

# Field-Visit Report

Date: 31.05.2023

Place of Visit: Orchid Prep School, Shimla



## Introduction

On 31.05.2023, the team of Centre for Studies Related to differently Abled had the opportunity to visit Orchid Prep School, an institution dedicated to providing education and support to specially challenged children. The purpose of our visit was to interact with the students and faculty, and gain

insights into their educational programs and initiatives. This field report aims to provide a comprehensive overview of our experience at the school.

## **Overview of the School**

Orchid Prep is a well-established institution that caters to children with a range of disabilities, including intellectual, and developmental challenges. The school is an inclusive school that has children who are on neuro divergent spectrum. The school offers a safe and inclusive environment where students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. The dedicated team of teachers, therapists, and support staff work collaboratively to create a nurturing learning environment that meets the unique needs of each student. Once accommodating and aiding in the advancement of over twenty students with special needs, the school aims to rebuild its capacity, and even break its own records with the replenishment of trained and empathetic teachers and teaching assistants.

## **Facilities and Resources**

During our visit, our team of students who went for field research was impressed by the school's well-maintained facilities and the availability of specialized resources. The classrooms were equipped with all the necessary things which were tailored to the diverse learning requirements of the

students. Additionally, the school had a dedicated area for outdoor activities that encouraged physical activity and exploration.



## **Observations and Interactions**

The team comprised of five student-members along with their Faculty coordinator. We learned that students at school study in an all-inclusive environment along with the rest of the students and are trained accordingly. We interacted with students, which include students with autistic spectrum, Down syndrome and learning diversity. The students were remarkable in their own ways few among them had great interest in art while one was great at mathematics.

It was heartwarming to see the enthusiasm and joy in their faces as they participated in music therapy sessions, art classes, and physical exercises.

The teachers displayed remarkable patience, creativity, and a deep understanding of individualized instruction techniques, ensuring that each student received the necessary support to reach their full potential. The Principal of the school, Ms. Neelam gave us a glimpse of her journey of running an all-inclusive school and the challenges thereof. The school has staff members that are trained to work with the special students.

Furthermore, our team was inspired by the students' resilience and determination to overcome challenges. They demonstrated remarkable progress in developing essential life skills, communication abilities, and social interactions. The positive and supportive atmosphere created by the staff fostered a sense of belonging and self-confidence among the students.

In interaction with the parent of one of the children with diverse needs, the team got a glimpse into the hardships faced by the parents due to dearth of medical infrastructure, resulting in inaccurate or total lack of diagnosis of a child, further affecting his/her chances of receiving specific and specialized aid. It highlighted the importance of medical support and infrastructure in order to dispense better services and thus provide adequate opportunities to parents and children.



## **Collaboration and Support**

One aspect that stood out during our visit was the strong emphasis on collaboration and family involvement. The school actively engaged parents



and guardians through regular meetings, and counseling sessions. The open lines of communication between the school and families created a holistic support system that enhanced the students' learning experience both at school and at home.





## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, Our Centre for Studies Related to differently Abled visit to Orchid Prep School was an incredibly enlightening and uplifting experience. The school's commitment to providing quality education and support to specially challenged children was evident in every aspect of their operations. The dedication and expertise of the staff, coupled with the state-of-the-art facilities, ensured that each student received an inclusive and empowering education.



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