Winner: "Inclusion Ke Sitaare" Award

Akshar School: Shaping Minds, Building Leaders

Akshar School has been conferred the prestigious "Inclusion Ke Sitaare" Award by the Jai Vakeel Foundation in collaboration with Arth, standing out among nearly 600 schools nation wide for its sustained commitment to inclusive education offered by a mainstream ICSE school.

This award was presented by acclaimed actor and education advocate Mr Aamir Khan lending national significance to Akshar's achievement.

In a rapidly changing world shaped by AI, automation and relentless competition, the definition of success is undergoing a quiet but powerful shift. Academic excellence alone is no longer enough. Today's world demands emotional intelligence, empathy, adaptability, collaboration and ethical leadership. For 27 years Akshar has understood this truth and nurtured it within a mainstream inclusive educational environment that places human values at the heart of learning.

As a mainstream school recognized for its inclusive ethos, Akshar does not separate children based on ability instead it brings them together as friends and collaborators through the effective use of the "Buddy System". Both neurotypical and neurodiverse children grow up together learning that differences are not weaknesses but strengths that powers collective progress. Such early exposure shapes emotionally intelligent individuals who are comfortable working with diverse teams- a non – negotiable skill in modern workplaces.

This emphasis on emotional intelligence strengthens academic performance rather than diminishing it. Akshar students step into colleges and workplaces with elan, self assured yet grounded, capable yet compassionate.

What truly sets Akshar apart is it's philosophy of "intentional schooling". With small classrooms and emphasis on individual attention, teachers are able to recognize not just academic potential but emotional, social and creative needs as well. Learning at Akshar extends far beyond textbooks. A rich array of co-curricular activities from theatre, music, sports to learning sign language, debate and creative expressions – ensures that every child finds a voice and a strength. Equally central to the school's vision is environmental consciousness. Students are sensitised early to sustainability through hands on practices, nature based learning and responsible citizenship.

As Akshar School completes 27 years of its journey, this prestigious award reinforces the fact that inclusive mainstream education is not a compromise, it is an investment in the future. By blending academic rigour with empathy, Akshar is shaping a generation ready to lead with competence and conscience in an increasingly complex and competitive world.