognized the school for its outstanding contribution in the field of education and presented the "National Education Excellence Award"



#### **India Book of Record**

The dance event at school fest 'SPANDAN' was recorded in India Book of Records under the category of 'Largest Flash Mob Dance for a Noble Cause' with 1898 participants dancing for 14m 09s.

#### **Top Schools of India**

Akshara was recognized for its innovative practices and contribution in the field of education at the School Leadership Summit 2019 organised by Elets Technomedia.



#### **Logiqids - Award of Excellence**

LogIQids, established by alumni of IIT and IIM, conducts logical reasoning competitions



#### Quality Brands India School Award 2019-2021

On survey and recommendation of National Education and Human Resource



#### **GLOBAL INNOVATIVE SCHOOL AWARDS (GISA) - 2019**

Akshara has been conferred with the

GLOBAL INNOVATIVE SCHOOLS AWARD (GISA) 2019



# FIST 2020 Award for 'Safe and Secure Educational Facility'

The Fire & Security Association of India ("FSAI") conducts Finest India Skills & Talent ("FIST") Awards (www.fistawards.in) every year to recognize extraordinary contribution of organizations and individuals in the field of security, safety, firefighting and emergency response.

The school was the winner under the 'Safe & Secure Educational Facility' category and the FIST 2020 award was received by our Director, Mr. Jayesh Rathore and safety consultant, Mr. Virendra

Safe & Secure Education

Borade on 27th February, 2020 in New Delhi. Akshara is committed to Student Safety and has adopted best practices to ensure a secure environment for its students, staff and visitors.

