

# Sri Sri Academy, Kolkata

Inspired by the holistic development philosophy propagated by Art of Living guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, SSA has quickly established an excellent reputation and is ranked among West Bengal's Top 10 co-ed day schools in the annual EW India School Rankings

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**E**STABLISHED IN 2010 with the objective of creating a holistic educational institution dedicated to the "spread of human values", within a short time span the Sri Sri Academy (SSA) has built an excellent reputation within the eastern metropolis of Kolkata (pop.15 million) for offering high-quality, child-centric and stress-free education to 2,316 students mentored by 151 teachers. In the recently (September) published EducationWorld India School Rankings 2017-18, SSA is ranked among West Bengal's Top 10 co-educational day schools and #4 in Kolkata. Moreover, the school was conferred a special merit award in community outreach at the EducationWorld Grand Jury Awards 2016, and is a recipient of the International School Award 2017-2020 of the British Council. SSA is affiliated with the Delhi-based Council of the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) and offers nursery to class XII education.

Sited on a compact green 1.5-acre campus in south Kolkata, SSA was promoted under the aegis of the Sri Sri Ravishankar Vidya Mandir Trust founded by the Bangalore-based spiritual guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar. The trust manages 90 schools in 15 states across India, Nepal and Oman. To get the SSA project up and running, Sri Sri elicited the support of 26 respected industry leaders of Kolkata who later became the school's Founding Advisory Council.

If within a mere seven years of its promotion SSA is ranked among West Bengal's Top 10 co-ed day schools, trustees and teachers are unanimous that the credit should accrue to founder-principal **Suvina Shunglu**. An alumna of La Martiniere Girls College, Lucknow and history postgrad of Lucknow University, Shunglu acquired rounded administrative experience in top-ranked corporates Modi Xerox



SSA's Shunglu: character building & values education focus

and Indian Hotels (Taj Bengal) before switching to education in 1989, signing up as teacher at the city's Bidya Bharati Girls High School, followed by a stint at Akshar School as middle school coordinator. In 2010, she was appointed the founder-principal of SSA and is widely acknowledged as the driving force of the school, developing it into a progressive internationally benchmarked institution.

"SSA is inspired by the holistic development philosophy propagated by Sri Sri Ravi Shankarji and focuses on the moral, intellectual and spiritual development of students in a stress-free and happy learning environment. Therefore, our emphasis is not only on academic excellence but character building and values education to ensure children mature into confident and sensitive citizens, and learn to appreciate the cultural heritage of our diverse country," says Shunglu. To realise

its institutional objective of a wholesome education experience, the school also offers the 'human values and self-development' programme of the Art of Living to all students.

SSA's focus on students' emotional and spiritual development has impacted academic achievements positively, with secondary students excelling in the school-leaving class X and XII board exams. Of the 105 students who wrote the class X ICSE exam in March-April 2017, 54 averaged 90 percent-plus, while of the 70 who wrote the class XII ISC exam, 24 scored above 90 percent. Moreover, the school was conferred the Ram Avtar Sarv Shreshtha Vidyalay Awards for Best Results in Hindi in ICSE by the Sanmarg Foundation in 2016 and 2017. Recently, SSA also received a grant from the Central government to establish an Atal Tinkering Lab.

The impressive academic record of the school is the outcome of the



## Institution Profile

management's generous investment in providing supportive scholastic infrastructure. The 1.5-acre purpose-built campus hosts an eight-storied building with 85 air-conditioned classrooms supported by international standard teaching aids including Smart Boards; nine labs (science, geography, infotech, etc); four halls; a 600-seat auditorium; an open theatre, and two libraries housing 10,031 books and 300 journal subscriptions.

Inevitably, co-curricular and sports education are major focus areas with a wide palette of indoor and outdoor activities on offer. The sports curriculum features training in athletics, badminton, basketball, cricket, football, martial arts, table tennis, volley ball, throw ball, chess, indoor gym, kick boxing/*taekwondo*, roller skating, yoga and aerobics. Two yoga, music, and art and craft rooms develop students' musical and artistic

### ADMISSION & FEES

Sri Sri Academy is a CISCE-affiliated co-ed day school. Admissions into nursery are through interactions with parents. From class III onwards, admissions are against vacancies, and from class V onwards writing a maths and English entrance exam is mandatory.

**Fees** (per month): Rs.5,000

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intelligences. Also on the school's co-curricular education menu are 22 clubs covering a wide range of activities such as environment conservation, gardening, health & wellness, disaster management, personality management, Model United Nations, creative computing,

robotics, International Award for Young People, Youth and Nature Leadership Programme.

With SSA established and reputed as one of Kolkata's most preferred co-ed day schools, the management is focused on breaking new ground. Among its future plans are setting up an innovation centre for students and teachers to collaborate on projects related to design technology.

"Also on the agenda is providing greater opportunities for cultural and international cooperation through school exchange programmes, vocational education and training options. Moreover, we have begun work on creating vertical gardens on the ground and second floors," says Shunglu, who was recently honoured by the West Bengal Federation of United Nations Associations for sustained contribution to promoting knowledge and information about the principles of the United Nations.