



सा विद्या या विमुक्तये

Dikshant

International School

... Confidence for Life

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Our Journey

2002-2022

www.dikshant.org  Dikshant International School  Dikshant Global School



Years of Excellence in Education

2022

Taking our *first step* towards transformative education.



Twenty years have passed since we first opened our doors to some of the bright and curious minds whose heads were full of dreams and hearts full of hope. We were a small community of 35 students, around 7 staff members, and a group of parents and grandparents who trusted us and supported our dreams.

Since the beginning, our students have been at the heart of what we do and of who we are. From the very first day, we wanted Dikshant to be a school that brings out the best in every child and gives them the confidence for life.

We aim to nurture confident, happy, and motivated young people, who realize their full potential, who become capable of living a good life, and at the same time become supporting members of their communities.

20 years later, a lot has changed. We are a much bigger school and a better school in many ways. However, our core beliefs and values of raising generations who create, think, dream, learn and achieve remains intact.

Let's go through the journey of these 20 years and see what it means to be a part of the Dikshant community.

Becoming a school with **strong beliefs** of not giving up on **dreams, problem-solving** in the face of great odds, **taking risks and being together** during tough times



Albert Einstein once said: "In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity." The year 2003 was a year of challenges for Dikshant. Amidst the excitement of setting up a new institution, we were notified that we cannot

run an educational Institute in the industrial area. We were on the brink of closure. But Dikshant was never born to give up so easily.

Our teachers, students, and parents stood by us during those difficult times. We gathered the strength to get off our knees to storm toward glory. A comeback plan was drafted and within days we shifted to the new and the existing campus in Zirakpur. We started once again with even more energy and enthusiasm.

This was not just a story of a comeback. This was a story of becoming a school with strong beliefs of not giving up on dreams, problem-solving in the face of great odds, taking risks, and being together during tough times.



Pool Party



Pool Party



Celebration



Republic Day



Annual Day



Giving our students the wings to fly & roots to grow. A year to pave way for bigger things.

An amazing year with a lot of excitement, fresher's party, welcoming of new students into our fold, and much more. This was a special year as this year we introduced certain programs which still hold a lot of relevance in our school. Rather some of these programs are now getting introduced in the current education system as best practices to impart curriculum effectively. One such major milestone was introducing theatre as an integrated part of education. We had our 1st theatre production this year which was Fantastic Mr. Fox. The play was directed by Mr. Yanne, our first International exchange teacher. He had come all the way from Macedonia to share ideas and knowledge from the culture that he belonged to and understand that of ours. He also trained our students and teachers in theatre. We were enthusiastically involved in this grand gala, the experience carried forever.

Right from the beginning, Dikshant was clear to not get trapped in intellectual timidity. This was the time when our students started exploring areas beyond their homes and school. They went for trips organized to banks, post office, supermarkets, fire station, vegetable markets, and city exploration on the hop-on hop-off bus. All in all, the experiential learning was in full swing. Along the way, we had Martial Arts, Skating which paved the way for inculcating strong bonding with sports and building team spirit. Another major program which ignited a spark and paved the way for something big in the years to come was the visit planned to Karnal Flying Club and Pinjore Flying Club. A joyride in the gliders, workshops with experts from Karnal flying club, working on kits to assemble gliders has today translated to a well-known and elaborate space program at Dikshant. This was the year not only to start but a year to pave way for bigger things.

Pinjore Flying Club



Karnal Flying Club



Skating



Martial Arts



Giving opportunities of interaction with experts



We were growing in number, so the responsibility towards our society also grew. We carried out our first social endeavor of tree plantation this year. We have always aimed for the holistic development of our children. We were celebrating, enjoying, going on field excursions, working on their public speaking skills, engaging them in annual production, and more.

Dikshant always makes it big for the simple reason that we want our children to aim high in life. To let them develop an important life skill of taking risks, we got them into adventure sports.

A lot was happening around sports. We also introduced skating and horse riding this year. A 3 day National Level Skating Camp was organized in school for the first time, in which students from all across the country participated.

This year was also the beginning of calling experts for interactive sessions with students. Renowned writer, philanthropist, and

Himalayan Master, Dr. Bharat Thakur, and Film actress Ms. Bhumika Chawla, came to school to introduce artistic yoga to our students. Another milestone was establishing House systems. Students began to develop a sense of working together towards a common goal and even competing with each other. With some higher goals and broadened horizons, the Dikshant flag started soaring high.



1st School Cabinet



River Rafting



2006

The year of digital advancement and providing opportunities to think freely



We stepped into this year charged with energy and ready to build upon the foundations laid earlier. After sleepless nights, endless paperwork, a few technical hurdles, and lots of hard work, this year we got affiliated to CBSE.

Affiliation was one important chapter of our long storybook. While this chapter was in progress the other stories were unraveling at a fast pace.

With basics in place, we felt the need for digital advancement at the teaching-learning level. This year saw the introduction of Smart Classes with

with renowned artist Mr. S K Burman. This workshop gave our students and teachers a wonderful platform for free-thinking in abstract projection.

Once again it was our turn to sensitize our students towards the needs of society. This year we picked up art as a medium to do that. Students were made aware of issues of children dealing with Thalassaemia and these issues were presented in creative art form. The project culminated in an exhibition 'Art for a Cause'.



setting up smart boards in the entire campus. We take a lot of pride in the fact that we were the first school in the region to have all smart classes. we have still retained the first established smartboard at our campus.

We have always valued art as a medium of expression. The year 2006 marks a year of various art-based initiatives including the formation of our first school choir.

We started getting a deeper understanding of the magical world of art after our first interaction

Proceeds of the project were presented to the Thalassaemic Children Welfare Association of PGI, Chandigarh.

On the day of the annual production, students also got a chance to meet another expert from the art and film fraternity Mr. Anurag Kashyap.

Not only in art, but we also took a step further in almost all our initiatives of the previous year. This year, children went parasailing for adventure sports.

A step forward in our STEM and Space program was the first-ever gliding experience for students and a mobile Planetarium show. Transported in the magical planetary voyage, our students were now getting ready to leap into a much bigger space program

Last year students became a part of the house system, however, the house spirit and feeling of inclusion were at their early stages. Considering the participation of children in sports, art and various other aspects of school life, our first-ever efficiency trophy was handed over to one of the houses.



Learning to care for the Community

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In the year 2007, we were faced with an irreplaceable loss of our founder Shri O N Dikshit. He left his indelible mark on everyone who happened to come across him and numerous students whom he taught in his career of more than 3 decades.

Based on the strong foundation laid by him, Dikshant International School continues to prosper.

This was the time when Mr. Mitul Dikshit took over the charge as a chairman not only to carry forward his legacy but to take the school to an altogether different level.

We have always believed that learning should not be confined to the classroom, but should also take place in the school environment and wider community. Based on this philosophy, students were introduced to one of the world's leading youth achievement award programs Duke of Edinburgh. The program is designed in a way that it creates opportunities for young people to develop skills, get physically active, give service to

their local community, and experience adventure.

As a part of the program, students went for adventures of Scuba diving and mountain climbing.

Continuing with our social endeavour, young Dikshantians flagged off a special rally on 'Say No to Crackers'. This campaign was organized with the aim of creating awareness among the masses about the tremendous air pollution caused due to the bursting of crackers.

The first sports day was organized in 2007 at Tau Devi Lal Stadium. It was nothing short of a grand affair. Our students participated in the first March past of the school followed by drills, races for parents, teachers, and sub staff, thereby building strong bonding within our school community.

This year students explored a new dimension into the creative world during their interaction with Bollywood actor Abhay Deol who was here for his project "Dev D".



Adding new dimensions to the existing curriculum

2008



This year we pushed forward towards building on the groundwork done earlier.

With the installation of smartboards last year, our next step was to develop in students the skills of research and filtering information effectively. We became the pioneers to introduce 'One-on-One Laptop Classes'. Now our children were exposed to various applications of technology and at the same time, they were learning safe and responsible usage of the internet.

During our annual function production this year, we moved a step up with a presentation of Grand Finale-a thrilling culmination of the program involving the entire school community.

Further strengthening the social connections of students, this year we presented our first street play "Makhan Lal Ki Chinta", which highlighted issues linked to over-population. To let students' ideas evolve and gain experience in various aspects of filmmaking, we started with a film club. The first interaction

session was with the famous filmmaker Anurag Kashyap.

The most interesting and important part of the story begins here. The first batch of our students had to appear for the CBSE board exam. Amidst the excitement of the farewell party, a first group photograph of our outgoing batch, etc, there was anxiety. More than 60% of the students who joined Dikshant in this particular batch were rejected by their previous schools for their academic performance. The anxiety was not only about the board results. It was more about helping them regain their self-respect and the lost sense of achievement. We take a lot of pride in saying that they not only cleared their boards but are doing very well in their respective domains. We achieved our mission of ensuring that all Dikshantians step out of the gate with confidence and pride. This gave birth to our new tagline "Confidence for life".

The value of not judging and tagging students is deeply engrained in our system today.



1st Student Day



Farewell Party



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Developing skills for the future



Crossing another milestone on our journey, and we entered 2009.

It was a year of expansion and reaching out. Futurist thinking of our Director, Mr Mitul Dikshit was recognized and it was an acclaimed moment when he was invited by the London International Conference on Education to present his paper on 'Thinking School'. He was also invited to Eton College, Wellington College and Gordounston school to sign academic tie-ups.

This year, the State-Of-The-Art high tech Media Lab was inaugurated by Punjab Forest Minister, Mr Tikshan Sud. The lab offers facilities for reading, research, study production and presentation. Former group director of ISRO, Mr Suresh Naik was at school to interact with the students and spoke on various future ventures and launches planned. He also gave an insight into various space related issues.

Continuing with our efforts to incorporate art and theater in school curriculum, various sessions were organized during this year. We had session with the eminent movie director Mr Raj Kumar Gupta with exclusive workshop

on movie making. The seed was implanted which sprouted and grew over the years.

Another session was held with Mr Piyush Mishra – a versatile actor, theater person, script writer, music director, lyricist. He inspired the students to dream big and work hard.

The Art Studio set up by Mr Bibekanand Kapri



from Vishva Bharti, Shantiniketan, was inaugurated by the renowned artist Mr Viren Tanwar- a great place for children to give expression to their imagination having all facilities of arts, designing, printing, pottery, sculpture and wood work.

This year saw our 2nd batch of board class pass out with great laurels making us proud.

Dikshant school gives children a chance to unleash their creativity



A student tries her hand at sculpturing at Dikshant School in Chandigarh on Wednesday.

PT Line Correspondent
Chandigarh

CHANDIGARH: An Art and Craft Studio was inaugurated at Dikshant International School by artist Viren Tanwar on Wednesday.

The studio has been divided into two parts, wherein students will learn pottery, sculpture, design and printing, craft work, woodwork, painting and sketching.

Students will also take lessons in throwing, glazing with clay and the potter's wheel. In the sculpture studio, students can conceive and design a craft studio or classroom.

School director Mitul Dikshit said, "We must help children achieve their full creative potential. Our education must focus on nurturing every child's creativity. The critical role of imagination, discovery and creativity in a child's education is only beginning to come to light. I believe children should not be

limited in using their potential. When they are open to new things and experiences, they can create anything in their lives.

Studio head Bibekanand Kapri, who did his MFA from Vishva Bharti, Shantiniketan helped him realize his dream of setting up a studio to unleash children's creativity, he said.

First human likely to reach Mars by 2035, says Naik



Former group director of the Indian Space Research Organisation Suresh Naik interacting with students of Dikshant International School, Zirakpur, on Sunday.

PT Line Correspondent
Zirakpur

CHANDIGARH: Chairman of the ISRO, Naik, who was interacting with students of Dikshant International School, Zirakpur, said on Sunday, Chandigarh. He was expected to be here for further engagements of ISRO. The visit was part of his tour to various states.

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All the world's a stage



EMINENT actor, music director, lyricist, singer, script, dialogue writer, and a well known theatre director, Piyush Mishra visited Dikshant International School, Zirakpur and interacted with the students on the various options available in the film industry. He advised children to dream big and work hard. "Theatre instils confidence, discipline and camaraderie," said Mishra who felt nostalgic visiting the school. Mitul Dikshit, Director, Dikshant International School, added, "We have started inviting professionals from various fields to interact with the students and counsel them to decide about their professions from Class V onwards on a weekly basis."

Special invite

CITY-BASED educationist and director of Dikshant International School, Mitul Dikshit is on his way to London. Dikshit has been invited by the London International Conference of Educators and he would be presenting a paper on 'Thinking School' at this conference on education. The London International Conference on Education (LICE) will be held from November 9 to 12 in London, UK. LICE is an international referred conference devoted to the advancement of the theory and practices in education. The LICE promotes collaborative

excellence between academicians and professionals from education. The aim of LICE is to provide an opportunity for academicians and professionals from various educational fields with cross-disciplinary interests to bridge the knowledge gap, promote research esteem and the evolution of pedagogy. This year LICE has invited research papers that encompass conceptual analysis, design implementation and performance evaluation. During his 15-day visit to UK and Spain, starting from November 2, Dikshit would visit Eton College, Wellington College and Gordounston School, UK to sign academic tie-ups with Dikshant International School.



Redefining education by using innovative techniques

2010



After our trip to International Space Development Conference, we realized that our students still need more inputs to develop critical thinking skills and global competence. The requirements of the 21st century were very different from what was happening in the classrooms. The question was how to upscale our educators who in real terms hold the key to converting the vision into a reality. Therefore, Mr. Mitul Dixhit went to Harvard Graduate School of Education to attend the conference on 'Future of Learning'. There he also met Mr. Howard Gardner, father of Multiple Intelligence Theory.

Later this theory was implemented at school for curriculum development, planning instruction, selection of course activities, and related assessment strategies.

Another such technique introduced this year was Mind Mapping for which the team of Tony Buzan, who is the inventor of Mind Map, visited the campus to train our teachers.

Mindmapping was loved by students as they could summarize and learn easily, thus enjoying their lessons more than ever before. Undoubtedly, the year was dedicated to redefining education by using innovative techniques.

Under the guidance and support of Prof Suresh Naik, the first conference on Space was organized by the school. A 3-day conference involved speakers from the world of space

giving an insight into the various space-based initiative and prospects. The highlight was the exhibition put up by a team of ISRO.

Inaugurated by the honorable Governor of Haryana, Shri Jagannath Pahadia, the conference was an amazing experience for the invitee guests and students of the Tricity. Along with science, students also started exploring the world of literature. To give expression to the thoughts of students, a creative writing workshop was conducted by a renowned author Ms. Annie Zaidi.

Also, children got an opportunity to learn the concepts of scriptwriting and filmmaking during their interaction with the filmmaker Mr. RajKumar Gupta.

Taking advancement in technology, this year our students were introduced to the world of Robotics. They were being given hands-on training to study, research, assemble and develop models on their own.

Also, the first animation workshop was held at the school. Some more initiatives towards bringing students of different schools together were our first Sh O N Dixhit Memorial Inter-School Debate and 'Inquizzitive' Quiz competitions in which many school students of the Tricity participated.

While this paradigm shift was happening, we continued celebrating, performing, and doing adventures.

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Added plethora of Art-linked and Sports activities



While a lot was going on in terms of arts and sports, we felt that children are now in a position to identify their interests. A concept of activity period was introduced to help students take specialization based on their talents and strengths. A plethora of art-linked activities and sports were offered to students to make their choices. We had qualified trainers for this specially designed concept.

We feel proud to say that over the years, quite a few students have found their passion and career in one of these activities.

We also tied up with Tau Devi Lal Stadium to enable students to practice sports on professional grounds. Specialized training led to the formation of teams ready to take on different sports championships. 1st Dikshant Invitational Inter-School Basketball Championship and Roller Skating Championship were also held on our school campus.

We always believed that one of the most important skills required by a child is thinking skills. To foster the same, Philosophy in the Classroom-a concept by Andrew Day- was introduced in the school.

This year 'Sky Gazing' was arranged for the students at the campus by the International Space Society, in association with Pushpa Gujral Science City. A Science exhibition was also set up in school for the first time.

Teacher training was conducted at the campus by a US team led by Ms. Emma McDonald.

As one of the literature-linked initiatives, Chatura Rao and Loveleen Mishra visited the campus for the narration of stories thus weaving magic and wonder.

Christmas fete 'Deconium Festium' was held at our campus which over a period of time has become an annual affair. Each year, the proceeds are promised for a noble cause.

Owing to changing times, this year we made changes in the infrastructure. New equipment and furniture were added and classrooms were fitted with AC's, thus providing a more comfortable environment to students.

As a school, we are growing in all aspects and at a fast pace, however, our belief in 100% involvement of students and giving them maximum exposure during the school year stands firm.



2012

A year of a great leap forward in the literature & film program of the school



Pit stop marking 10 years.... 10 years of hard work, exploration, falling, rising, and more. Acceptance of our school within the community as being unique and way ahead of time was clear.

To further strengthen the real-life connections in the classroom, Integrated Projects were introduced this year. The concept is based on the amalgamation of all subjects with the integration of creativity and life skills. Students were trained to develop on and present their ideas in a team.

This year can be considered as a year of a great leap forward in the literature and film program of the school.

We organized our 1st Chandigarh Literature Festival in association with Adab Foundation. A platform where the people of Tricity and senior students of the school got a chance to meet some of the best authors, poets, scriptwriters, and lyricists of the country.

Apart from the literature festival, a well-known artist and theatre person Loveleen Mishra was with us for a fun-filled story-telling and theatre workshop.

The author of the book 'Imraan vs Imraan', Mr. Frank Hazoor also interacted with students.

On the occasion of completion of 10 years, our children came out with their first short film "A sleepy boy". We together spent days and nights at the campus shooting and editing the film.

To bring the project to conclusion, they underwent a training program in two interlinked workshops. One by Media Communication trainer, Mr. Ahmad Khan.

Another one by renowned cinematographer Mr. Karam Chawla. During these workshops, children



understood various aspects of filmmaking- scripting, casting, location selection, etc.

Wonders of Space and exploration have always led us to do something more and different each year. Once again this year, we won an award at the global level in NASA Ames Space Settlement Design Contest for our 3-D model Space Colony on Mars. Winning the competition, our school's team got an opportunity to attend the International Space Development Conference at California where they also met Buzz Aldrin- the second person to ever set foot on the moon.

Along with these cherished accomplishments, students also went for a Peace campaign signified by the Model of Buddha, prepared by our art club members. Various other annual events like sports day, festival celebrations and adventure trip for river rafting were also organized during the session.

The initiatives in this particular year have left a long-lasting impact on our student community. Today most of our alumni consider the habit of reading, collaborative project work, and exposure in CLF and space programs as some of the key factors in their college and work-life success.



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A year of unmatched exposure and experiences that pushed us to the next level



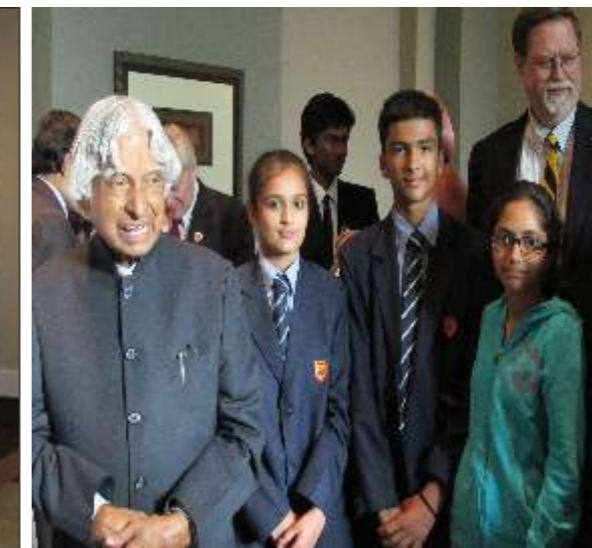
While assembling our jigsaw puzzle, we felt that some pieces were missing. We felt that despite the wonderful exposure at school, our students were getting lost after stepping out of grade 10. Some of them were taking random decisions when it came to their career path.

Therefore, we decided to upgrade to senior secondary level and become the launch pad of students' future. This also paved the way to the start of a well-structured career counselling program in collaboration with ICS, a Lucknow-based career institute.

The new senior wing academic block became functional with Physics, Chemistry, Biology lab, and new classrooms for students.

At the 32nd International Space Development Conference (ISDC) held in San Diego, two of our students got an opportunity to interact with some of the renowned personalities in the world of space science including the former President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam who was attending the conference as one of the keynote speakers. At the same conference, Mr. Mitul Dikshit presented papers and officially announced the association of the International Space Society with Dikshant for preparing a project on the Solar Power Project.

This year, we organized the exhibition on Mars in collaboration with SPSTI (Society for Promotion of Science & Technology in India) and Jyotirvidya Parisansta, Pune which is one of the oldest



associations of amateur astronomers. Dr. Jayant Narlikar, a renowned mathematician, researcher, and the writer did the honors to inaugurate the exhibition. As a part of the student outreach program, for the first time in India, we organized a national-level Space settlement Design Competition. More than 2500 students from across the nation benefited from this highly enriching experience of attending the conference. The students of our school got the opportunity to get closely associated with the JVP team to prepare and present models of a superior echelon.

Another experience in which our students got global exposure this year was attending the four-day Harvard Model United Nations Conference at Hyderabad. This was the first time we traveled outside our city to participate in a Model United Nation

Our literature-linked endeavours were expanding and reaching out to more audiences. CLF was celebrated on a bigger scale this year.

This year, students also met Kathryn Myra, a renowned author from Canada well known for her book 'Paldi'.

This year can be summarized as a year of unmatched exposure and experiences that pushed us to the next level.



Introduced children to infinite possibilities to engage, discover and explore



We stepped into 2014 to enter into a whole new world of imagination.

We have always believed in promoting reading for pleasure. A month-long reading festival initiated at the beginning of the year concluded with a collage of theatrical performances adapted from some of the famous books. This was the birth of the Inter-house Cultural fest- which has now taken shape into an annual affair as a grand amalgamation of performing arts.

This was just the start, the best was yet to come. Way back in 2011, the idea of literature fest which was conceived in our mind was originally aimed at children. However, things did not work out as planned and we started with a version for adults at that time. The year 2014 opened the doors for our children to explore the world of stories in an altogether different way. The first literary gala in the city which was dedicated to children's literature was finally organized. Storytellers, authors, poets, illustrators, and others associated with the colorful literary world of children were in town for 2 days carrying out discussions and fun-filled workshops with children of Tricity and surrounding areas. For the first time, we saw how far a child's

imagination can go when given freedom and the right platform to explore it.

Venturing into art, a camp 'Colours of spring' covering a variety of art forms was organized around Holi with some of the leading artists of the city.

Another group of students attended a 3 day photography workshop at Narkanda with renowned photographer T Narayan.

Fostering an appreciation for nature in children, a bird-watching session with renowned environmentalist, Mr. Ranjit Lal was organized at Sukhna Lake. The experience we gained while exploring nature with Mr. Lal will last with us forever.

In parallel, career counselling sessions were being carried out with full enthusiasm.



(C/TNSS Photography Tours and Workshops)



(C/TNSS Photography Tours and Workshops)

Another enriching experience was the Safe Surfing workshop by an expert Mr. Rakshit Tandon who gave an insight to cybercrime and safety measures to be adopted while accessing the net.

Keeping in mind the requirements of 21st Century, a 5-day pilot program on developing creative thinking and problem-solving skills was carried out in partnership with Creya Learning and Research program.

A similar project in the direction of experiential learning and STEM education was Model Rocketry Workshop attended by our science enthusiasts at Pushpa Gujral Science City. Later a similar workshop was conducted at the school campus in which the participants passed on their knowledge to other students by demonstrating their working models.

Continuing with our social endeavors, this year our students spread the message of peace through a signature campaign. They also staged a street play under the guidance of Chandigarh based theatre group TFT highlighting the perils of increasing population.

A new academic block got operational this year. Now there were more spaces available for students to discover, explore and create in the years to come.



2014



2015

Setting higher goals and working towards achieving them

With passing years our literary engagement was growing. Each experience from our initiatives in this direction was inspiring us to set up a higher goal for our students. This year we implemented DEAR programme. With a premise to engage the students to read for pleasure, a designated time for 20 minutes was introduced when everyone including staff members had to 'literally' drop everything and just read. As a result, many non-readers started converting into readers. To further build upon the program, an award system was introduced in which we had awards for beginners as well as avid readers. Today these awards which include star reader, silver, gold, and platinum reader are the most sought-after awards amongst the entire community of our school.



Advancing further through Science, a group of students attended a lecture on Cosmic history and mysteries delivered by Professor and Dean at IUCAA Prof. Thanu Padmanabhan.

With India's historic success of Mangalyaan mission, there was a curiosity amongst the student community about space exploration. As an outreach program, the 4th International Conference on Space was organized in collaboration with the International Space Society and MP council of Science and Technology. Dignitaries from

ISRO and other institutions addressed a large group of students who had traveled from all parts of the country to attend the conference. This year our school team also won an award at the National Level for designing an Orbital Space Settlement

Project. Not only in Science and Literature, our students had also started achieving milestones in the International Award for Young People Program (IAYP) and MUNs. While we were expanding our knowledge, we were making sure that our social responsibilities are getting fulfilled. Similarly, it was being ensured that teachers are getting trained well and children are



getting guidance for different careers. This was also the year to branch out further, the foundation stone for our new branch Dikshant Global School on VIP road was laid. The spaces at the school were planned in such a way that students get the best of conditions to explore and learn. We were ready to give wings to more children to fly.



Embracing new Opportunities and Experiences



There are dreams in life that have the power to light us up, they capture our thoughts, emotions, and mind in all possible ways. One similar dream took shape in the form of our new campus on the VIP road. The campus with a lot of greenery, stone-carved sculptures, hand-painted walls, and open spaces was designed to provide students an environment that helps them to connect with nature and unleash their imagination and creative ideas.

Another very special gift to our students this year was the Planetarium at the existing campus. Now our students at all levels

including Kindergarten could immerse in a 3-D environment, which evokes realism. We became the first school to have a planetarium.

On the other hand, we were preparing to open the Centre for Planetary Science and Think Lab at our other campus. The idea was to have spaces at both campuses compliment in a way that children from both branches make the most of their school years.

All the important rooms and spaces were being named after the experts in their respective fields who have been contributing to the development of the school. Around



this time a major planetary event was about to happen – The transit of Mercury. Students got a thrilling experience watching the transit live at our planetarium. Using the features of the planetarium the same transit was later on shown to other children as well. Another memorable and exciting experience which helped children comprehend their place in space and time was Stargazing under the guidance of experts from Jotirvidhya Parisansthan, Pune.

In October we opened the Suresh Naik Center for Excellence in Planetary Science where the ISRO exhibition was put up as an inaugural event. As an outreach program, the 5th National conference on Space was also held at the same. More than 3000 students from 40 schools benefitted from this conference and exhibition.

Our literature fests and other linked programs were as usual being carried out with full enthusiasm. However, the twists and turns of every year make the journey more fulfilling. This year our students ventured into taking interviews of our guest authors which definitely added value to their experience of the fests.



Another interesting experience was screening of Vittorio De Sica's classic movie 'Bicycle thieves' after which our students got a chance to interact with renowned Screenwriter Ms. Sanjay Chouhan and a New York-based writer Mr. Aseem Chhabra.

In parallel, there was a lot of work being done on the development of debating and soft skills of students in tie-up with specialized groups of young entrepreneurs

Amid all our big projects daily miracles were happening during celebrations, class presentations, competitions, field trips, community programs, thus leading to the identity growth of all Dikshantians.



Creating an environment where every child gets a sense of pride



of the launch of our first satellite will remain in our memories forever.

Later in 2019, students designed a high altitude balloon satellite DikshantSat-1 which was launched from Bhatinda and retrieved from Santokpur village, kurukshetra. In its 3-hour flight, the satellite gained an altitude of 150,000 feet in the stratosphere to obtain the value of different environmental parameters like pressure, humidity, temperature, altitude, etc. The satellite obtained the video of the whole

flight using an on-board action camera. The payload (satellite) was taken to the stratosphere using a helium balloon.

To carry out a project of this level, approvals were taken from the Airport Authority of India, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Government of India and other linked agencies.

Later during the year, Region's first Think Lab was inaugurated- the lab was designed to unleash students' entrepreneurial spirit and ignite their inner innovator. There is definitely an emotional attachment to the first projects

We believe that learning outside of classrooms is as important as learning inside them. This was the time to utilize the spaces we created at our campuses.

A two-day workshop was held in which students developed a CanSat, which was a simulation of a real satellite, integrated within the volume and shape of a soft drink can. Thus, they got their first practical experience of a real space project in our space center. This was just the beginning, the plan for the next two levels which included the making of balloon sat and CubeSat was already in place. The experience



designed by students at the lab. They made smart sticks for blind people, smart dustbins, and an Environment monitoring system. Since then many projects using woodwork, 3-D printer, drone technology, electronics, robotics, etc. are being carried out at the lab.

It was not only the utilization of labs, even our third literature festival for children was organized at our own campus. Literature festivals, workshops, story sessions, book discussion, DEAR time were all continued to promote love for reading in children.

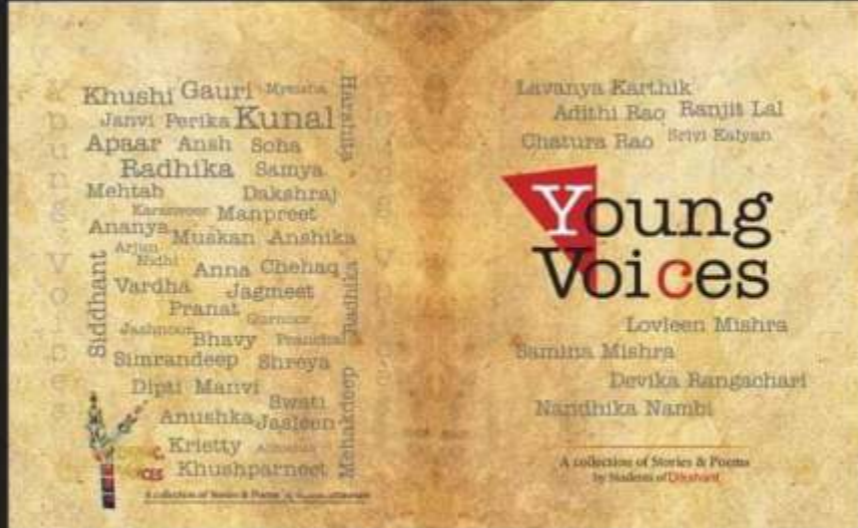
Our students also got a chance to learn Madhubani Art from artists of Jitwarpur village of Madhubani District, Bihar, the place where Madhubani art originated. Various art pieces of Madhubani art are displayed at both our campuses.

Once again children attended city-based and international level MUNs, however with more confidence and knowledge gained from previous experiences.

Our efforts in various directions were getting recognized at various forums and our students and teachers were bringing laurels to the school.



Young Voices 2018
Poems and Stories by Students of Dikshant School



Promoting skills & attitude for the well-being of students

The year 2018 was all about promoting skills and attitudes for the well-being of students.

This year we took our reading program to the next level by initiating the 'Launching Young Writers', aimed at getting the work of students published in the form of a book. The program allowed students to get trained by some of the most renowned writers who specialize in different genres of writing. 12 creative workshops were spread over the year.

Each new step from writing to editing and then to publishing gave us some incredible rewards, in terms of the growth that we saw in our students. They were learning to take feedback, handle rejections, rework on their best version, and were developing an ability to respect each other's perspectives.

This year we formally introduced storytelling as an integrated part of the curriculum in the kindergarten and primary sections. Now

onwards, we started placing stories at the heart of learning. Our little ones started exploring Languages, Mathematics, Science, and their entire curriculum through the



vibrant world of stories.

To further explore astronomy, our students of middle school built telescopes using household items in a 7- day workshop under the guidance of experts from IUCAA Pune. As



a culmination of the workshop, an exhibition was put up by students. Taking a step ahead in career counseling, we started organizing career talks by professionals from different industries. The idea was to allow students to gain an understanding of what different careers actually entail.

Once again, there was a meaningful addition to the infrastructure. To promote the development of skills and love for learning amongst Kindergarten students, a Waldorf and Montessori Lab was developed at both campuses. The Playroom and Computer Lab at the existing campus were also given all-new looks.

We at Dikshant are optimistic, happy & hopeful about the future of our students. It's more than just relieving stress. It is about helping them manage their thoughts and become mentally strong. During all the experiences they get at school, we value and acknowledge their ideas, we encourage them to ask questions, we let them repeat trials-and-errors that ultimately lead to excellence and a sense of accomplishment.



2019



Creating an educational model that offer ideas, illuminate possibilities & provides an inspiring pathway for students

At Dikshant we have always believed that quality education, at its heart, is about human connections — between students, teachers, parents, and broader communities. Technology, good infrastructure, tools are just the helping aids but not the limiting factors. Limitations are only and only in our minds.

With the mist clearing up, another vision started taking shape. After lots of exploration, planning, and meetings TEDxDIKSHANTSchool happened. It was a great achievement to host the prestigious independently organized TEDx event. An enriching platform with a plethora of ideas, where we got to hear from some renowned speakers who have niched their way into a purposeful journey.

Over the years, our board results were consistent and trended upwards. It was usual for our school to get district positions and good college placements. However, the year 2019 got us the best board result ever. Almost one-fourth of the students in grade 10 scored above 90%. We got a Tricity position and we out-shined all our previous performances.

A lot was happening to develop thinking skills in students. A one-week movie-making workshop

was organized with a renowned movie maker Ms. Samina Mishra. Working in groups, students gained an understanding of the requirements and rigors of filmmaking and experienced the exhilaration of seeing a completed project. Their movies were screened in presence of their parents. The first edition of Think and Innovative League was

Medical, Space Science, Photography, Armed Forces, Architecture, Merchant Navy, Law and many more. As a part of the career program, students also went for campus visits to various universities. Our yearly programs like Student-Led Conference, class presentations were as always acting as a confidence-building stage for our young ones.



organized as a competition where students worked in groups to design and present their entrepreneurial projects.

Into the futuristic insight, students also learned to develop APP in a two-day workshop.

We have always believed that irrespective of academic performance, each individual can reach far and beyond what is imagined for them during school years. It's all about making informed choices at the right time. To introduce students to the large potential pool of careers available, a career week was organized in which students got a chance to interact with industry experts from different fields like Banking,

The literary enrichment programme was once again a great success. All around the year different authors and books were celebrated at all levels.

Amidst all this, our endeavors to build compassion and connectivity with our society were being carried out with a lot of passion and joy.

On a sad note, we lost our vibrant and energetic staff member, Ms. Barnali. While working at school, she brought so much fun and life to Theatre. She will always remain in our hearts and memories.

She will be missed immensely but the journey will continue.



Congratulations!
to students, staff and parents for outstanding Grade-XII CBSE results for the session 2019-20

2nd in Mohali District

Muskaan Humanities - 95.2%	Hardik Singhal Science - 95.4%	Aditya Sharma Commerce - 91.6%

HIGHLIGHTS

- 100% result
- 30% of students scored above 90% marks
- 70% of students scored above 80% marks
- 93% of students scored above 75%.
- The average percentage of the school is 84.3%.
- 9 students of the school scored perfect 100 in different subject

Congratulations!
to students, staff and parents for outstanding Grade-X CBSE results for the session 2020-21

1st in Mohali District and 3rd in Tricity

	Barsha Chatterjee (DGS) 98.6%
	Camilla Sidana 98.2%

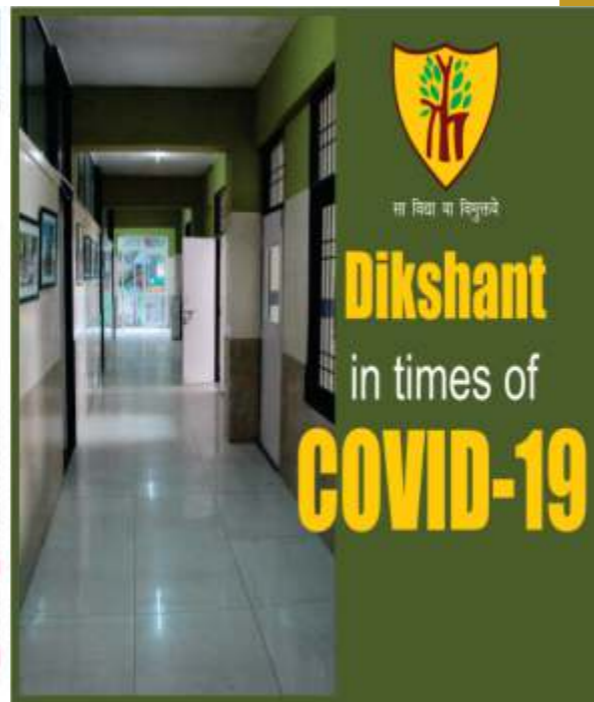
Subject	Highest	Average
English	99	87.8
Hindi	99	87.4
Punjabi	98	80.3
St Maths	98	83.4
Science	96	76
SSC	100	92.4
IT	100	87.5

	ENG	HINDI	PBI	MATHS (ST)	SCI.	SST	IT
95%	20	15	3	6	2	9	20
90%	40	22	3	17	13	60	33
80%	64	40	17	30	30	70	63
75%	74	48	20	37	39	84	74
60%	84	52	32	42	55	0	84
100/100						9	4



2020-21

The year that brought opportunities to reimagine & reengineer the existing process



While we were winding into 2020 with excitement and plans for more enriching modules, suddenly there was a pause. 2020 packed a wallop unlike any other period in living memory. Pandemic hit the world. Right from day one of these uncertain times, we were clear that the learning at Dikshant would not come to a halt. We gathered strength, courage, creativity, and determination to keep things going. The beginning might have been challenging, however, within a matter of days, our faculty members got trained to use virtual tools for teaching and collaborating. We were unaware that a bigger challenge was lying ahead. It was unfortunate that all across media the fee payment to schools was getting questioned in a big way. Amidst this negativity, we had to keep ourselves fully charged to safeguard the future of students. We have always emphasized that the education of children should be the top priority for parents. Investment in school education is an investment in the future of the child. Children need to have a strong start in life. While navigating through the pandemic the real meaning of good education started

unfolding and we are glad the session turned out to be extremely rewarding for us. However, something that was not rewarding was the empty campus. We missed the sight of our students entering the gate, their voices, their excitement. It felt like everything at the campus lost its charm. Even though this was the most unanticipated start, our students demonstrated a lot of resilience and played a vital role in transitioning with us to these virtual platforms. For us, as a school, 'acceptance' would be an understatement, we 'embraced' the change. Remote learning offers different opportunities for growth and development, and we worked hard to take advantage of each opportunity. Each one in their own homes but together. We never compromised on any of the celebrations, development programs, competitions, etc. Be it experiential projects at home, Class Presentations, Celebrations or Special Assemblies, cultural fest, our utmost goal was to engage each and every child in a meaningful way during this tough phase of life. Pandemic also brought opportunities to reimagine and reengineer the existing

processes. Our career program, Think and Innovation league, MUNs could be carried out in a new and better version in virtual mode.

Despite the turbulence, in the beginning, we got an opportunity to build a stronger connection with our parents. We stood strong with each other.

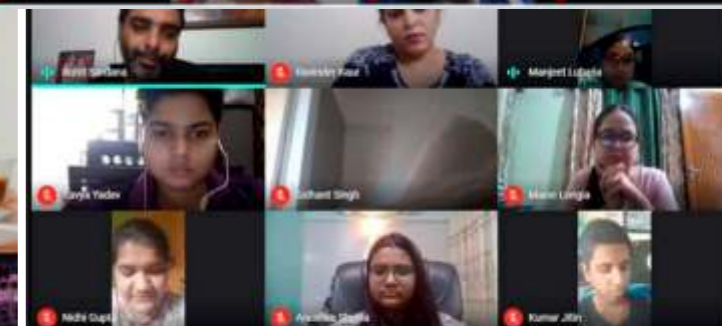
In the field of education, Year 2020 and 2021 will get marked as years of forever change. The recent times of hardship and unknown, have once again reminded us that true learning and improvement happens when we outline new territories and at the same time face the discomfort that comes along with trying and failing.

After spending 2 years in virtual and then in hybrid mode, we look forward to having our students return to the classroom in 2022.

At Dikshant, we believe it is valuable to look beyond these immediate concerns to what may be possible for education and how it will emerge stronger on the other side of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Using natural indicators to test the acidic / basic nature of different food items.



Session : Career Competencies required in 2025 with Mr, Rohit Sidana

ADDING NEW DIMENSIONS TO THE SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE

One of the basic elements necessary to ensure access to education is the infrastructure of a school. At Dikshant, we believe in providing our students with the best possible infrastructure, hence, we keep on adding new spaces every year. We are the first school in the country to have world-class Planetarium, Space Centre and Think Lab at the school campus. Continuing with our pursuit for excellence in education, this year we have added Kiran Nagarkar Library, Piyush Mishra Cultural Center at Global School Campus, a new Computer Lab and Kindergarten Play Room at the International School campus and a Waldorf and Montessori Lab at both our campuses. In the upcoming session, we plan to add a state of the art Primary Science Lab at DIS campus, Media Centre at DGS campus and auditorium at both of our campuses. These renewed spaces are meant to create a friendly learning environment for students, foster their interest thus improving their overall performance.



Planetarium



'Kiran Nagarkar Library' named after author Kiran Nagarkar-one of the most significant writers of the India and the winner of the Sahitya Akademi Award



Piyush Mishra Cultural Centre



Montessori and Waldorf Lab



Think Lab



Science Labs



Music Room



Hi-Tech Media Centre



Art Studio



Playground



Sports Room



Thinking Inspired through Literature & Movies

**CHANDIGARH CHILDREN'S
LITERATURE FESTIVAL**



The school has a strong reading enrichment program to stimulate love for literature among students. Every day 20 minutes are set aside for independent reading, during this time the entire school participates in silent reading. Many writing workshops and storytelling sessions are held for students throughout the year. To enthuse children about reading, the school started with Chandigarh Literature Festival in 2011, followed by Chandigarh Children's Literature Festival. During these festivals children get the opportunity to experience first-hand interaction with celebrated authors, illustrators, storytellers, take part in workshop and attend some fun filled sessions.



Drop Everything and Read Program



Interaction with authors



Creative Writing Workshops



Book Discussions



Reader's Awards



Film Screening and Discussion



Story Sessions



Movie Making Workshop



Interviews by Students



Chandigarh Children Literature Festival



Interviews by Students



Book Adaptations



Children Literature Festival

T
L
M

Pioneers to introduce **Space Science** as a part of the curriculum



Dikshant International School is the first in the region to set up a fixed digital planetarium project system at the school campus. The dome has a seating capacity of 90 children. The planetarium project adds on the dynamic learning experience and takes the participant to a journey through space & beyond.



Think Lab at Dikshant becomes the first NASA STEM Innovation Lab International Outpost



What an incredible and innovative school. Modeling their student makerspace after NASA's STEM Innovation Lab is inspiring and could serve as a model for other schools around the world.

Troy D Cline, Director STEM Innovation Lab after interaction with students of Think Lab Program



First School to develop satellite Dikshant SAT-1



Journey from classroom to careers and beyond

The management of Dikshant strongly believes that a good school is known by how well the students do in life after passing out of the school. To guide our students make the right choice of subject/stream at +1 level, the school has tied up with **ICS- a career counseling consultant** organization which regularly conducts workshops to help students identify personality strengths, talents and interests. The program is designed to assist Grade IX and X students with course selection for senior secondary level and Grade XI and XII students for consideration of their options after the final year of their study at school. Considering the career aspects for students, the school has **collaborated with Lakshay-** one of the top coaching institutes of Chandigarh, for an integrated program in Medical & Non-Medical Stream. As per this Program, students enrolled in grade XI science stream are preparing for their board examination as well as getting enough exposure to the pattern of various competitive entrance examinations. **The school has also tied up with Bulls Eye for providing the best of the guidance in non science courses.** As per the program, students will get professional coaching for the entrance examination of CAT, CA, CLAT, CSAT twice a week within school hours.



A session was conducted by Bulls Eye on 29th November 2018 on how to boost CBSE Grade X scores using strategy and planning. Experts also discussed various ways to build up resume and the role of time management.



As a part of the ongoing Career Counselling Session for the students of Grade IX - XII, a counselling session for parents was held on 18th July. (ICS) The session aimed at highlighting key points about various career opportunities available within different streams. The session began with a general discussion on relatable career options and ended up with an informative question answer round.



A career counseling session for Grade IX – XII started on 18th July. The experts Mrs. Nupur Wali, Ms. Rashmi Singh and Mr. Kamalakar Dwivedi from the Institute for Career Studies, Lucknow had a seminar with the students to guide them in various career options in different streams.



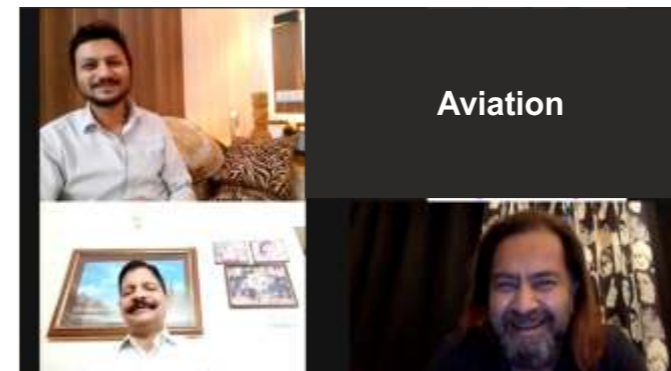
Students of grade IX to XII interacted with Mr Dev Sandhir, Retired DGM Canara Bank to get an insight about the career in Investment Banking.



A career counselling session was held by an overseas educational consultant Ms. Mandeep Ghumann on 22nd May, 2018. The session was very interactive and informative for the students.



Session on the scope of career in designing by artists, educator, writer and research scholar at Sriishi School of Art Ms. Srivi Kalyan on 6th October, 2018



Session with Air Vice Marshal Mr. L.N. Sharma AVSM



Session with Captain Bhavik Shah, Go Airlines



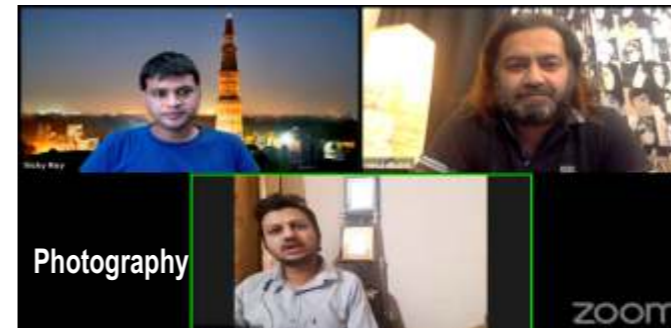
Session with Mr. Troy D Cline, Goddard Space Flight Centre, NASA (USA)



Session : Career Competencies required in 2025 with Mr, Rohit Sidana



Session with Dr. Ranjit Chaudhary, Urologist, Andrologist & Laparoscopic Surgeon & Mitul Dikshit



Session with Mr. Vicky Roy (Forbes listed photographer, TEDx Speaker, INK fellow, MIT Media Lab Fellow)



University Interactions



Celebrating World Space Week 2020



Session with Dr. Nitin Ron, Neonatologist, New York, USA and Mr. Mitul Dikshit, Student - Mansi



Interactive session with Dr. Nitin Ron, Neonatologist, New York, USA and Mr. Mitul Dikshit, Student - Mansi

Our Students Our Pride



Abhishek Nagpal
Batch of 2019
Indian Institute of Management, Ranchi



Shalu Chaudhary
Batch of 2012
MBA in Business Analytics, IIM Bangalore



Jagpreet Singh Kamboj
University of California, Davis



Ketan Mahajan
Batch of 2019
Civil Engineering in PEC, Chandigarh



Lakshay Gupta
Batch of 2019
CSE in Thapar University



Aryan Singh Dhiman
Batch of 2019
Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science & Engineering UIET, Panjab University



Manasi Saini
Batch of 2021
MBBS course in Ambedkar Institute of Medical Science, Mohali.



Jasmine
Batch of 2021
Bachelor of Health Science in Australia with 75% scholarship.



VINIT BANSAL

2008 Batch

Higher Studies:
BITS-Pilani, Pilani Campus

Current Work Profile: I work for National Instruments as a Sr. Technical Consultant. I work closely with Indian defence and space agencies and help them build better satellites and defence equipments.

Dikshant Experience:
I really love the exposure Dikshant provided during my schooling. School really focused on the overall development and not just the sheer %age of marks we score in exams. The school really have two visionary leaders: Garima ma'am and Mitul sir. Their advice during my school days really helped me shape my career which was only possible due to the vision they had for every child in their school.

VATSAL VAISHY

2016 Batch

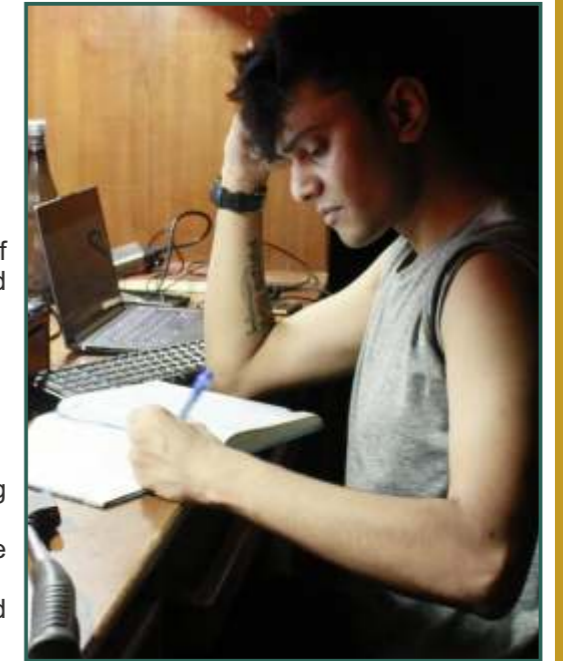
Higher Studies:
University of Delhi and IGNOU Drop

Current Work Profile:
Global Project manager @ SecOps where I handle responsibilities of consulting and penetration testing of global institutions and organisation to turn their digital assets develop secured posture.

Journey at Dikshant :
My exponential growth and inculcation of healthy and tough habits.

Advice to your juniors:

1. Helping self is the best way to help self.
2. Self acquired knowledge is wisdom.
3. The best form of fearlessness is when it comes with practicing caution.
4. Use your opportunities to learn things first rest everything like success, fame and stability will come along.
5. Perform your duties before anything over anyone, perfectly and always before time.



SARANSH CHHABRA

2017 Batch

Higher Studies:
Pursuing MBA specialised in finance from T.A. Pai Management Institute, Manipal.

Journey till now :
Dikshant was my home for much of my adolescence. After completion of Class 12th, I graduated from Panjab University in Chandigarh with a bachelor's degree in commerce. I worked in my family's business throughout my graduation and studied for the CAT exam at the same time. I scored well in the exam, allowing me to enroll at one of India's premier business schools. Currently i am pursuing MBA specialised in finance to make a career in Investment Banking.

Dikshant Experience: Dikshant International has played a major role in moulding who I am today. Everything I am today, I owe it to my school and my teachers. The overall holistic development that Dikshant provides cannot be compared with any other institution. My experience at Dikshant has been very enriching and my heart is filled with nothing but gratitude for our school. I recall the days I spent there vividly. I treasure every moment I spent at Dikshant.

Advice to your juniors : Make the most of your academic experience. You won't be able to go back to school. Only school will provide you with the most memorable moments of your life. Participate in school organized trips and create lasting memories with your peers. Participate in as many extracurricular and co-curricular activities as possible. Both academics and extra curricular activities are crucial. Work hard to achieve a decent grade, but don't become overly concerned with the outcome.

