

BEST PRACTICE-I

Title of the Practice: Value Education

Objectives of the Practice: The motto of Holy Cross College is educating hearts and mind and the college has always believed that the very purpose and main function of education is development of an all round and well-balanced personality of the students, and also to develop all dimensions of the human intellect so that young citizens can help make our nation more democratic, cohesive, socially responsible, culturally rich and intellectually competent. Keeping this in mind, the college holds regular mentoring and Value Education classes that are integrated into the curriculum.

Context: college students at the brink of early adulthood are mostly in need of special attention and guidance in order to protect them from falling prey to vices and developing mental health issues. It is one of the fundamental prerequisite in today's fast-paced world that college students are trained to care for their physical and mental health with as much diligence as they have for pursuing their ambitions. Thus, Holy Cross College strongly feels that modern modes of teaching-learning must be balanced with a simultaneous awareness and training in ethics and human values in order to impart a holistic education. Value Education classes are held to develop other facets of one's personality like the emotional, social and spiritual aspects that are required for the growth of healthy attitudes, habits, values, skills and interests among students.

The Practice: The members of the faculty of the College conduct Value Education classes once a week throughout each academic year with every batch of students including B.Ed students. It has become imperative to include Value Education in the context of higher education in India to impart life skills to technologically competent but often spiritually and emotionally impoverished students, who despite their academic credentials, find it difficult to cope with real life situations. Value Education classes emphasize the need for a commitment to integrity, self awareness, respect and care of others including peers, discipline and discernment while teaching soft skills like decision-making, participating in group discussions and communication strategies etc. It also teaches life skills to cope with gender issues, compatibility in family life and coping with anger and stress. If a student needs a special counselling, college offers a full-time counselor who attends students regularly. The college also has Honesty and Amenities store (operated without any shopkeeper) with an aim to create honesty and sense of responsibility among the students so that they pay/ deposit the expected amount after buying the item from the store.

Evidence of Success: Value Education has always been an integral part of a holy cross education. As most of the students of the college are 1st generation graduates (mostly from the indigenous community), they enter college as students lacking self-confidence but graduate as confident, happy individuals who believe in their worth and effectively utilize the important soft and life skills that they learn in college. Our students selflessly dedicate themselves to the cause of blood donation, Anti-Drug campaign, and promoting decent standards of health sanitation.

BEST PRACTICE- II

Title of the Practice: Keeping faculty abreast with contemporary areas of the discipline so as to impart quality education.

Goal Aims and Objectives: The Institute organizes Faculty Development Programs (FDP's), seminars, workshops etc. and also encourages members of the faculty to participate in the Refreshers course, Induction course, conferences, methodology workshops etc. for enhancing and upgrading knowledge of faculty members. Such practices have deep impact on quality enhancement and overall development of faculty as well as students. It positively impacts the academic functioning of the Institute and facilitates the role of teacher as educators and mentors.

The Practice: The Institution conducts the FDP's/seminars/workshops/Guest Lectures every academic year to upgrade their knowledge and skills, to improve their effectiveness as teachers and mentors, to promote research work in their field of specialize, to inculcate values and ethics. The college also provides financial assistance to the teachers to participate in such programs outside the state/country.