

Best Practice I

“Environmental Initiatives”

Environmental degradation is detrimental and is jeopardising the long-term health and security of animals, plants and humans. Now more than ever, it is important that we understand the impact our actions have on the environment.

Individuals affect the environment in a variety of ways including pollution emission to land, air and water, use of natural resources, energy consumption and waste. Environmental awareness means an awareness of the natural environment and the choices that either promote its well-being or cause it more harm.

As we are all responsible for the environment, it is important for everyone to improve their environmental awareness. It is especially imperative to teach every individual about the importance of environmental awareness, to ensure that the lives of future generations are secure.

Objectives -

- To achieve the vision of the institution i.e. developing Piphema Campus as a Green Campus.
- To work with all stakeholders and the local community to raise awareness and seek the adoption of environmental good practice and the reduction of any adverse effects on the environment.
- To continuously improve the efficient use of all resources, including energy and water, and to reduce consumption and the amount of waste produced, recovering and recycling waste wherever possible.
- To conduct Green audits.
- Create mass awareness on cleanliness and hygiene amongst students and staff members by holding regular cleanliness drives. Staff Members are encouraged to participate in the cleanliness drive in the college campus. This drive will be initiated by NCC, NSS and Eco-Green Club

The Practice -

It has become necessary that we take notice of the impact of our actions on the environment. And in order to spread environmental awareness and protect the nature around us, we need to take certain measures and make efforts. In order to achieve the objectives the college is taking necessary steps and awareness programs. Some of the activities performed are Energy and Water Conservation, Rain Water Harvesting,

Proper use of Dustbin/ Recycle Bins, Reducing the use of Mineral Water bottles, Going paperless as to minimise the use of paper by going digital, Awareness on

minimising the use of plastics, putting up relevant signage and conducting Cleanliness Drives.

Also keeping in mind our Piphema Campus, Certain initiative has been taken to keep in line with our Environmental Initiatives' activities naming a few Conservations of Forest where burning of forest and cutting down of trees are prohibited, Seed Germination and Tree Plantation, Vermi-Compost unit to produce organic manure, Solar Energy panels to for campus lighting.

Observation of all important days relating to the environment.

Obstacles -

The tight schedule involved in the University laid -down semester system is a major obstacle faced by the institution.

Strategy Adopted: To overcome time constraints, the institution drafts an Annual Academic Calendar incorporating all academic as well activities related to Environmental Initiatives'. Most of the activities organised are coordinated by a Committee or with the teacher(s) to supervise effective time management and to ensure success of the activities. Such activities are slotted keeping in mind that the normal class routines are affected minimally. The institution has been able to cope with the issue of time factor due to the effective participation and cooperation from the students as well as the management.

Impact of the practice -

- The positive outcome of the practice can be highlighted as:
- Awareness on Environmental Education
- Improvement of students' attendance and active participation during the initiatives undertaken to protect the environment.
- To a large extent, it has successfully sensitized the participants towards the issues concerned with the conservation of environment and encouraged them to spread the message of saving the environment and natural resources.
- Improvement in leadership qualities and teamwork.
- Development of inter-personal and organisational skills.

Resources required -

Allocation of funds from the management. Co-operation from stakeholders.

Resource Persons for Awareness programs.

Best Practice II

Students' Care

The nature of students' background i.e. catering to different socio-cultural and economic diversity necessitates Students' Care being opted as one of the best practices by the institution. The absence of institutionalised system of having proper system of mentoring, guidance and counselling in the region along with the obvious fact that most of the students are from remote areas and first generation learners makes it imperative on the part of the institution to provide Students' Care i.e. guidance for all-round development of the students on academic as well as aesthetic lines. Moreover, it is aimed to align with the institutional mission and vision statement aiming to develop students on progressive lines i.e. to imbibe in the students a rational positive outlook towards life thereby making them responsible citizens.

Objectives -

- To achieve the vision of the institution viz., Cater to Students' Learning & Development.
- To provide a continuous learning process for both the mentor and the mentee.
- To establish the mentor as a role model and to support the students for personal and academic development.
- To establish a vibrant relationship between the teachers and the students that will ensure responsible behaviour and discipline.

The Practice -

To facilitate the Students' Care mentoring session is conducted every Friday from 9:00 AM to 9:50 AM on a regular basis. The session is compulsory for every B.A. (Arts) and B.Voc (Retail Management) students to attend without fail.

Mentors are assigned 15-20 students for the whole duration of a semester each i.e. six months.

The parameters are based on four aspects i.e. academic, attendance, career and All round Development.

The mentors are provided with details of mentee's performances in terms of academic (weekly test, class test, mid-term and end-semester exam) and

attendance records. The mentor also keeps track of the mentee's personal development such as extra and cocurricular activities, discipline and career related issues.

Variety of topics are discussed which include – personality development and leadership skills, healthy practices such as eating right, physical fitness through exercise, yoga, proper sleep, inculcating good habits such as reading and developing hobbies, learning new skills, setting personal goals, discipline use of the internet, and value education.

The mode of communication between the mentor and mentee can be established through different mode(s) namely- In-person, Phone and E-mail.

5. Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them (150 – 200 words)

Obstacle faced: The diversity in students' background and upbringing i.e. lack of skills in effective articulation, introversion, indifferent attitude etc. Another problem faced during lockdown is poor internet connectivity.

Strategy Adopted: Mentoring session is held twice in a month. Regular sessions increase contact between the mentor and mentee and has led to the students appreciating the practice. Students are also encouraged to reach out to their respective mentor (if they face any difficulty) beyond normal class hours through phone-calls, emails or in-person.

Impact of the practice -

Improvement in mentees discipline, interaction and communication skills.

Improvement in students' attendance and academic performances.

Reserve and Introvert students opening up and taking part in various activities.

Establishment of a vibrant relationship between teachers and students which has provided a congenial atmosphere in the class room as well as in the campus.

Resources required -

Extra/ Overtime from mentors.