

THE NEED AND IMPORTANCE OF A HOSTEL

Life at home cannot be compared to the life in a hostel. At home one has to live as per likes of other members of the family. Children find it difficult to stick to a timetable, ensure minimum 3 to 4 hours study a day and adhere to good time management principles to develop good routines.

A survey conducted among students revealed their distress and concerns for not coping with their study needs, homeworks and own set requirements to be at par with the best in the class. The analysis of this survey inferred several real and practical problems faced by our children at home. Among them the most shocking fact is that on an average weekly basis, our children are not getting even 1 hour of study time at home. There are constant disturbances due to one reason or the other. Many complain that if a relative or guest comes in, the time table and the routines are getting affected. Though parents are educated they hardly get time to attend them daily and most of them lack patience finally leading to disruption of a learning mood and family atmosphere. Students in the higher grades are under great pressure to meet the increasing demands for learning, imposed by the education boards and their constant and continuous evaluation systems. In fact, at home there is no atmosphere for serious studies. These are some of the reasons revealed from the student survey, why our children prefer a hostel for systematic learning for a successful life. No wonder why we decided to start a student's hostel – not as a service to students and parents, but as our duty to help them achieve their best dreams.

A hostel is like a family of students with the superintendent as the head. Students develop a sense of friendship and fellow feeling. Students learn the value of discipline. It teaches them a sense of responsibility in matters of taking care of books, clothes and health. Students do all the works with their own hands, thus becoming self-dependent. They try to manage themselves with the money from their father. They learn to adjust themselves with all kinds of situations that can be expected in one's life. Mutual cooperation, sympathy, and love are characteristics of hostel life. It will not be an exaggeration to say that only a hostel is the place where an all-round development of personality is possible.

While it is equally important to find time for using a library and reading room, play grounds, health club, swimming pool and getting trained to improve their skills and achieve wholesome development. Teachers have direct watch and supervision over the students in the hostels. Special classes will be arranged by asking teachers to stay in hostel to help weak students.

Studying away from home opens up a world of exciting learning possibilities like combine studies, mutual discussions, criticism, or debating, etc., that add charm to hostel life. Good arrangements of games and sports, Sunday specials and eating competitions, and day-to-day merry-making, make the hostel life a thing of envy for all.

In a hostel, a student comes in contact with a number of other students. He acquires many good qualities from them. When a student sees his next door neighbour daily taking morning exercise, he also gets inspiration. He too tries to be healthy. One good student may become an example for other 25 hostellers.

Hostels provide the best atmosphere for study. If students enjoy the hostel life in different ways, they also work very hard when the time comes for it. Weaker students can always get help from their friends. Hostel life not only develops the spirit of healthy competition, but also teaches the lesson of mutual cooperation. A well-managed hostel is sure to prove a blessing for those who are lucky enough to live in it