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Mind Tree
SCHOOL
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WHEN YOU START HERE,
THE WORLD
OPENS UP FOR YOU!



Mind Tree
SCHOOL



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Our Mission Statement

Our mission is to ensure that each student achieves his optimal academic potential for success at school and beyond, and to foster self-confidence, enthusiasm, perseverance, patience and integrity.



Our Values and Ethos

Respect and Ethics: Respect is the nucleus of our school philosophy and is exhibited by the students as well as the staff. We do not compromise when it comes to our ethical standards. The school encourages obedience to moral principles like honesty, empathy and dedication which is reiterated through our learning environment.

Responsibility: We value the importance of looking after ourselves and our possessions. We stress the need to take responsibility for the way we conduct ourselves and encourage our pupils to make the right choices for themselves, the society and the environment.

Endurance: We espouse a calm and reflective approach in school, respecting others' opinions as well as differences and acknowledging that every human being is unique.

We persevere through sometimes difficult circumstances with determination and the never say die spirit.

Excellence: We strongly believe in accomplishing the targets and goals we seek with unwavering strength and focus to deliver excellence.

Confidence and Competence: Our faith and confidence, complemented with the skill to achieve, add to our competence and hence, the realisation of our goals.

Recognition and Self Worth: Apprising students of their strengths and weaknesses, we believe in showing true picture so that our students realize self worth and work on their weak areas.

Trust: We understand the importance of faith and work to prove that our actions are guided by transparent and honest communication.

Our Vision Statement

We aspire to be one of the leading schools in India and seek to build global citizens, amply armed with scholastic and co-scholastic skills, ingrained with integrity, strong character, and compassion for the community and the environment.



THE MIND TREE CURRICULUM MODEL



The Mind Tree Curriculum Model represents the school’s commitment to optimise teaching and learning, hence facilitating children’s holistic development and well-being by implementing a world- class curriculum. It is a unique amalgamation of a solid academic foundation and a rich co-scholastic programme which is steered towards the accomplishment of our school’s guiding statements.

The three elements of the Mind Tree Curriculum Model are:

1. Our Curriculum

2. Holistic Development

3. Teaching & Learning

Following the world trends, we have incorporated most valued skills in our curriculum, including vitals like teamwork, problem-solving skills, interpersonal relationships, oral communication, creative thinking etc.

Most Valued Skills

1970s	21st Century
Writing	Teamwork
Computation	Problem Solving
Reading	Interpersonal
Oral Communication	Oral Communication
Listening	Listening & Reading
Personal Career Development	Personal Career Development
Creative Thinking	Creative Thinking
Leadership	Leadership
Goal Setting/Motivation	Goal Setting/Motivation
Teamwork	Writing

We believe that every learner who comes to Mind Tree possesses certain innate qualities which are commonly present in all children across the same age, regardless of the level of intellect. Our endeavour is to navigate all our students towards projected aims and ethos by providing a broad range of academic and non-academic experiences which cater to their individual abilities, interests and needs.



OUR CURRICULUM

We, at Mind Tree, have modelled the curriculum in a way that ensures a perfect blend of old school values with new age methodologies.

Our curriculum is progressive and dynamic as it is flexible enough to meet the academic and non-academic needs of the children as they advance in age.

Kindergarten Curriculum

Our Kindergarten Curriculum is a holistic, child-centered and exploratory curriculum that centers on developing children's communication, language skills, creative expression, physical skills, well-being as well as personal and social development. It is designed for a seamless and smooth transition to the more structured and skills-driven learning expectations of formal education.

Our Kindergarten Curriculum is powered by KG-Pro, which is a research based, scientifically designed, theme-based programme that uses a plethora of individual and group activities to assure optimum learning.

Through speaking and listening, games and activities, we ensure that children play in a language-rich environment and learn to use their developing knowledge in order to make new connections and links. We stress upon reading of story books, watching English movies and singing English songs and rhymes. Phonic Sessions strengthen their letter-sound association and sound blending to produce words. 'The Book Flix Programme' aims at developing love for reading stories through animated videos and read-aloud story books.

With the chief aim of making our students good decision makers and socially-emotionally competent, we create an

environment where they are exposed to various situations that help them absorb the righteous way of living. Life Skills is taught through movies and story discussions that are linked to various themes.

Children's knowledge of numbers is deepened through real-life experiences and objects. They develop a sound knowledge of shapes, space and measurement through many interactive games and activities. They widen their imagination and discover their own creativity in an environment which allows them to explore and express themselves in a way that is fun and exciting.

From the beginning, students are guided to manage their feelings, build relationships and develop self-confidence and self-awareness. We aim to enable all the children to understand their emotions and ensure that they become independent learners.

Children develop skills such as climbing, sliding, crawling and judgment of space. They develop skills in handling tools and equipments such as pencils, clay tools, knives and forks and brushes. We encourage children to be healthy and do what they need to stay healthy.



Primary School Curriculum

Ensuing the vision of creating students with global mindsets, enriched with values and following the latest trends in the world of education, we tend to go far beyond the CBSE curriculum by incorporating various national and international curricula.

Mind Tree follows 'Experiential Learning Method of Education' to link concepts and skills through a real-world context, beyond the traditional academic classroom setting.

The academic core skills, especially those of Mathematics, Languages and Science, are at the heart of everything we do at Mind Tree.

Singapore Maths, which has been consistently ranked among the best in Mathematics learning all over the world, is introduced at the primary level which enables the students to solve problems through pictures and diagrams. We use Concrete-Pictorial-Abstract (CPA) Approach developed by an American psychologist, Jerome Bruner. It is a highly effective approach to teaching that enhances understanding of Maths by building on the students' existing knowledge, using concrete materials and pictorial diagrams for progressing them to abstract concepts like fractions.

We strongly believe that students must be proficient in expressing their views

comfortably in English so, we lay a foundation at the primary level to make them good speakers and listeners. Our extensive 'Reading Programme' exposes our students to best-selling children's literature. Their reading skills are cemented through storytelling sessions by eminent storytellers and authors, regular book reviews and participation in a special radio show, Book Bugs. We fine-tune and develop students' vocabulary and spelling skills.

Teaching of Science is based on learning-by-doing; hence, project-based activities and experiments engage our students and sharpen their observational skills.

With changing times, it is necessary that we equip our learners with a sense of purpose, and the competencies they need, to shape their lives and contribute to the lives of others. Our specially designed 'Life Skills Programme' helps the students appreciate critically acclaimed children's movies and learn the inherent life skills through detailed discussions and activities related to the theme of every movie.

Working in collaboration with Intellisys, we follow customized Mathematics, Science and Grammar books which are well-suited to the changing times.





Secondary School Curriculum

Our curriculum encourages the students to deeply understand ideas, participate in activities and put their heads together to find solutions to practical problems. We attempt to encourage the 'Why' and nurture the 'What' in learning.

After initiating love for reading in their primary classes, we ensure that our students continue to perceive the depth of literature and are able to critically analyse varied writing styles and techniques in the higher classes. Storytelling sessions and workshops by acclaimed authors, philosophers and famous personalities equip them with higher level thinking, creative acumen, imagination and expression of thought.

To prepare young critics for in-depth comprehension and analysis, we also encourage them to read books and

participate in our exclusive radio show, Book Bugs.

Application-based learning and high-end problem-solving skills form the core of Singapore Mathematics in which concepts are taught from the concrete and pictorial to the abstract form. This enables the students to visualise the problems and identify solutions to even increasingly difficult problems. It also helps our students to excel at national and international level competitive exams such as NTSE, NAAT, ASSET and Olympiad.

Our Science curriculum integrates experiential and expeditionary learning with the elements of critical and logical thinking. Our 'Tinker Lab' encourages tinkering curiosity and scientific thinking in our students. Field trips, science shows, observation sessions, star gazing camps and lectures by eminent personalities form an integral part of teaching. Our students also engage in making scientific toys for 'Big Science Ideas' based on the philosophy of Padma Shree awardee, Shri Arvind Gupta.

Projects such as 'Consumer Awareness', 'Dilli Ki Khoj', 'Mapping Ambala' provide students the opportunities and common platform to interact, experiment, create and perform according to their age, aptitude and ability; and offer a barrier-free environment with immense possibilities of innovation. Election Process, Mock Parliaments and Court Scenes etc. strengthen them socially, emotionally and intellectually.

It's our endeavour to create and employ a futuristic curriculum which helps to prepare students to solve problems that have not yet been anticipated, for jobs that have not yet been created and for technologies that have not yet been invented.



HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT:

Learning Beyond the Classroom

Mind Tree offers an all-inclusive learning approach where students get countless opportunities to gain knowledge, discover their passions and strengths, and grow into conscientious individuals of the society.

We always try to achieve holistic ways of teaching and learning because we realise that a healthy mind thrives in a healthy body. We ensure this by incorporating the following:

- Physical Health and Welfare
- Artistic and Creative Development
- Social and Emotional Development
- Spiritual and Cultural Development
- Environmental Awareness

Physical Health and Welfare

Good health and happiness are attributes we wish for all our students. This is ensured by providing the required guidance, infrastructure and enforcement through Mandatory Courses, Sports Clubs, Sports Events and Competitions, Training through experienced coaches, sports staff, Day Adventure Camps and Self-Defence Workshops. These help the students prove their mettle at National and International levels.

Mandatory Courses in Early Years:

Co-curricular courses such as Yoga, Karate and Roller Skating are made mandatory in the early development stage of the students to ensure that children come out of their comfort zones, stay physically fit and active, and learn new skills.

Varied Sports Clubs: Mind Tree offers a number of Sports Clubs for students of Grade IV and above. Students are trained for different sports according to their interests. They are encouraged to develop the capacity to make reasoned decisions and to work effectively within a team towards attainment of common goals. The importance of team-spirit, discipline and leadership qualities is fostered among the students. They can choose from the following Sports Clubs: Lawn Tennis,

Cricket, Roller Skating, Karate, Judo, Football & Badminton

Participation in Sports Events and Competitions:

We provide a number of opportunities to students, and train and encourage them to take part in competitive sports at school, district, state and national levels. We host a number of sports and games tournaments in the school from time to time to give the much-desired exposure to students.

Training by Experienced Coaches and Sports Staff:

Our team of highly qualified coaches is carefully selected based on their level of expertise, enthusiasm and professionalism. Every coach is committed to helping the children learn and play sports in a nourishing environment, geared towards fun and sportsmanship.

Self Defence and Adventure Camps: We strongly believe that outdoor adventure, enjoyed with peers and funneled by exceptional trainers, can bring the most constructive and memorable experience in a student's life. Day Adventure Camps, which include a host of activities like Rappelling, Cat Crawl, Swinging Ladder, Burma Bridge, Zip Line, Zorbing Ball etc. are organised frequently.

We also arrange self-defence classes and training camps to equip students to overcome any unforeseen events and difficult situations.



Artistic and Creative Development

Through Art and Craft, Music, Western and Classical Dances and Dramatics, students are encouraged to develop their own creative paths and enhance the understanding of their culture and ethnicity.

Compulsory Cultural and Artistic Courses: Co-curricular courses such as Music, Dance, Art and Craft are made mandatory in the early development stage of the students to instil aesthetic sensibilities in our budding artists.

Cultural Clubs: Abiding by the norms of the Indian society, which presents a cultural mosaic, we encourage our students to discover their creative cult by honing their skills through participation in various

Activity Clubs such as: Classical Dance, Western Dance, Fine Arts, Craft, Music & Theatre

Camps and Workshops: Distinguished Authors, Philosophers, Illustrators, Artists, Sculptors etc. frequently visit the campus to hold meaningful interactions with students and teach them distinct traditional and modern art forms. This helps in reviving the rich cultural heritage and inspires them to choose the field of their liking and recognise their passion.

Exploration and Interpolation through Trips: Projects such as 'Consumer Awareness', 'Dilli Ki Khoj', 'Mapping Ambala' and 'Agra Ki Khoj' provide students the opportunities and common platform to interact, experiment, create and perform according to their age, aptitude and ability, thereby, offering a barrier-free environment with immense possibilities of innovation. Election process, Mock Parliaments and Court Scenes etc. make them socially, emotionally and intellectually strengthened.

Events and Competitions: Inter-house and Intra-house debates, declamations, extempores, quizzes, art and craft competitions etc. are organised to inculcate healthy competition among the children, and to give them an opportunity to showcase their talents and gain confidence.

Participation @ Radio Mind Tree: Students of Mind Tree are actively involved in hosting and presenting shows, jingles and chorus songs on Ambala's first community radio channel, Radio Mind Tree 91.2 FM. The major attraction is 'Book Bugs', a show presented by the students of Grade III and above, where they review some of the best pieces of nationally and internationally acclaimed English Literature. Using different styles of presentation, including role-plays, interviews, narration and an expert's view, the episodes are packed with information and are quite interesting.





Social and Emotional Development

Our teaching staff, backed up by nationally and internationally acclaimed psychologists and counsellors, helps the students develop life skills, self-esteem and confidence. Vices of bullying and internet abuse are addressed every year to help them differentiate between the right and the wrong conduct and communiqué.

Leadership Opportunities: Systematic growth of leadership skills is an imperative element for the all-round education of our students. This starts in the Primary School where a wide variety of activities are used to develop future leaders. These include school council, sports team captains, house captains, school trips and community service opportunities. These extend into the Secondary School where additional activities and opportunities are introduced

including the School Council System and participation in events such as Model United Nations and other competitions.

Life Skills Programme: Using quality cinema as a teaching medium, we instil values and skills that are necessary for ideal living and functioning within the school and beyond. The school has invested greatly in securing National and International Children's movies which are discussed and critically analysed in classes with the prime focus on underlying life skills.

Philosophy for Children (P4C): Inspired by a research-based philosophical approach by a Scottish couple, Paul and Doris Cleghorn, we follow the P4C model which is especially designed keeping in mind the need for values and virtues in the modern world. This programme aims to promote thinking in children by using stories and activities as stimuli, and using appropriate probing techniques to make them think beyond the obvious.

Street Plays: Addressing varied societal and environmental issues, students of Mind Tree Theatre Academy showcase street plays at various locations across Ambala to enlighten the masses. Effective role-playing, along with a display of intense emotions, aims to bring about the change that the society needs.

Workshops on Internet Abuse and Cyber Bullying: Internet Abuse and Cyber Bullying have, of late, turned into a menace, especially for young mobile and internet users, disrupting their learning and causing immense pain and suffering to those on the receiving end. We strongly believe that our students should be accountable, proficient, confident and creative users of information and communication technology. Hence, we frequently organise workshops on safe internet practices like ethical hacking and prevention of internet abuse.





Spiritual and Cultural Development

We give our students a slice of spiritual knowledge encompassing all major religions and cultures of India through apt representation of religious festivals of national and regional significance in the morning assemblies.

Morning Assembly: Morning Assembly forms an integral part of the school curriculum so that students get an equal opportunity to participate and get acquainted with prayers, national and international events, festivals and value education.

Yogic Exercises: Compulsory Yoga in Kindergarten and Primary classes aids in controlling students' body, mind and soul. It brings physical and mental discipline together, assists in managing anxiety and bringing a sense of wellness.

Special Assemblies/ Celebrations: Through celebration of cultural festivals and historic occasions, both national and international, we always try to foster global wisdom and a 'spirit of togetherness' amongst our children.



Workshops on Parenting: Parenting is an uphill journey and, with changing times, modern parents face a lot of challenges in bringing up their children. To equip our parents with the necessary parenting skills, we invite famous psychologists and philosophers for workshops on positive parenting.

Wellness Workshops: In order to empower youngsters to take care of their mind and body, and the people around them, we organise wellness workshops like Life Skills Workshops, Relationship Counselling Sessions and Workshops on Sex Education and Child Abuse.



TEACHING AND LEARNING

“

If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people together to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea.”

- Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

The Mind Tree Learners.....

learn in a stimulating and caring environment with focus on all-round development

become reflective learners and identify their ongoing learning needs

become effective communicators and learn the art of expressing appropriately

get access to a variety of cognitive and non-cognitive disciplines, methods and practices

get stimulated by quality education and precise assessment

develop love for learning through participation in activities, practical experimentation, exploration aiding understanding of environment and prepare for the challenging times ahead

receive specialized attention through programmes such as 'Hidden Warriors', 'Book Bugs' and 'Ignite Maths Classes' to cater to diverse learning needs

participate in national level competitive exams like ASSET, Olympiad, NTSE, NAAT which further help discover their true potential and celebrate their uniqueness

obtain ample leadership opportunities through workshops and sessions by celebrated writers, innovators and iconic personalities from India and abroad



Environmental Awareness

Reuse and Recycle: Supplementing the Science curriculum, we encourage the students to ensure that they take up measures such as no littering, no use of plastic bags, turning off lights when not in use, saving paper, and adhering to the principle of 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle' to fight the causes of environmental pollution.

Community Service: We always encourage children to understand the challenges faced by the less-privileged through visits to old age homes, orphanages and charity drives

and sensitize them about the importance of being empathetic and compassionate.

Love for the Outdoors: We organise outdoor field trips, excursions and other learning activities for students, providing them with first-hand learning experiences. These activities give students the opportunity to work together as a team and develop better communication skills.



The Mind Tree Educators.....

use a plethora of highly interactive and stimulating teaching and learning techniques and methodologies that not just motivate our learners to imbibe and excel, but also challenge them to face any unexpected future situation

use question-based and application-oriented approaches across all subjects and age groups, thus enabling students to learn about and respect a range of ideas, independently and collaboratively with others

foster a passion for learning and promote intellectual growth and excellence in all aspects of learning

generate a conducive environment which enhances learning potential and encourages students to take responsibility for their learning

assimilate the most appropriate technology and resources

follow an individualistic approach by relating to the progress of a student in relation to his own achievements, and not with that of other students in his class

are actively involved in their own professional development through in-house training programmes, workshops by eminent educationists and visits to renowned educational institutions

provide an atmosphere of home away from home in school by displaying immense love, understanding and patience towards the students

show proficiency in understanding the child psychology through open communication, counselling and guidance

make use of project-based learning, brainstorming, role play, interactive experiments and self and peer evaluation, to make learning more engaging and effective

create future leaders and visionaries





EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

Mind Tree has collaborated with the best education partners to ensure optimum delivery of the required input aimed at all-round development of the child. Our privileged partners are:



A leading training institution in the area of Personality Development, MBA, IAS and other competitive courses, Bulls Eye provides 'learning beyond academics' to our students by organising Maths and English workshops that give our students an edge over others. Research has, time and again, proved that personal and professional success is a matter of what one learns outside the classroom.



A well designed programme for Kindergarten schools, KG-pro provides an exciting and dynamic learning environment by implementing innovative teaching system. It also aims at enabling the children to comprehend, read and think logically.



An integrated and interactive learning methodology based on Singapore Maths, 'Ignite Maths' is a learning approach that takes away the fear of Mathematics. It focuses more on conceptual understanding and clarity than cramming of formulae.



A new-age and highly innovative learning programme, 'Science Explorer' aims at producing books that eloquently explain the apparent 'missing link' between theoretical concepts and practical application. These highly descriptive and aptly illustrated books are student-friendly and cover all the aspects of scientific skills.



Radio Mind Tree is Ambala's first community radio station dedicated to bringing about a positive change in the society by promoting quality shows such as 'BookBugs' that adds value to book reading.



Our Life-skills partner 'Chalo Think Kare Foundation' promotes 'Thinking Through Philosophy' as a robust and effective learning method. This approach enables students to develop thinking, innovation skills and dispositions or temperament - prerequisites for a healthy living.



Our personality and performance in life are functions of our memory. 'Mindknack Learning System' focuses on the core objective of shaping our students into great performers by building their long term memories with a balance of the subjective, procedural and objective knowledge.