

Leadership Programme for Principals of Sankara Schools

(04.10.2024 & 05.10.2024)

A two-day Leadership Program for Principals of Sankara Schools was conducted at SCSVMV on October 4 and 5, 2024. The event aimed to empower the Principals of Sankara Schools by providing them with updated knowledge on leadership, educational management, student-centered learning, and administrative leadership. A total of 42 principals from various Sankara Schools across Tamil Nadu participated in the program.

Objectives:

The primary objectives of the program were to:

- Ø Enhance leadership capabilities and administrative skills.
- Ø Share best practices in education management.
- Ø Provide insights into innovative teaching and learning methods.
- Ø Discuss the significance of moral and holistic education.
- Ø Create a platform for addressing common challenges and strategizing for future improvements.

Day 1: October 4, 2024

The first day began with an Inauguration and Welcome Address by the Trustee of SSET, Dr.Chandramouli.

Leadership in Education: Dr. S. Ramanathan, an Academician and Columnist, shared his insights into the principles of educational leadership and best practices in school management. The session provided principals with effective leadership strategies and techniques to foster a positive learning environment.

Academic Excellence: Mr. Ramesh, Director of Bodhi Center, discussed strategies for motivating teachers and students, and how schools can prepare students for competitive exams. This session emphasized the importance of creating an academic culture that encourages success and innovation.

Moral Values in Education: Mr. Prakash, a Dharmic activist, delivered an inspiring talk on the importance of incorporating moral and nationalistic values at the school level to foster character building among students.

Holistic Education: Dr. N. Sarulatha from SRM University discussed holistic education, focusing on self-awareness, empathy, and intellectual curiosity. She emphasized the need for a balanced approach that caters to the overall development of students.

- The day concluded with a session on Performance Management, led by Dr. Kalai Arasi, who elaborated on teacher evaluation metrics, performance appraisal systems, and professional development training for school staff.

- After the programme, the contingent went to seek the blessings of Jagadguru Pujyasri Shankara Vijayendra Saraswathi Shankaracharya Swamigal the Chief Patron of the institutes.

Day 2: October 5, 2024

The second day of the program focused on practical aspects of school administration, including stress management, conflict resolution, and legal/statutory compliance.

Conflict Resolution and Stress Management: Dr. Jaishri Ramakrishnan from Billroth Hospital provided practical tools and strategies for handling conflicts within schools and managing stress for both educators and students.

Statutory Compliance: Mr. Kripakaran, DI, from the CEO Office, Chengelpet, conducted a session on statutory compliance, covering key topics such as EPF, ESI, fire safety, RTE, and guidelines for school buses. This session provided the participants with vital information on ensuring the safety and compliance of their schools with government regulations.

Legal Topics and Psychology: Dr. Sivakumar from the CEO Office, Chengelpet, addressed common legal concerns related to students and parents. He also discussed psychological aspects to help principals deal with student and parent issues effectively.

- The day concluded with an Open Forum Discussion, where participants engaged in a dialogue, shared their experiences, and brainstormed solutions to common challenges. The program ended with a lunch session.

Key Takeaways

Principals gained valuable insights into effective leadership and school management.

Discussions on moral education and holistic learning emphasized the need for developing well-rounded students.

The sessions on compliance and legal topics helped principals understand the latest regulations and ensure their schools meet statutory requirements.

The open forum allowed participants to engage in fruitful discussions and exchange ideas on enhancing school performance.

Feedback and Conclusion

The feedback from the participants was overwhelmingly positive. Principals appreciated the comprehensive nature of the sessions and found the program highly relevant to their roles as educational leaders. The focus on leadership, teacher motivation, student engagement, and statutory compliance was particularly well-received.

The program successfully achieved its objectives of enhancing leadership skills, sharing best practices, and creating a platform for future collaboration among Sankara School principals. The programme was sponsored by the SSET and coordinated by Mr. V. Santhanam, Head Department of Chemistry and Mrs. Jeyapriya, Head, School of Education, SCSVMV under the guidance of Dr. K. Venkatramanan, Dean, Faculty of Science and Education.

