

Background:

DAV Group of Schools, Chennai, **established in 1970**, has been providing high-quality, value-based, affordable education for the last 50+ years. The sapling in Chennai which was planted by various stalwarts like Shri Jaidev ji, Shri Ram Kalia ji, and numerous other well-wishers, has today grown to 15 schools (10 Own Schools, 3 Managed Public Schools, and 2 Private Managed Schools) serving approximately 40,000+ students with 1000+ teachers.

Apart from K-12 schooling, the group has over the last five years journeyed into multiple other areas - **Teacher training**, In-house Publications, HEAL, Natural farming, Vedic Sanskriti school providing spiritual classes for children, coaching for various competitive exams - IIT-JEE / NEET / NDA/ CLAT, CA, etc. In addition, we have entered into an **Academic Association with 15 other schools**, located in tier II towns of Tamil Nadu – Mayavaram, Madurai, Kallakuruchi, Coimbatore, Vellore, Salem, Karur, Tiruppur, etc. to share best practices in the education space, a one-of-a-kind model.

Project Overview:

While inclusion is already a part of the DAV Education system, a dedicated Inclusive Education Wing was started in DAV Gill Nagar in 2021 and in DAV Pallikaranai in 2023 to create a nurturing and supportive learning environment that caters to the unique needs of special children. Facilities available in the inclusive education wing of DAV are provided in Annexure 1.

The inclusive education wing at DAV Gill Nagar and Pallikaranai caters to the following types of special needs:

1. Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)
2. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
3. Cerebral Palsy
4. Down Syndrome

Children with dyslexia, hearing, and partial vision impairment are already studying in regular classes across the DAV Group of Schools and therefore inclusion has been part of DAV's education system from the beginning.

We are seeking CSR funding to support both our **Operating and Capital expenses**, ensuring the sustainability & growth of our programs for **Children with Special needs at DAV Schools in Gill Nagar & Pallikaranai Campus** to empower and uplift their lives. TNAES is a 'Not for profit' Society registered under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Govt. of India for undertaking CSR Activities [PAN: AAAAT0081F; Reg. No. CSR00005803] Corporate donations qualify under CSR expenditure.

Operating Expenses:

- a) **Students Scholarship:** The average annual tuition fee of Students at DAV is Rs 60K Approx. The actual annual tuition fee for a Child in the Inclusive Education wing is approximately Rs 1L p.a. However, DAV Charges the same fee as that is charged for other students and hence partially subsidizes the Fees. Additionally, Parents of these Special children incur quite an amount of additional expenses towards therapies outside such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, etc. and therefore this subsidized fee will be helpful for them.

Rs. In Lakhs

School Location	DAV Matric School Gill Nagar				DAV Co-ed School, Pallikarnai				Grand Total			
Year	I	II	III	Total	I	II	III	Total	I	II	III	Total
Strength	50	50	50		20	20	20		70	70	70	
Fees Paid by Students	30.00	33.00	33.00	96.00	12.00	13.20	13.20	38.40	42.00	46.20	46.20	134.40
DAV Subsidy	20.00	22.00	22.00	64.00	8.00	8.80	8.80	25.60	28.00	30.80	30.80	89.60

Affordability plays a critical role in promoting inclusion in education by breaking down barriers and ensuring equal access to learning opportunities for all individuals, regardless of their socioeconomic background and therefore the subsidization of fees is the first and foremost step of DAV's role in inclusive education.

- b) **Additional Staffing:** The Student-Teacher ratio for a regular class is 1.5 teachers per classroom (~ Approx. 40 children); For a Classroom with Special Needs children, qualified experienced Teachers of approx. 1 Teacher for every 10~15 children is required depending on the severity of the needs.

Rs. In Lakhs

School Location	DAV Matric School Gill Nagar				DAV Co-ed School, Pallikarnai				Grand Total			
Year	I	II	III	Total	I	II	III	Total	I	II	III	Total
Existing: Gill Nagar - 1 Coordinator & 5 special Educators Pallikarnai - 1 Coordinator & 4 Special Educators	22.56	24.82	27.30	74.67	18.72	20.59	22.65	61.96	41.28	45.41	49.95	136.64
Additional: 1 Coordinator & 2 Special educators for each school	11.52	12.67	13.94	38.13	11.52	12.67	13.94	38.13	23.04	25.34	27.88	76.26

Additionally, providing regular training and professional development opportunities will help keep them updated with the latest teaching techniques and advancements in special education.

- c) **Therapies and Support Services:** Currently, Speech/ Occupational therapists in the inclusive wing of DAV offer interventions as part of the school curriculum to children with special needs. Additional Therapies are needed for some children for which the parents need to engage with external centers/therapists. Additional Speech / Occupational therapists can be employed to provide additional remedial interventions to children after school hours as well, further reducing the financial burden on the parents.

Rs. In Lakhs

School Location	DAV Matric School Gill Nagar				DAV Co-ed School, Pallikarnai				Grand Total			
	Year	I	II	III	Total	I	II	III	Total	I	II	III
Existing: Gill Nagar / Pallikarnai - 1 Speech Therapist & 1 Occupational Therapist for each school	7.68	8.45	9.29	25.42	7.68	8.45	9.29	25.42	15.36	16.90	18.59	50.84
Additional: 1 Speech Therapist & 1 Occupational Therapist for each School	7.68	8.45	9.29	25.42	7.68	8.45	9.29	25.42	15.36	16.90	18.59	50.84

Capital Expenses:

Existing Infrastructure & Equipment at the Inclusive Education wings (Pallikaranai & Gill Nagar):

Two special education rooms, one occupational therapy room in each wing with the required furniture, boards and the following equipment

Special Education		
Sl No	Materials	Quantity
1	Flashcards (Sight words Cards-LKG, UKG, Class 1, Class 2)	1 Set
2	Action words	1 Set
3	Vocabulary Cards	1 Set
4	Sticky charts- Alphabets, Maths	4 sets
5	Building blocks-big ones	2 sets
6	File Folder	30 sets
7	Pens	10 sets
8	Crayons	10 sets
9	Sketches	10 sets
10	Pencils Grip	10 sets
11	Grip Crayons	10 sets
12	Glue stick	10
Occupational Therapy		
1	Pegboards	1 set
2	Puzzles	6 types
3	Large size beads	3 sets
4	Swiss ball	2 nos
5	Tilt board	2 nos
6	Sensory / therapy Swings	2 nos
7	Swing and wooden ladder	1 set

8	Sensory stones	1 set
9	Soft play ball pit	1 set
10	Sensory tunnel	1 set
11	Sensory sand play	3 sets
12	Squishy balls	1 set
13	Slime and play dough	2 sets
Speech Therapy		
1	Photo Conversation Cards	1 Set
2	Vibration brush/Oral motor tool	1 Set
3	SLP Kit	1 Set
4	Echo horn/Whistle	1 Set

Proposed additional infrastructure and equipment:

1. Purchasing Assistive devices for children with autism and ADHD:

- a. **Communication Devices:** Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) devices, such as speech-generating devices and communication boards, help nonverbal or minimally verbal children express their thoughts, needs, and feelings.
- b. **Sensory Tools:** Sensory tools like weighted blankets, and noise-cancelling headphones help children with autism and ADHD self-regulate and cope with sensory challenges.
- c. **Focus and Attention Aids:** Focus and attention aids, such as noise-canceling headphones, focus fidgets, and seat cushions, can help children maintain attention and stay focused on tasks.
- d. **Adaptive Writing Tools:** Adaptive writing tools like pencil grips, slant boards, and weighted pens can assist children with fine motor challenges in improving handwriting skills.
- e. **Interactive Learning Devices:** Interactive learning devices, such as educational tablets and apps tailored to specific learning needs, can engage and motivate children with autism and ADHD in learning activities.

2. Purchasing sensory integration equipment for children with autism and ADHD:

These specialized swings and equipment are designed to accommodate the unique sensory needs of children with autism and create a calming environment. Here are some commonly used sensory swings and equipment for children with autism:

i. Sensory Swings:

- **Cocoon Swings:** These enclosed swings provide a sense of security and deep pressure input, promoting relaxation and calming sensory input.
- **Platform Swings:** Platform swings offer a larger surface area for children to lie down or sit, providing vestibular and proprioceptive input for balance and body awareness.

ii. Sensory Integration Gyms:

- Sensory gyms are equipped with various sensory equipment, such as swings, climbing walls, and crash pads, that encourage movement, balance, and spatial exploration.

3. Toy Library: A toy or play library, can be set up, is a unique and innovative concept that provides children and their families with access to a wide range of toys, games, and educational materials for a specified period, similar to borrowing books from a traditional library.

The primary goal of a toy library is to promote play, learning, and social development among children while reducing the financial burden on families and encouraging sustainability.

4. Infrastructure Development: Renovating and expanding our existing infrastructure to accommodate the growing number of students and provide an accessible, stimulating, and inclusive learning environment.

5. Inclusive Playground: Establishing an inclusive playground with equipment designed to accommodate children with different physical abilities, promoting social interaction and physical development.

Rs. In Lakhs

School Location	DAV Matric School Gill Nagar				DAV Co-ed School, Pallikarnai				Grand Total			
Year	I	II	III	Total	I	II	III	Total	I	II	III	Total
Capital Expenses												
Teaching Aids/ Assistive Devices / Sensory Integration equipment / Toy Library etc.	6.00	5.00	5.00	16.00	12.00	10.00	10.00	32.00	18.00	15.00	15.00	48.00

Financial Summary:

We have carefully estimated the total funding required for the successful implementation of this project and sustained over the next three years.

Rs. In Lakhs

School Location	DAV Matric School Gill Nagar				DAV Co-ed School, Pallikarnai				Grand Total			
Year	I	II	III	Total	I	II	III	Total	I	II	III	Total
Strength	50	50	50		20	20	20		70	70	70	
Capital Expenses												
Teaching Aids/ Assistive Devices / Sensory Integration equipment / Toy Library etc.	6.00	5.00	5.00	16.00	12.00	10.00	10.00	32.00	18.00	15.00	15.00	48.00
Operating Costs												
Staff Cost - 1 coordinator + 2 Special Educators	11.52	12.67	13.94	38.13	11.52	12.67	13.94	38.13	23.04	25.34	27.88	76.26
1 Speech Therapist + 1 Occupational Therapist	7.68	8.45	9.29	25.42	7.68	8.45	9.29	25.42	15.36	16.90	18.58	50.84
Total	25.20	26.12	28.23	79.55	31.20	31.12	33.23	95.55	56.40	57.24	61.46	175.10

* Excludes Cost of Physical Infrastructure like Classrooms, Playground, ramps, etc.

We are seeking HTL's support to partner in this Journey toward our vision of empowering these children with the education and support they deserve.

Impact and Recognition:

By partnering with DAV Group of Schools, HTL will make a significant impact on the lives of children with special needs. Your contribution will enable us to cater to a larger number of children, improve their overall development, and create a more inclusive society. We intend to acknowledge your generous support through various channels, including but not limited to:

- Display HTL name outside the Inclusive Education Unit/ Lab
- Display HTL logo on our website and promotional materials related to the project.

Looking forward to a continuing collaboration and funding for forthcoming years would also help to establish an **“HTL Center for Inclusive Education”** in our Gill Nagar/ Pallikaranai Campuses

Reporting:

- Regular updates on the progress of the DAV’s Inclusive education journey and implementation of the Various CAPEX
- Annual certified **CSR Utilization certificate**

Conclusion:

We firmly believe that with your compassionate support, we can create a lasting and positive impact on the lives of children with special needs. Together, we can pave the way for a brighter future, promoting inclusivity, and providing these children with the tools they need to thrive.

Thank you for considering our proposal and for your dedication to making a difference in the lives of those in need. If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

1. **Qualified and Trained Staff:** Both the schools (Gill Nagar and Pallikaranai) have a team of qualified and trained professionals, including special education teachers, therapists (e.g., speech therapists, occupational therapists), psychologists, and counsellors. These individuals have expertise in catering to the needs of students with various disabilities and learning challenges.
2. **Individualized Education Plans (IEPs):** An Individualized Education Plan (IEP) has been set up for each student tailored to their unique learning requirements. The IEP outlines specific goals, accommodations, and strategies to support the student's academic and personal growth.
3. **Inclusive Infrastructure:** The physical infrastructure of the special needs education wing is inclusive and accessible. We have ramps, elevators, wide corridors, and classrooms designed to accommodate students with physical disabilities.
4. **Multidisciplinary Support:** Collaboration among different professionals is essential for providing comprehensive support to special needs students. Regular meetings and discussions happen among our teachers, therapists, and other support staff to ensure a holistic approach to education.
5. **Parental Involvement:** The special needs education wing should actively involve parents and guardians in their child's education. Regular communication and parent-teacher meetings help parents understand their child's progress and play an active role in their development.
6. **Individualized Support Services:** We also offer individualized support services, such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, behavioral interventions, and counselling, based on the specific needs of each student.
7. **Specialized Curriculum:** The curriculum is modified to meet the needs of special needs students, incorporating differentiated instruction and a variety of teaching methods to cater to different learning styles.
8. **Inclusive Extracurricular Activities:** The special needs education wing encourages and facilitates the participation of special needs students in extracurricular activities, promoting social interaction and skill development.