



# St. Edmund's College

NAAC Accredited B++

Affiliated to North Eastern Hill University

Recognized by the University Grant Commission under 2 (f) and 12 (B) of the UGC Act 1956

Awarded STAR STATUS COLLEGE (DBT, Govt. of India)



 [stedmundscollege@gmail.com](mailto:stedmundscollege@gmail.com)

 <http://sec.edu.in>

## Best Practices: 1

### 1. Title of the Practice: Social Inclusion of the Visually Impaired (VI) students

### 2. The context that required the initiation of the practice:

A socially inclusive society is one in which all people, irrespective of their abilities and disabilities enjoy the same rights and where no one experiences stigma and discrimination. People with disabilities, who make up about 15% of the world's population, are among the most marginalized people in the contemporary world. Out of this, an estimated 80% would be found in low- and middle-income countries like India. Education is considered a fundamental human right, and yet most visually impaired Indians cannot claim this right. Of the 37 million visually impaired population across the globe, over 15 million reside in India, making it home to the world's largest visually impaired population. Visual impairment creates a cycle of illiteracy, poverty, and social exclusion for people, making them one of the most vulnerable groups in the world. St. Edmund's College, Shillong recognizes this alarming situation and has pledged to include the VI students in its scheme of things.

### 3. Objectives of the practice: The following objectives have been identified in order to make the practice meaningful:

- To make the students educationally empowered
- To make the VI students respect their gifts
- To sensitize students and make them identify the value of inclusion
- To contribute significantly in community life

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- To make such students independent and self-reliant
- Experiential learning through engagement in various normal activities

## 4. The Practice:

According to the 2011 census, disability in seeing emerges as the top disability category, at 48.5%. Further, India has 20.42 lakh visually impaired children aged between 0 and 6 years. Around 71% — 14.52 lakh children — are in rural areas and 5.9 lakhs in urban centres. It is due to such daunting numbers that successive governments have pushed for an inclusive education system that can cater to the needs of such a diverse population. St. Edmund's College, in pursuance of its vision for inclusive education has been awake to its responsibility. From preferential admission to instructional tools and aids, the College has developed a mechanism to ensure that the VI students get easily assimilated to the campus life, be it academic or extra/co-curricular.

- **Admission:** VI students are required to have basic eligibility criteria and the disability certificate to be considered for admission into the courses of their choice (as far as practicable).
- **Facilities provided:** Specially designed laptops are available for all VI students throughout the duration of the course. Study materials in Braille covering the entire syllabus are made available as per requirements. Recently, the Smart Vision Glasses were made available (sponsored by Vision Aid) to all the 16 VI students.
- **Collaborators:** Help the Blind Foundation, Vision Aid, State Bank of India, Cognizant Foundation, Rotary Club, Orchid City, Shillong, State Resource Centre, Meghalaya. The College took initiative to reach out to these collaborators and each one of them responded enthusiastically to extend their moral and physical support. Emboldened by the generous support of these organizations, the College proposes to admit more and

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more such students so that they get included in the so called 'mainstream' milieu by being educationally relevant.

- **Regular sessions with the coordinator:** The Vice Principal (in charge of Academics) is the coordinator of the entire exercise. She organizes regular mentoring sessions for the students to identify the areas that are to be addressed, both individually and in groups.
- **Engagement of Trainer(s):** From time-to-time resource persons from Blind Schools (like Jyoti Sroat) and relevant NGOs (like Bethany Society) are engaged to train students about the importance of being independent and self-reliant.
- **Scribes:** During examinations the students derive the benefit of the scribes who write their papers on dictation. The scribes are engaged from the neighboring Higher Secondary Schools.

## 5. Obstacles faced, if any, and strategies adopted to overcome them:

Initially, the non-availability of Braille materials was a challenge. However, with the intervention of **Help the Blind Foundation**, the sponsors helped us overcome this challenge

## 6. Impact of the practice:

The practice has allowed students of all backgrounds to learn and grow side by side, to the benefit of all. Much needed bridges are built between the privileged and the not so privileged; as a result, the students feel responsible for one another. Besides, the society looks up to the College to deliver and the latter, in turn, responds positively by allowing the students participate in all the programmes of the College.

## 7. Resources required:

- Ramp facility for easy access to the building

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- Trainers
- Sponsorship

## 8. About the Institution:

Name of the Institution:	St. Edmund's College
Year of Accreditation:	2019
Address:	Old Jowai Road, Laitumkhrah, Shillong- 793003
Grade awarded by NAAC:	B++
E-Mail:	<a href="mailto:debsumit@gmail.com">debsumit@gmail.com</a> / <a href="mailto:igac@sec.edu.in">igac@sec.edu.in</a>
Contact person for further details:	IQAC Coordinator
Website:	<a href="http://www.sec.edu.in">www.sec.edu.in</a>
Coordinator:	Dr (Capt.) K P Pallavi Malhan Vice Principal (Academics) St. Edmund's College Shillong

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## Best Practices: 2

### 1. Title of the Practice: Creation of a Happy Campus for Wholesome Growth of Students

### 2. The context that required the initiation of the practice:

The Vision Statement of the College promises holistic, all-round growth of the learners. In St. Edmund's the emphasis is not merely on producing toppers, its more on creating leaders who would be able to contribute to the society as a conscientious, responsible citizen. Club activities assist students to cultivate a sense of unity and working with others in reaching the same goals. Students develop social skills: Clubs facilitate students to meet, mix, and work together with other students from different backgrounds in a diverse environment. Clubs and Societies also discourage the binaries like senior and junior, brilliant, and mediocre, skilled, and unskilled etc. Also, the College finds it easy to organize events and programmes through such clubs, committees, and societies.

### 3. Objectives of the practice:

The following objectives have been identified in order to make the practice meaningful:

- To make the students socially empowered
- To create a generation of responsible humans
- To sensitize students on the importance of group dynamics
- To contribute significantly in community life

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- To make students independent decision makers
- To create “...leaders in every field”

#### 4. The Practice:

With the context and objectives mentioned above, the practice of having diverse clubs, committees, and societies to accommodate the diverse interests of students has been showing great results. Throughout the year the college remains vibrant with activities after the class hours. Almost every other day, some club is busy organizing/conducting events with high degree of participation. Annual programmes like Edblazon, Award Ceremony, Graduation Day, Science Mela, and celebration of significant commemorative days are organized by the relevant clubs and committees with support from the Management.

Besides the regular Clubs like Science Club, Art Club (Les Artisans), The Literary and Dramatic Society (TLDS), the College has introduced niche clubs like the **Culinary Club** that allows students to showcase their culinary skills through organizing Food Fests and Exhibitions. The Club also organizes training programmes to harness the cooking skills of the students.

**House of Geeks** accommodates the Coding and Gaming interests of the students. A new initiative in the form of **Bizz Builders Club** promises to engage the students in taking up entrepreneurship and Start Up business seriously.

To introduce the various clubs to the newly admitted students an Induction Programme is organized by the students. This event helps the fresher shed his/her inhibitions about the

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college and acts as an ice-breaking exercise. Following is the list of various clubs and societies:

- Les Artisans
- Dance Club
- SECMUN Brainstormers
- Culinary Club
- Viva la Frames (Mass Media)
- Hose of Geeks
- Music Society
- Astronomy Club
- Science Club
- Sonzai Club (Anime Club)
- N.O.W. (Eco Club)
- Writizens Club (Writers Club)
- Quizzards (Quiz Club)
- Le Debat (Debate Club)
- Explorator (Drama Club)
- Edballers (Basketball Club)
- Bizz Builders
- Craft Club
- Meme Club
- Club Botanica
- Red Ribbon Club

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- Electoral Literacy Club
- Volleyball Club
- Sports and Games committee
- College Gym

## 5. Obstacles faced, if any, and strategies adopted to overcome them:

The main challenge was to accommodate varied activities within the restricted timeframe. The restriction means that club activities can happen only when the students are free from their classes. However, a very supportive Management and strong faculty involvement as coordinators, in charge etc. has ensured the desired result without a hitch.

## 6. Impact of the practice:

A visible impact is the interest expressed by huge number of students in all activities. The aim to create a happy campus was achieved. The college campus reverberates with music and dance practice of the Choir and the dance club members. The college field is filled with students playing various games. The Gymnasium is active everyday with participations of fitness enthusiasts.

## 7. Resources required:

- a. Running expenditure to organize various activities
- b. Trainers and coaches
- c. Choir Master and Dance Master
- d. Remunerations for hired experts

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## 8. About the Institution:

- i. Name of the Institution: **St. Edmund's College**
- ii. Year of Accreditation: **2019**
- iii. Address: **Old Jowai Road, Laitumkhrah, Shillong- 793003**
- iv. Grade awarded by NAAC: **B++**
- v. E-Mail: **[debsumit@gmail.com](mailto:debsumit@gmail.com) / [iqac@sec.edu.in](mailto:iqac@sec.edu.in)**
- vi. Contact person for further details: **IQAC Coordinator**
- vii. Website: **[www.sec.edu.in](http://www.sec.edu.in)**
- viii. Coordinator: **Mr Monotosh Chakravarty**  
**Vice Principal (Administration)**  
**St. Edmund's College**  
**Shillong**



Principal  
(In - Charge )  
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