

Shireesha Kolli
Principal,
The Creek Planet School,
Orbit Campus

“As Stephen Hawking said, “Intelligence is the ability to adapt to change.” We educationalists quickly accepted the challenge, showed the courage to change and adopted new methodologies and techniques of teaching and learning.

INTELLIGENTLY ADAPTING TO CHANGE

To overcome the challenges of the pandemic, The Creek Planet school-Orbit Campus spent relentless hours training teachers, learning tech-based methodologies, adjusting the curriculum and tried and tested different platforms to run online classes. It took few months to address various issues and emerge strong. Students adapted quickly to the new normal and showed progress in learning. Many parents how-

ever were unsure about tech-based online learning and didn't understand the importance of keeping children actively engaged. After almost 18 months of virtual school, teachers are more confident with technology and digital tools and ready to face challenges. The team at The Creek Planet School-Orbit campus is much stronger now and evolved and committed to continue nurturing students.



Manija Subramnayam
Principal,
Rockwell International
School, Kokapet,
Hyderabad


“The challenges during the pandemic had pedagogical and psychological dimensions.

MOTIVATING STUDENTS TO OVERCOME TOUGH TIMES

Although digital learning helped connect with students during the pandemic, limited screen time especially, restricted instruction time. Further, electronic gadgets were detrimental to skill development.

Hence Manija Subramnayam encouraged staff to work cohesively to help students earn good grades and best college placements. The principal also takes pride in the fact that the school achieved higher average than the IBDP world average; commendable grades in CAIE; higher than the national average in CBSE.

Teachers were trained regularly on innovative apps and were connected to parents via phone for immediate support. The student counselor conducted regular sessions for mental wellness and resilience among students and staff. Manija Subramnayam also ensured more collaboration across schools at the global level to exchange ideas and practice. The prizes won in interschool virtual competitions and participation in celebrations motivated students over time. Effective adoption of the SOP helped reopen the school and the transparency helped garner parental confidence and support.



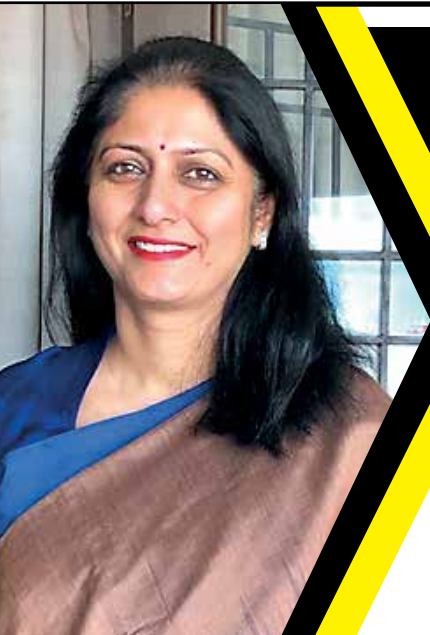
Trupti Rao
Principal,
The Premia Academy,
Attapur

“The year 2020, saw us all faced with unforeseen circumstances. What made all the difference was how we responded to it.

STORM OR RAIN...THE SHOW MUST GO ON!

Trupti Rao, Principal of The Premia Academy thinks it's all about perspective. The education fraternity deserves a pat on the back for reinforcing that learning is unstoppable. Team Premia took "the show must go on" quite literally and didn't let any obstacle deter them from delivering quality education in the pandemic year. Academic rigour amidst COVID-19 was very enthusiastically greeted by her team as an invigorating challenge. With a positive mindset, they were quick to pivot to the online tools to make sure children

didn't miss school. She is incredibly proud of Premia for having consistently risen to the occasion. Under her guidance, the school commits to create, motivate and innovate throughout the learning process, with an attitude of gratitude and standing by all those who have faith in them. At Premia, each day is a wonder for the curious little minds as their integrated curriculum nurtures socially responsible, empowered children. Looking back, Ms. Rao is delighted to say that it was all about being resilient and holding integrity above all!




Anju Sharma
Principal,
Phoenix Greens School of
Learning, Kokapet

“Train your mind to see the good in every situation because at the pinnacle of its conclusion, the whole universe is nothing but a projection of mind.

ADJUSTING MINDSETS FOR A SMOOTH TRANSITION

None can destroy iron, but its own rust. Likewise, none can destroy a person, but his own mindset. Phoenix Greens imbibes this value, and when the pandemic threw a curveball, they swiftly adjusted their mindset and ensured a smooth transition from physical classes to 'Live' digital classes. Despite these trying times, Anju Sharma, Principal, believes students have continued to succeed in their endeavors and is extremely proud of them. Under her guidance, the school seamlessly conducted all activities online to keep

students constantly engaged with the school and their peers. They also started Senior Secondary and Cambridge curriculum during the pandemic, with future ready classrooms with Interactive Digital Panels. Anju Sharma has also ensured the school lends a helping hand towards the mental, physical and financial wellbeing of the community. They have also undertaken vaccination drives for teachers, support staff and their families. Here's to marching forward together into the future, with a healthy body and a healthy mind!



Aparna Prasad Cherukuri
Principal,
Canary The School, Miyapur

“COVID-19 has caused education, as we conceived it before the pandemic, to blow up in the air like a non-scheduled fireworks display.

CHANGING LIVES MEANINGFULLY

The image of a school suddenly changed from concrete to being virtual. Regular periods of one hour paved the way to mixed models of synchronous and asynchronous classes. Gadgets were elevated from being sources of entertainment to playing an integral part in learning. For those reassuring pats, holding hands and sharing smiles (often taken for granted), a special period of 'Bonding Time' had to be created. Like any life-changing event, COVID taught everyone the power of caring, sharing, and networking to bring out talents,

creativity and collective strengths. Led by the principal, Aparna Prasad Cherukuri, Canary has crossed the long, dark tunnel and emerged with upgraded skills in technology, learnt new ways of teaching, and vastly improved in digital literacy. The principal and team at Canary continue to deeply reflect on what they have experienced to come out as a stronger community, with a fairer and more supportive system that really can change Canarians' lives meaningfully!



Shanmugha Valli
Center Head,
SEEDS Uranus Campus

“Although COVID-19 significantly impacted our lives physically and emotionally, I can say that my passion for work taught me to be resilient, reflective, motivating and innovative during these challenging times.

TRANSFORMING ADVERSITY INTO OPPORTUNITY

COVID-19 has been a life changer, teaching us to live in the new normal. The scale and rapidity with which educators responded to school closure and fundamentally shifted all aspects of work is striking. School principals, led this transition, helping faculty, staff, students and families learn amidst a highly uncertain environment addressing students' evolving needs. Principals worked with teachers to engage in higher, gen-

erative, strategic or "double loop learning". School leaders had to create conditions to facilitate opportunities for new ways of thinking and doing. They created structures and systems for creative problem solving and innovation. Options to support parents undergoing financial crisis also had to be developed. Working on feedback received, they continued to work for the betterment of learners.




Vani Lanka
Center Head,
SEEDS Mars Campus

“As leaders, we tried our best to work positively on change management, shifting from 'know it all' to 'learn it all' mind set. This helped us manage this uncertainty and inspire and instill confidence in our teachers, students and parent community.

OVERCOMING UNCERTAINTY WITH POSITIVITY

The unprecedented COVID-19 crisis certainly came as a jolt. Educational institutions had to act vigilantly, prioritising the well-being of young minds. SEEDS Mars campus navigated through the uncertainty owing to parental and management support and strong guidance from the academic head and team. As education underwent a metamorphosis, teachers who were used to brick and mortar

classrooms swiftly moved to online classrooms, they underwent in-depth training in using flipped classrooms and blended learning. Integrating technology based tools into teaching made learning more engaging and enjoyable. To overcome the lack of social emotional connection, the school created various activities for the children to interact and connect with each other.



Jivitesh Reddy
Principal,
Niraj Public School

“When COVID-19 jeopardized education with shutting down of educational institutions, we implemented myriad steps to provide quality education to students.

QUALITY EDUCATION IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Under the able leadership of Principal Jivitesh Reddy, Niraj Public School introduced the MCB app with seamless technology and resources to ensure children had access to enhanced, quality education while staying safe at home. It provided stimulating and engaging sessions with videos and visuals. Uploading of notes and worksheets made learning effective. Google classroom enabled educators to conduct and evaluate students' performance. Google meet

bridged the communication gap between parents and teachers. Class four workers employed by the school were retained and vaccinated along with teachers, by the school. Other initiatives included distribution of ayurvedic tablets among staff, conducting antibody tests and organizing an orientation by Covid specialist Ajmal for staff and students. He also ensures that the entire school is sanitized using the latest silver nano technology regularly.



V. V. SESHU
Principal, Unicent School,
Bachupally, Hyderabad

“Continuous learning is our consistent companion to overcome the challenges of life.

ONLINE TEACHING – A NEW MILESTONE IN THE EDUCATION JOURNEY

The Corona virus traumatised the entire world in the year 2020 and the effect of the pandemic had drastically changed the way of life for everyone. This situation challenged the education system worldwide and forced educators to shift to an online mode of teaching from the offline mode. V. V. Seshu, Principal, Unicent School, ensured numerous training programmes and workshops with specific emphasis on online teaching were conducted for teachers, parents and students. Very soon, the teachers were

well equipped with not only the latest technology and various digital tools but also cyber security. Parent groups were taken into confidence and awareness was created with the modern techniques of teaching. The adoption of online teaching was a new milestone in the long journey of education. The principal also commands the coordination and cooperation from the parent community and believes that the transformation by the teachers of Unicent highlights their passion and commitment exhibited towards the welfare of the children.

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