

DIAMOND JUBILEE HIGH SCHOOL – MUMBAI – EXCELLENCE IN NATIONAL CURRICULUM SCHOOL – SOUTH MUMBAI

In conversation with of Diamond Jubilee High School



Joydeep Kar and Nutan Iyer from Diamond Jubilee High School felicitated for Excellence in National Curriculum School (South Mumbai)

What makes this recognition special to you? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

The recognition is very special and it reassures us of our efforts as a school and a team at large.

I dedicate this recognition to my brilliant and delightful students, diligent staff, supportive parents and the management at Aga Khan Education Service, India, who incessantly encourages and guides us in our endeavours.

What do you think of Mid-days initiative in starting these recognitions?

This initiative is a very thoughtful one, indeed. At times, as teachers and leaders of a school, we look forward to being acknowledged, encouraged and appreciated in small ways. When a renowned newspaper, which is well-received by a large section of society recognizes the good work we do for the benefit of our students, it is a feeling of pride and positive reinforcement for us.

In times ahead, we hope to reach greater heights and contribute to student-development in many more ways.

What do you consider the USP of your educational institute?

As an organisation, we are an adaptable and pluralistic in nature and in my opinion, this sets us apart from the others. We believe that, accepting change and promoting innovation among our students and teachers is paramount to our spirit of growth. We thoroughly believe

in orchestrating various platforms for 'Professional Development' of our teachers so that they are abreast with the most updated and creative teaching pedagogies and classroom strategies, which aid in transacting meaningful learning in the classroom. Our teaching methodology is purely learner-centred, thus, empowering our students to be, not only academic achievers but also human beings, who are skilled to succeed in their life after school. We invest our efforts, profoundly in ensuring all-round development of our students.

What has been the mission of your school?

The mission of our school is to enable many generations of students to acquire both knowledge and the essential wisdom to balance that knowledge and enable their lives to attain the highest fulfilment.

What is the vision of your school and how far do you think you have been able to achieve it?

Enriching lives by creatively enhancing and sustaining quality education in a relevant global environment.

We have achieved it to large extent. However, this is only the beginning and 'we have miles to go before we sleep'. Although, our hard work has been appreciated and we have things to take pride and happiness in, we will strive to reach unprecedented heights.

With an emphasis on the holistic

development of students, what has been your approach towards educating the child both academically and socially?

While, academic rigor is significant for a student to succeed, skills to function beyond school are essential, preordained and an inevitable component in the child's holistic development. Affordances of such practice are directly proportional to each child's academic and social progress.

We lay equal emphasis on curricular and co-curricular subjects and facilitate the building of a strong ethical sense in children, which is imperative in making them human beings for a virtuous future. According to me, it helps the child to discern between 'the righteous' and 'the incorrect'.

With competition in every sphere of life, how much do you think students need to be pushed for excellence and how?

The competition around the globe today, is immense. Nevertheless, we need to be mindful that each child has interest, ability and proficiency, which may be unique in their own ways. As an educational organisation, we attempt to nurture their capabilities. According to me, this will ensure excellence in students' performance and skills; pushing them towards anything will never be an option.

At the Diamond Jubilee High School, we accept children with their individual differences, respect their competencies and interest. We guide them to strive for excellence with the best of their abilities.

An Introduction to Aga Khan Education Service

The Aga Khan Education Services (AKES) is one of the largest private, not-for-profit, non-denominational educational networks in the developing world. AKES currently operates over 200 pre-primary, primary, secondary, and higher-secondary schools and programmes in diverse geographic locations in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Uganda and the United Arab Emirates. Schools offer their respective country's national curricula; some schools in East Africa and Bangladesh also offer international curricula (IB and British).