

VOLUME VII

# CELEBRATING 40 GLORIOUS YEARS



RUBY JUBILEE ISSUE

# ADHYAAPANAM

# EDITORIAL

## Dear Readers,

We take great pleasure in bringing this special issue commemorating the Ruby Jubilee year of SIES Institute of Comprehensive Education to you. This special issue traverses over the last 40 beautiful, impactful and satisfying past in the field of training and education. We have special wishes from our strong supporters Dr. Uma Shankar, Principal of SIES College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Sion and Dr. Seema Mishra, Director of SIES Indian Institute of Environmental Management, Nerul. They have not only given us space in their campuses, but also in their hearts.

As we walk down memory lane, we take you across the turns, the rises and the joyful memory that it offers. Our growth trajectory is showcased by notes written about our torch bearers and our staff, the important flame holders. Our leaders have immensely contributed to the growth of our institution. We also have alumni voices in the form of interesting articles, student testimonials, and photo gallery filled with memories of the glorious past. Since schools play a crucial role in the education of young children, Ms. Kalyani Arumugam, Principal of our SIES High School, Matunga gives us that Magic touch through her article.

We believe in the Latin adage "ad astra per aspera" which means "through adversity to the stars". The pandemic delayed and dampened the celebrations, but it did not extinguish it. The fire to excel burns bright in all our minds, hearts and hands. As we walk back to the physical classrooms as well as online classrooms on some days, we take on the task of engaging students, especially the millennials in the most effective way. Thanks to the enormous learning we received in the last two years, our curriculum and teaching methodologies embrace the "new normal" in a very befitting manner.

Our logo symbolises the rising sun.  
May all our journeys be as  
resplendent as that of the sun.

**Happy reading one  
and all!**

**Dr.Vidhya Satish**



## TAKE A PEEK

### Index

- **Editorial – Dr.Vidhya Satish**
- **Wishes from Principal, SIES ASCS & Director, SIES IEM**
- **Small Steps in a Satisfying Journey: A Walk down Memory Lane of SIES Institute of Comprehensive Education – Dr. Vidhya Satish**
- **Torch Bearers and Flame Holders**
- **The Magic Touch – Ms. Kalyani Arumugam**
- **My paradigm shift – From a trailblazer to an achiever – Mrs. G. Vijayanthi**
- **Visualize – Manifest your Dreams – Ms. Vinita Nadkarni**
- **My take on Early Childhood Education at SIES ICE – Ms. Sangeeta Coutinho**
- **Training tailor made to empower lives – Ms. Arti Gandhi**
- **Student Testimonials**
- **Photo Gallery**



# Wishes from the Principal



**Dr. Uma Shankar,**  
Principal,  
SIES College of Arts, Science and  
Commerce,

It is very heartening to write this note as the Institute of Comprehensive Education completes forty years of its existence in our premises engaging in Diploma and P.G. Diploma courses under the stewardship of Dr. Vijaya Murthy and Ms. Saraswathy Radhakrishnan. Now it is well managed by Dr Vidhya Satish and her team including many new tools of teaching and other pedagogies. As it is said, change is the end result of all true learning. As we move ahead in times , leaving behind the terrifying moments of the pandemic, change in every aspect of teaching and learning shall pave the path. It always comes with responsibility and hope to bring transformation in the minds of children. Appreciate all the contributors to the newsletter for sharing their valuable thought and knowledge with readers.

Best wishes to all.

# Comprehensive Education A Need of The Hour

**Dr. Seema Mishra,**  
Director,  
SIES Indian Institute of  
Environmental  
Management



‘Life is a learning process; learning is a lifelong process; you can’t separate them’. Lifelong learning begins in early childhood and continues throughout adult life through formal, non-formal and informal learning in all contexts, including family, school, workplace, neighbourhood, and other communities. Widening access and increasing participation to education and training throughout life and enhancing the quality of learning should be the key components of higher education institutions for instilling appropriate skills. In this regard comprehensive education is desirable for career advancement, social cohesion, and economic upliftment of society.

The New Education Policy (2020) of India emphasizes on providing equal opportunities to students by integrating vocational education in curriculum of schools and higher educational institutions. For maintaining the quality of delivery, the policy is promoting skill gap analysis and mapping of local opportunities. Further, it will be a golden opportunity for school dropouts or job seekers to upgrade them by upskilling and reskilling. The educational institutions have an opportunity to innovate to find models and practices suitable for integrating appropriate skills at different level of school and higher education.

This provides ample opportunity to institutions like SIES Institute of Comprehensive Education (SIES ICE) to support in Government of India’s National Skills Qualifications Framework for developing discipline wise tools for vocational studies. The 42 years of experience, highly qualified faculty, strength of students and support of large alumni base are some of the advantages that stand apart SIES ICE from other regular institutions.

Wishes to SIES ICE team for remarkable achievements before their golden century!



# Small Steps in a Satisfying Journey: A Walk down Memory Lane of SIES Institute of Comprehensive Education

**Dr. Vidhya Satish,**  
**Director, SIES Institute of Comprehensive Education, Sion and Nerul**

40 years of an institution is indeed a milestone. What started as a small institution training preschool teachers, today we have grown to spread our wings in the field of counselling and special education. Presently, we have a plethora of courses both online and offline. It is indeed a matter of pride to state that we were one of the pioneers in online education. Way back in the year 2014 we started our first set of online certificate courses in Special Education Needs (SEN).

Reflecting the past years from the year 1980, it is joyous to recollect great moments in the institute's trajectory towards excellence. Receiving our affiliation from the University of Mumbai to conduct Diploma programs in Early Childhood Care and Education in the year 1993 and the P.G. Diploma in Counselling in the year 2000 have been momentous. Till date we are the only college with this affiliation in the city of Mumbai. While many other teacher training institutions delinked from the University of Mumbai, we went ahead with the Diploma in Early Childhood Care and Education when it turned into a two-year program thanks to the constant support of our futuristic management that too in three languages – English, Hindi and Marathi.

Whoever thought that this program will turn into a NEP 2020 compliant program at that point of time!! Our training helps one to handle children in the early years in the best possible manner. Robust theoretical knowledge, intensive internships, workshops and activities that are developmentally appropriate have helped us carve a niche for ourselves in the space of early years education. No wonder that the institute is sought after for job placements from schools across Mumbai and Navi Mumbai. Our students are well-placed as Heads of Schools, heads of the preschool sections, coordinators, teachers to even teacher educators in a plethora of schools both in India and abroad. It is joyful when our alumni reach out to us from U.A.E., New Zealand, Singapore, Australia, Canada, U.K. and the United States of America.

Both the programs – the University of Mumbai affiliated, and autonomous P.G. Diploma in Counselling have drawn students from far and wide. These well-thought of, application-oriented and innovative courses have turned out to be a great contribution to developing professionals in the field of mental health. We owe our success to the teaching team, which has been a practical and scholastic combination of psychiatrists, developmental psychologists, human developmentalists, clinical psychologists, counsellors and specialists in different areas of mental health.

A holistic counselling training over the years has led to an alumni group working in various parts of the city and outside of Mumbai as crusaders of positive mental health. For a large number of students, this course has been a stepping stone towards further education in the field of psychology and mental health. Our certificate courses in counselling have been very popular courses. With two courses each year, we have attracted a number of professionals who have immensely benefitted from pursuing them.

What commenced as a 3-month certificate course in Special Education metamorphosed into a full year PG Diploma in Special Education from the year 2005.

Extensive and exhaustive internship of the students pursuing the special education program coupled with the best theoretical orientation has created a pool of alumni who have developed and brought remedial education to a new level. The year 2006 saw yet another course commencement – the P.G. Diploma in Early Childhood Education. With a small number of students who enrolled for this course, today this is a program which is much sought after. The course brought in orientation to research as the institute believed that it is important for



a teacher to move beyond only teaching to that of a researcher.

With courses in early years teacher training and counselling well in place, we were complacent with the progress of the institute. We shook ourselves out of our complacency to set our foot in online education in the year 2014. With great support and guidance from our management we started two Online Certificate Courses in Special Education Needs, the first of its kind when we joined hands with Drishti a pioneer organization working in the field of SEN. Today we have a bouquet of six online certificate programs in SEN that are paced from one month to six months. A good number of professionals have benefitted from these programs from India and abroad.

2016 was the year that has been etched in gold. It was the year Nerul Institute of Comprehensive Education (NICE) was born. To serve students from Navi Mumbai this branch of ours was initiated. The three streams – Teacher Education, Counselling and Special Education are offered here too but in a different format. Students of SIES NICE have secured jobs in elite schools across Navi Mumbai. This is indeed a feather in our cap.

The year 2017 was a remarkable year for the institute. As part of their CSR initiative, Tech Mahindra Foundation (TMF) partnered with us to curate a new program titled Diploma in

Early Childhood Development (DECD) to enable young girls and women from the lower income group to achieve gainful employment. Hundreds of girls and young women benefitted from this program. This course was carried out in the best possible manner. The institute once again gained the goodwill of people.

SARS-Cov2 brought in unexpected changes in the educational scenario across the globe. We embraced the adversity and learnt myriad things from conducting an online class to recording sessions to preparing hundreds of videos, to preparing interesting quizzes to video editing to a complete preparation of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) strategies to conduct classes for two full years. We grabbed this opportunity for new learning and designed a certificate course in Early Childhood Care and Development. We have completed three batches. From reaching out to NGOs in the city of Mumbai to interested parents from Dubai and teachers from a rural school in Assam, this course has been successful. The success of this online course has helped us to design one more full-time P.G. Diploma program in Early Childhood Education.

Over the years, we have incorporated latest research, innovative practices and contemporary knowledge to make all our courses very relevant and need-based. Our educational transactions are carried out through lectures both online and offline, workshops, seminars, internships, industrial visits, training programs and outreach activities for the community. We reflect on everything we do to make it relevant.

From practice teaching to podcasts from case vivas to online career fairs, from IEP kits to innovative videos, we have experienced and experiencing it all!

We were able to achieve all this thanks to the painstaking efforts of the former Directors, Coordinators, and the teaching team across these years. We rejoice and revel in our achievements, but we are completely aware of the fact that they are commas in our trajectory and not definitely a period.

“  
As Robert Frost states,  
“The woods are lovely,  
dark and deep, I have  
promises to keep. Miles  
to go before I sleep, miles  
to go before I sleep!”  
”

# The Torchbearers and the flame holders of the institute

John Maxwell states that "A leader is the one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way". For an organization to grow and blossom it takes the efforts of countless people who have toiled through the years to reach where it is today.



Dr. Murthy has been an enigmatic leader. With a National Award for her contribution to education, she has been instrumental in the curation of various courses that are offered by our institute even today. She has been a pioneer in educational innovation in the early years. The institute has received national and international recognition due to her painstaking efforts. Her dynamism and networking skills has helped place the institute in the top spot amongst schools, and counselling agencies. She encouraged creativity and innovation and provided opportunities to grow and explore in their own way. Dr. Murthy was an excellent orator, teacher, motivator and administrator. She was a true visionary who brought in innovative practices in the institute way ahead of the others. This has helped us carve a niche for ourselves, a space that we are proud of!



**DR. VIJAYA  
MURTHY**

**DIRECTOR (1980-2007)**



**MS. SARASWATHY  
RADHAKRISHNAN**

**DIRECTOR (2007-2010)**

The institute saw another head Ms. Saraswathy Radhakrishnan, who was a humane, warm and student friendly leader. The institute's administration is well organized thanks to her efforts. Her excellent interpersonal skills brought staff and students close to her and the institute and thus evolved the culture of a familial atmosphere in the institution. Her dedication to work was not only inspiring but had a cascading effect on all of us. She was and will be the mother figure to all of us at SIES ICE. The greatest lesson that she taught us was to conduct and value human relationships in the best possible manner. At the end of the day, we are largely dealing with human beings!! We thank you and miss you dear Ma'am.



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Dr. Vidhya Satish, as the Director of the institute has been the torch bearer, successfully carrying the legacy of her predecessors in making the institute stand tall as the beacon of quality training with her highly valued insights. SIES ICE has always been the first thing in her heart and mind resulting in a well-established branch at Nerul and materialisation of collaborative ventures including the prestigious project by Tech Mahindra Foundation. Initiation of various need-based programmes by her, in online mode is the reason that SIES-ICE, prides in having students across the globe. As an academican, ma'am's emphasis on the importance of research skills have helped the members of faculty, students and alumni grow in their career path. Adept at technology herself she continually motivates and encourages her students and colleagues to explore and innovate. Her kind, genuine and approachable nature makes her favourite amongst her students and helped students to become teachers, counsellors and special educators. Her inclination towards spiritual teachings and gratefulness in heart, gives her the strength to beat all odds and stand strong for her team members and students who look up to her as an inspiration.



**DR. VIDHYA  
SATISH**

**DIRECTOR (2010 TILL DATE)**



**MS. RUKHSHANA  
SHOLAPURWALA**

**PDGSE COURSE  
COORDINATOR**

Ms. Rukhshana is the course coordinator for the special education program. A well-known special educator with exemplary experience in the field, she brings in the best practices to the course. Under her tutelage hundreds of students have become remedial educators who are not only skilful but also very sensitive to the needs of special children. An extremely organised and systematic person, has contributed to the field in various ways – as an author she has developed a guide to remedial education by way of her books, as a remedial educator she not only certifies children with Learning Disabilities, but offers remediation to them, as a course coordinator she has designed and developed programs in special education and as a human being, she is warm, loving, fun and with a childlike disposition. She is an invaluable asset to the institute.



# The Torchbearers and the flame holders of the institute

John Maxwell states that "A leader is the one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way". For an organization to grow and blossom it takes the efforts of countless people who have toiled through the years to reach where it is today.

Ms. Rupal Vora is the face of the institute when it comes to the counselling programs. A trained counsellor by profession, she is an alumna that we are proud of. Her good networking skills helps the institute to get the right practitioner to the classroom. From working as a counsellor at a Deaddiction centre to a social worker at the Crime against women cell, Delhi Police Headquarters to doing volunteer work, her rich experience makes her classes interesting and relatable. She displays her love for learning by participating in various seminars, workshops and training programs. Her liking for designing new courses has helped the genesis of few courses of the institute. She is yet another person with a child-like enthusiasm when it comes to any new learning.



**MS. RUPAL VORA**  
COUNSELLING COURSE  
COORDINATOR





# The Magic Touch

Ms. Kalyani Arumugam,  
Principal, SIES High School, Matunga



“  
The mediocre teacher tells,  
The good teacher explains,  
The superior teacher demonstrates.  
The great teacher inspires!

~ William A. Ward  
”

Each one of us must strive to become great teachers who can inspire our students. Let us understand what inhibits a few of us from becoming great teachers.

1. Content mastery- We are in an era where information is available in abundance. It is very important for a teacher to gain mastery over the content i.e., have exemplary subject knowledge that she is going to teach in a particular class.

2. Communication skills- However good a teacher's content knowledge, it will be futile if it is not communicated effectively to the students. Therefore, it is important for a teacher to possess effective communication skills so that the content is delivered in the most appropriate manner.

3. Engaging pedagogy- An engaging teacher is actively involved with his or her students. The teacher must understand the needs of her students and accordingly choose a pedagogy.

4. Objective clarity - Before entering the class, the teacher needs to have clarity of objectives. She /he needs to achieve through his/her 40 minutes of teaching at any given point of time.

5. Patience- A patient teacher not only listens to his/ her students but also does not display his/ her frustration to students under any circumstance.

6. Adaptability to technology- A good teacher must be quick to adapt to the changing times. The need of the hour is to be tech savvy and keep oneself abreast with the innovative techniques.



7. Passion- A passionate teacher loves what he / she does and thus will pour his heart and soul in moulding his/ her students in the best possible way.

8. Discipline- The above seven qualities will automatically bring in discipline and class control.

Lack of the above eight qualities or a deficiency in possessing a few of the qualities makes all the difference and decides whether one is a mediocre teacher or a great teacher.

I personally believe that every teacher can become a GREAT teacher if they possess the 'MAGIC TOUCH'.

**M- Listening mother to a school student**

**A- Accepting the student as he/she is without any bias**

**G- Gear students up to face real life situations**

**I- Identify their strengths and weaknesses**

**C- Correct students' actions where required**

**T- Think before tagging students**

**O- Occupy them with positive thoughts**

**U- Understand the problems faced by students**

**C- Be a Confidantè**

**H- Extend your helping hand when required**

In conclusion, I wish to state that the life of a school student who is the future of this planet, lies in the hands of a teacher. Let us all use the Magic Touch and make this planet a better place to live in.

# My paradigm shift – From a trailblazer to an achiever

Mrs. G. Vaijayanti,  
Suchitra Academy



I am a teacher. I have been one for the last 21 years now. And I can definitely say that by far it has been the most satisfying and fulfilling experience of my life – to help students dream and then make them real.

As I look back at the past two decades, I realise that I have innumerable people to thank – from within my family to every student in my class who has refined me and defined me and made me the teacher that I am today. Above all to my Alma Mater that paved the way for my teaching career – SIES Institute of Comprehensive Education.

My plan to join SIES was met with a collage of exclamations because I was a qualified MBA who had held ground in the glamorous Corporate world of Advertising. But I was reinventing the wheel for myself. I wished to change course and roll in an unknown direction and see where it led me. I decided to make the paradigm shifts and I now realise that it's the best frame of mind to be in when you wish to change. My quest led me to SIES college. My life's most precious find!

SIES transformed me. I decided to deep dive into the offerings of this well-planned and comprehensive course where I learnt that teaching is creativity and technique rolled into a perfect confluence that aims to open a spectrum for thoughts, ideas, actions and possibilities for a student. I have ever since carried this realization and attitude – right from my classroom in SIES college into my own classroom now. As a class we danced, sang, scripted, composed, dramatized, planned and above all realized that we are multi-talented simply because the approach at SIES was very engaging and interactive – we were always up to something! It was therapeutic in all ways.

My involvement as a student was complete. At times, I felt over-qualified and hence awkward – but what's dispersion if it doesn't unsettle you! I studied harder. I tried out creative ways to present my lesson plans. My class was a mixed bag of age-groups and languages. So, my year end revision was done in the course of translating the curriculum into

Hindi and Marathi for a few batchmates. And towards this I was thrilled when I got a certificate of appreciation – 'Miss Linguistic' and vividly remember my Professor Mrs. Vidya announce that this is the first time they were giving this certificate to any student. I was so happy.

When I enrolled for the SIES Teacher training course there wasn't any road ahead – I was blazing my own trail. And I credit my professors at SIES who allowed me the freedom to run amok – that's how I learnt to wander, wonder and look for solutions. While I learnt a lot in class what I retained and applied eventually has been of essence. And I am happy where I stand today. Building, creating and affecting change – one student at a time. Teaching empowers me to look into the future while standing in the present. To anyone who's reading this: before asking the golden question 'what's in it for me?' ask yourself what you are willing to give. Life is like a mirror – it reflects the truth. If you want the reflection to be perfect work on the image.

Receiving the Best student award was my moment of joy and deliverance. I will always cherish my time at SIES. This institute gave me a direction, empowered me, allowed me to rediscover myself.

I will always remain indebted to my Alma Mater for this, forever more.

Vaijayanthi



# Visualize - Manifest your Dreams

**Ms. Vinita Vijay Nadkarni,  
Freelance Educator (General and Special Education)**



**Do dreams really come true...???**

heart. I cherish each and every moment.

This was a question that haunted me for a long time.

Then I remembered Paulo Coelho's quote:

*"And when you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you achieve it". (The Alchemist)*

Eventually, after completing the course, with an ECCED Diploma in hand and a ready job waiting for me at the esteemed St. Gregorios Nursery and Kindergarten School, I stepped into a wonderful world of more learning. Here, the Principal Dr. Mrs. Ranjini Krishnaswamy, my mentor nurtured and ignited the flame of educational pursuit.

It's true..!

In the sabbatical year that I took, I returned to my Alma Mater SIES.ICE, to pursue my dream of being a Special Needs Educator. Ms.Rukshana Sholapurwalla heightened the content of this course by her joyous and fun teaching. One learnt that no "Dis"ability is common and general... Each learning challenge is different and should be treated with kindness an individual specific approach. After an enlightening work experience with ChildReach's outreach program at a school in Bandra, a short hiatus followed.

I started my journey with this famed and yet humble organisation, SIES Institute of Comprehensive Education. In the 1990's when I was looking out for the best profession that would encompass my love for children, my passion for art and craft, and the opportunity to learn, share pedagogies, this educational institute rendered the dream to me. From the basics to the specifics: From simple to concrete, as the early childhood care and education course entails, it was holistic, wholesome and explained in detail, the role of an early childhood educator. The hours of library visits, the fragrance of the books; two of my very favourites; Developmental Psychology by Elizabeth Hurlock and The Exploring Child by Ruth Kohn. These have been my guide, in the early years. The faculty, led by the Founder Dr.Vijaya Murthy made the entire course an enticing learning experience. I still hold the memory of those years close to my

The wait for something productive was soon over. A call from my Alma Mater and once again, my dream was ignited. This time, I was on the other side. I joined the team as a faculty for Paper – III and with a lot of trepidation and nervous excitement, I treaded on. At the threshold of an even more satisfying profession, I started sharing my experience of the

good 14 years of preschool, first grade through 8th (Art & Craft) that I had experienced and shared at my former workplace (St. Gregorios High School).

With the constant encouragement of my well-loved Director Dr. Vidhya Satish and the HOD of Counselling, Ms.Rupal Vora, I felt free to extend the knowledge learned in the past years. With the support of the team, I learnt many nuances of the teaching fraternity and understood the dynamics of education. It was in this phase, that I was given the responsibility of a project, not nearly, but almost close to my role model Sudha Murthy's achievements: that of being a contributor in the CSR project of The Tech Mahindra Foundation. The Director, our prized Vidhya mam's reassurance and calming disposition helped me to don on this role.

To conclude, this is my journey from being a novice, to a practitioner still learning and aspiring to attain mastery. I give my thanks and extend my gratitude to this wholesome, giving, sprightly flourishing institute of education.

**Vive SIES.ICE.  
Always and forever.**

# MY TAKE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

**Ms. Sangeetha Coutinho,**  
**Visiting Faculty, SIES Institute of Comprehensive Education**



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." These are the words of the Missile Man of India and former President, A.P.J Abdul Kalam.



The impact of education ignites our minds, channelises our thoughts making us align our actions towards constant self improvement through which we can contribute towards betterment of society and the country.

A child in his early years is like a ball of clay in the hands of a potter ( in this case a teacher) who gives the child's life a beautiful shape and embellishes each aspect of his personality with love, care and proper understanding that goes into making a knowledgeable, socially responsible citizen. In order to achieve this, a teacher needs to be well versed in all aspects that go into providing education in the early stages of a child's life.

When I joined the Post Graduate Diploma in Early Childhood Education (PGDECE) at SIES ICE, I was amazed at how much insight had gone into this programme which was all-encompassing, dynamic, brimming with thoughts, ideas and information. I got a 360 degree insight into all aspects related to child education namely :-

- a) Philosophical foundations of ECCE (Early Childhood Care and Education) - It focused on the importance and need for ECCE, the objectives of ECCE and activities to achieve these objectives. A proper understanding of the different approaches to learning. Insights into the approaches of stalwarts in the field such as Fredrick Froebel, Maria Montessori, Rudolph Steiner, Mahatma Gandhi. The history of ECCE in India, contribution of agencies such as NCERT, NCTE in child education. I had the opportunity to observe the activities of preschool and day care centres besides visits to NGO's, social welfare organisations and Balwadis. Basic rights of a child in terms of education were stressed upon.
- b) Child development - It stressed on growth and development, the stages of childhood and characteristics of each stage. Detailed understanding of aspects of child development namely -
  - Physical development
  - Moral development
  - Emotional development
  - Social development
  - Cognitive development
  - Language development

It also delved into common health problems of children in the age group of 2 to 6 years, understanding their symptoms and remedies. During internship in a school, I got an opportunity to prepare a comparative case study on two Kindergarten children. I was able to observe common problem behaviours of children in this age group. There was a visit to a special school to understand the special needs of these children.

- c) Programme planning - It helped me understand the meaning of learning and how children learn, how useful play is in learning and how important approaches to



preschool education are based around play and activity. Use of music and movement, art, dramatization for self expression. Use of activities and materials to foster learning of language, number and science concepts. The principles of program planning to plan for weekly, monthly, yearly time tables. Periodic evaluation for continuous improvement.

d) Health and hygiene - Health and its importance, conditions influencing health, health programme and importance of hygiene in school. Identification, prevention and treatment of common child ailments and infectious diseases.

Importance of maintaining health records by teachers and medical authorities. Agencies and organisations connected with child health and nutrition. National programmes of health, dimensions of health, malnourishment and its causes helped me to understand the importance and efforts made in the direction of child health.

The knowledge and practical experience provided during the year-long course was phenomenal. I had all the prerequisites of a well informed teacher in my armoury. Lesson plans, internship, case studies, research project, readiness kit, teaching aid folders besides attending lectures and presentations of experts in the fields of counselling and special needs added to my repertoire. All this was instrumental in ensuring that I had knowledge of what it entails to be qualified in all aspects of child education. The teaching at SIES ICE had not only honed my knowledge on the subject but gave impetus towards development of co-curricular and extra-curricular aspects as well, which helped in tapping my innate potential thereby helping self development.

I understood that physical and intellectual developments are important but it is equally important to develop a spirit of inquiry, and the building of a scientific temper in children. There is need for moral and spiritual development which helps in building of character at a young age so that the child grows up to be a socially responsible and conscientious citizen. Love, empathy and respect for different cultures, traditions have to be fostered in children. The concept of harmonious existence of man and nature has to be stressed upon at a young age given the climate concerns and global warming issues facing us. Education should be meaningful and purposeful with the needs of the society and country. The impetus of creating the next generation of scientists, artists, musicians and sportspersons lies in the hands of an able teacher.

No wonder teaching is one of the most noble professions. As one of India's great philosophers and most respected teachers who went on to become the second President of India, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan said, "Teachers should have the best minds in the country".

In gratitude, I can't thank SIES ICE for the scientific insights, professional training in the field of child education and development besides the opportunities provided that helped tremendously in self development. It was truly enlightenment through education! Thank you.



# Training tailor made to empower lives

**Ms. Arti Gandhi,  
Director, Nalanda Foundation**

Congratulations to the team of SIES ICE on the Ruby Jubilee! I'm honoured to contribute to the special edition of Adhyaapanam to commemorate this milestone. Being an alumnus of SIES ICE it gives me immense pleasure to connect again through this article with gratitude!

Ours was the first batch in 1999-2000 to have appeared for examinations for both, Mumbai University and SIES ICE Post Graduate Diploma in Guidance and Counselling! I bagged the gold medal for standing 1st in the Mumbai University Diploma and since then haven't looked back!

I continued to pursue my Master's degree in Counselling Psychology from Madras University and then a Certificate course from SNDT University for School Counsellors. Being well equipped with theory and practical experience I joined Green Lawns Schools as a Counsellor and then Director of Nalanda, An Institute for children with learning variations in June 2011.

The prestigious position was tailor made for me since everything I had learnt from academics and life was so applicable and relevant. I simultaneously pursued the two years Language therapist course, SIS at MDA to understand and deal with students with Specific Learning Difficulties.

It has been 11 years at the same position and I have immense satisfaction of heading the team which has transformed the lives of hundreds of students with learning difficulties. We empowered them with learning

and life skills to confidently face challenges of the future, to contribute meaningfully to society and become responsible global citizens.

Having a solid foundation of 11 years laid down by my predecessors at Nalanda, I was happy to steer it to greater heights in the 11 years of my tenure.

We initiated the website, revived the annual magazine, added more co-curricular activities, interschool events, revamped the premises to suit the changing times with technology advancements to facilitate learning for more students to foster holistic development.

"When we least expect it, Life sets us a challenge to test our courage and willingness to change." The Corona 19 pandemic wreaked havoc throughout the world with schools forced to shut down during the lockdown period, and the transition of students and teachers to online teaching-learning for two years, from March 2020 to March 2022. In the situation we adapted, survived and strived. During the pandemic students became more aware of technology but were confined to their homes which had its toll on their physical and mental health.

The journey towards post corona was embarked with confidence. Students were happy to be back. We made a lot of positive changes to bridge the learning gap of two years and encourage their thinking abilities, comprehension and communication skills.



The classrooms provided opportunities for social interaction and interpersonal communication. Hope to implement the new education policy to improve the quality of inclusive education in a stress free environment with compassion and humanitarian viewpoint.

“

Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think.

”

Wishing SIES ICE many more milestones of educating students for early childhood care, remedial education, guidance and counselling and many more.



# TESTIMONIALS



## STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

### Anicca Chhabra

With no clue about what it entailed as I stepped into the course to become an educator. The class and course were diverse; like an ice cream sundae; packed with layers of many interesting things to learn. My educators at SIES have not just been my teachers, but my guides and my cheerleaders! Today, I am the Kindergarten teacher at the American School of Bombay. SIES has played a huge part in where I am today and I am thankful to each and every one of my teachers for it!

PGDECE  
Batch 2015-2016

## STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

### Aditi Mehta

Joining SIES ICE was a turning point in my life. Formerly a lawyer by profession with nearly 2 years of law practice, I decided to pursue my passion and joined the Early Childhood Education course. Today, I work with an elite International School and am thankful to my teachers for creating a positive change in my personality. I have learnt a lot and will forever be grateful for all the experiences that were offered.

PGDECE  
Batch 2019-2020

## STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

### Trupti Thakker

The training encompassed several projects, assignments, and presentations which helped enhance my theoretical base and interpersonal skills. The 360-degree training has helped me blossom into a confident and creative teacher. Overall, I had a tremendously enjoyable experience from start to finish that helped me secure a fantastic job.

DECCED  
Batch 2019-2021



## STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

### Charlotte Lobo

The shift in my career trajectory from investment banking to education brought me to SIES Institute of Comprehensive Education. The teachers at SIES are approachable, helpful, and supportive. Today, I am a homeroom teacher at RBK International school and it is thanks to my training and amazing efforts taken by my teachers who helped me realize my potential. I will always be grateful to my 'Superheroes without a cape'.

PGDECE  
Batch 2019-2020



# TESTIMONIALS



## STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

I have successfully completed PGDC from SIES ICE Sion, (Mumbai University) in first position. I am working as a counseling psychologist at Podar International School, Nerul and am the Hub In-charge of Pune region. This course awakened in me a sense of positivity, self esteem and confidence. I became resilient and started seeing my self-worth and value after handling practical therapy sessions which was experiential. Thoughts shared by our expert teachers were really helpful and hold value in real life situations. This experience made my vision clearer towards my goal and now I can face people and challenges with a smile.

Meera Sharma  
PGDC  
2014-2015  
Counseling Psychologist and Special Educator



## STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

**Delsy Hannah James**

The course was a journey of self-discovery, which ignited in me a genuine interest in the betterment of special children. Today as a remedial educator, I am hand holding young children and passing on my learnings in my own little way. I am grateful to the institution for paving a way in creating awareness about special education needs.

-PG Diploma in Special Education  
Batch 2019-20



## STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

The one year course has good theoretical content and in-depth practical exposure. Subjects like Developmental Psychology, Counselling, Trauma based work are handled by experts thereby bringing into the classroom varied experiences. The course at SIES got me into Christ (Deemed-to-be) University, Bangalore where I pursued M.Sc. in Psychology. I worked with iCALL a project under TISS for six months. This course helped me gain ground and set me on my career path enabling both my personal and professional growth.

Aditi Venkatraman  
PGDC  
2017-2018



## STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

**Freny Irani**

A teacher's calling is to plant and nurture seeds that will grow and shape tomorrow. They may never see the fruits of their labour as teachers. This is what the teachers of SIES ICE represent. They nurture students that will shape someone's future tomorrow. From being a questioner to seek answers for my questions, the teachers at SIES ignited my thought process. I am an enriched learner today.

-PG Diploma in Special Education  
Batch 2021-22



# GALLERY

## Awards

Happy Moments



## CONVOCATION





# GALLERY





# GALLERY



**National Seminar**  
**Gender Equality and Sustainable Development**  
 Conducted by M.S.S.'s Pimpri College of Education and Research, Chembur  
 In collaboration with S.I.E.S. College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Sion West &  
 S.I.E.S. Institute of Comprehensive Education, Sion West

*Come and interact with us as  
 we share our thoughts*

**Meghna Ghai Puri**  
 Women Entrepreneur & Educationalist  
 @meghnapuri

**Ketan Bhagat**  
 Author  
 @ketanbhagat1

**Kiran Marol**  
 Author  
 @kiranmarol

**Esha Marie D' Silva**  
 Social Entrepreneur  
 @eshamariel

**Vinodha Nandakumar**  
 Educationalist  
 @vinodhanandakumar1

**Neeraj Kalia**  
 Lawyer  
 @neerajkalia

**Farzana Dhadwal**  
 Educationalist  
 @farzanadhadwal

Date: 18th January, 2020  
 Time: 10.30 am - 12.30 pm



## Ruby Jubilee





# COMMUNITY OUTREACH







# Ram Joshi Memorial Lecture



# Tech Mahindra Foundation





# Student Activities







## SIES Institute of Comprehensive Education OFFERS FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL COURSES IN

### TEACHER EDUCATION

- University of Mumbai affiliated Diploma in Early Childhood Care and Education (DECCEd), Sion
- P. G. Diploma in Early Childhood Education (PGDECE), Sion & Nerul
- Diploma in Early Childhood Education (DECE), Sion & Nerul

### COUNSELLING

- University of Mumbai affiliated P.G. Diploma in Counselling (PGDC), Sion
- P. G. Diploma in Guidance & Counselling (PGDGC), Sion

### SPECIAL EDUCATION

- P. G. Diploma in Special Education (PGDSE), Sion



**CALL NOW**  
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## LEARN FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOUSE.

SIES Institute of Comprehensive Education, Sion & Nerul offer online courses in

### TEACHER TRAINING

- P.G. Diploma in Early Childhood Education
- Certificate in Early Childhood Education & Development

### COUNSELLING

- Certificate in Counselling
- Advance Certificate in Counselling

### SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Self-Learning Certificate Courses
- Professional Development Certificate Courses
- Mainstreaming Children with Special Education Needs (Online SEN Under RTE)
- Teaching Students with Learning & Behaviour Difficulties (Online SEN Bridge)



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# Our Courses

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