

Self-Study Report

Criterion 7 – Institutional Values and Best Practices

Key Indicator 7.2 - Best Practices

7.2.1. Describe two best practices successfully implemented by the Institution as per NAAC format provided in the Manual

Best Practice No. 1

Mentor – Mentee Scheme

A Holistic Approach to Student Development through Mentor-Mentee Scheme - An Interactive Approach between Faculty and Students

- **Objectives:**

- To understand the expectations of Students towards college.
- To understand socio-economic status of Students.
- To understand learning levels of Students.
- To develop rapport between Faculty and Students.
- To create amicable relation between Faculty and Students.
- To suggest any recommendations to Head of Institution for redressal of any grievance of students.
- To conduct administrative mentoring of students.

- **Context:**

- Mentor-mentee meetings serve as pivotal touchpoints for personalized guidance and strong support.
- Faculty-led sessions foster purposeful, resilient, and holistic student academic journeys.
- The context emphasizes the importance of creating an environment where students feel valued and supported.

- **Practice Overview:**

- Our Mentor-Mentee Scheme reflects our commitment to holistic student development.
- With the systematic allocation of students among teachers, each student receives personalized attention.

- Mentor-mentee sessions cover academic, personal, and administrative aspects, creating a comprehensive support system.
- Mentor-mentee outcomes are further supported by counselling sessions with the teachers and external counsellor which help the students in their personal and professional growth.
- Mentors actively address student challenges, fostering resilience and belonging, embracing obstacles as opportunities for growth.

- **Evidence of Success:**
 - Students open-up their minds to the mentor that helps in expressing their emotions.
 - Increase in Student participation in various activities inside and outside the class.
 - Initiation of participative learning fosters interactive and collaborative educational experiences.

- **Problems Encountered Resources Required:**
 - Fostering open communication between teachers and students.
 - Students hesitated to respond to some questions fearing privacy breach.
 - Infrastructure challenges pose difficulties at times as Mentor-mentee meetings were scheduled at different days and timings.
 - Challenge in getting response from students due to different level of student involvement.

Note:

The Mentor-Mentee Scheme is seamlessly integrated into our timetable, ensuring frequent and regular meetings between mentors and mentees. This proactive inclusion in the schedule guarantees that student issues are promptly identified and resolved, fostering a supportive environment where challenges are addressed as soon as they arise.

Best Practice No. 2

Inculcating Scientific Temperament among the Learners

- **Objective:**

- To instil a strong scientific temperament among learners of our college.
- To go beyond traditional academic approaches and foster a curiosity-driven mind-set that prepares students for real-world challenges.
- To align with the broader vision of creating well-rounded individuals capable of contributing meaningfully to the **Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity and Ambiguity (VUCA)** of the world.

- **Context:**

- In the dynamic landscape of education, nurturing a scientific approach is vital for holistic development.
- The College values hands-on experiences, research projects, and community engagement to foster active learning and contribute to scientific innovation.

- **Practice:**

The College employs several practices to instil a scientific temperament among learners:

- **CULTIVATING A SPIRIT OF RESEARCH:**

Our institution prioritizes putting a profound spirit of research among learners. Seminars, sessions on Scientific research are held regularly in the campus.

- **SOIL ANALYSIS FOR FARMERS:**

Students participate in soil analysis projects which involve collecting soil samples from farmers, analysing their composition, and proposing solutions for sustainable agricultural practices.

- **“*Andhashradhha Nirmulan* - A practice to debunk superstitions”:**

The College actively participates in initiatives like *Andhashradhha Nirmulan*, a campaign against superstitions. This practice involves organizing awareness programs, debunking myths through scientific reasoning, and promoting critical thinking among community.

➤ **SCIENCE FEST:**

The Science Fest organized by the College serves as a platform for students to showcase their scientific prowess. The fest includes exhibitions, demonstrations, and interactive sessions etc. allowing learners to share their scientific views with community.

➤ **ELECTRONIC WASTE RECYCLING:**

Recognizing the environmental impact of electronic waste, the College engages students in recycling initiatives. Learners actively participate in collecting, dismantling, and recycling electronic waste, gaining practical knowledge about environmental conservation and sustainable practices.

➤ **CONSERVATION OF ENVIRONMENT:**

The College integrates environmental conservation into its curriculum. Students are involved in projects focused on biodiversity conservation, tree plantation drives, and waste reduction campaigns.

● **Evidence of Success:**

The success of these practices is clearly visible in the active participation and enthusiasm exhibited by students.

➤ **Research**

- AVISHKAR research projects have gained recognition at the university level.
- Research papers written by students have been published in UGC CARE-listed journals.

➤ **Social Initiatives**

- College students analyse soil samples & reports are shared with farmers basis which they can assess the type of treatment to be done for growing the crops.
 - Science behind Miracle Programme demonstrates the application of scientific principles, and has proven to be advantageous for a multitude of students.
- Our annual intercollegiate-level Science Fest, featuring diverse events such as CHEMBOND, TECHNOBRINK etc., has achieved remarkable success by active participation of Commerce students as well.
- E-waste bins are present in campus & collected E-waste is sent to Threco Recycling LLP Pvt. Ltd. with which the college has done MoU for managing e-waste.
- Strategically positioned bird feeders are distributed throughout the campus, Kharghar Hills, and neighboring village, supporting local biodiversity and providing an opportunity for students to appreciate diverse bird species.

- **Problems Encountered and Resources Required:**

- While implementing these practices, challenges arise, such as the need for additional resources, including laboratory equipment, technological tools, etc.
- Maintaining consistent enthusiasm among students and overcoming logistical hurdles.
- Resources required include funding for research projects, collaboration with industry, and continuous professional development for faculty to stay updated with scientific advancements.

Notes:

The success of these best practices hinges on the continuous collaboration between stakeholders and the broader community. We recognize the importance of adaptability and continuous improvement in refining these practices to meet the evolving needs of learners and the scientific community.