

class apart

FARIDABAD

FIFTH OF A SIX-PART SERIES ON NCR SCHOOLS

TOP SCHOOLS



| RANK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| HT-C FORE SURVEY: FARIDABAD'S TOP SCHOOLS | | | | | | | | | | |
| Parameters (on scale) | DPS | Apeejay | MVN | Eicher | Manav Rachna | Ryan Intl | DAV, Sec-14 | St. Joseph's | DAV, Sec-37 | Carmel Convent |
| Academic rigour (100) | 88 | 84 | 85 | 68 | 60 | 65 | 67 | 63 | 66 | 61 |
| Extra-curricular (100) | 73 | 78 | 58 | 67 | 65 | 62 | 63 | 58 | 57 | 50 |
| Sports (100) | 69 | 72 | 62 | 64 | 60 | 70 | 58 | 55 | 58 | 52 |
| Competence of teachers (100) | 76 | 73 | 71 | 68 | 61 | 60 | 62 | 67 | 56 | 53 |
| Attention to students (100) | 66 | 64 | 62 | 70 | 75 | 63 | 61 | 52 | 53 | 51 |
| Value for money (50*) | 37 | 35 | 34 | 29 | 25 | 32 | 38 | 44 | 35 | 41 |
| Innovative teaching (50*) | 35 | 37 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 30 | 28 | 24 | 26 | 21 |
| Parental participation (50*) | 39 | 34 | 30 | 39 | 35 | 31 | 27 | 25 | 27 | 23 |
| Infrastructure and facilities (100) | 73 | 76 | 70 | 65 | 72 | 59 | 63 | 57 | 51 | 56 |
| Safety and hygiene (50*) | 36 | 38 | 34 | 33 | 42 | 39 | 35 | 29 | 33 | 28 |
| Life skills education (50*) | 42 | 37 | 30 | 32 | 35 | 30 | 27 | 26 | 29 | 25 |
| Social accountability (50*) | 40 | 36 | 28 | 27 | 25 | 32 | 37 | 41 | 35 | 39 |
| Total score (900) | 674 | 664 | 595 | 594 | 588 | 573 | 566 | 541 | 526 | 500 |

METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted in three phases. In the first phase, schools in Noida, Gurgaon, Faridabad and Ghaziabad were invited to provide information on academic and non-academic facilities, performance of students and profile of teachers. Sifting through this, research agency C fore shortlisted schools for the second round, in which a perceptual survey was carried out with a sample of 500 parents and teachers in each city. They were asked to assess schools they were aware of on a scale of 10 against parameters listed in the table to the left. The parameters are based on suggestions made by an expert panel comprising Prof Yashpal, former chairman of UGC, Shyama Chona, former principal, DPS, RK Puram, Ashok Agrawal, lawyer, Kiran Bhatti, national right to education commissioner, and Jitendra Nagpal, child psychiatrist. Results of the perceptual survey were combined with objective data from the first round to rank schools. In the third phase, C fore researchers visited the schools to conduct an audit and finalise rankings. Perceptual data scores were extrapolated for schools that did not participate.

*PARAMETERS FOR WHICH ONLY PERCEPTUAL DATA WAS AVAILABLE WERE MARKED ON 50

Catching up with the best

BENCH MARK Faridabad once had few good schools; now it's entered a new era of education

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A large number of refugees from newly created Pakistan settled in Faridabad at the time of Independence. After the upheaval of the Partition, education was hardly a priority for the settlers in the early days, but as stability returned, schools began to come up in this part of Haryana, adjoining Delhi.

"There were a few government schools before the Partition, but in those days not everybody was interested in educating their children," said Arya Vir Bhalla, educationist and director of the Manav Rachna group of schools. "The schools easily catered to their (residents') educational needs till a few years after the Partition."

One such old and reputed school was Mahadev Desai School, established in 1947 a few months before Independence. The school is still going strong in Sector 16A.

However, as Faridabad started to get industrialised in the sixties and several government officials started living there, a dearth of good private schools was felt.

"Even children of senior central government officials would study in central schools in Faridabad in the absence of any reputed private school," said B.K. Verma who joined as a teacher in a Kendriya Vidyalaya in the area in 1971 and taught there for nearly 30 years.

The prestigious Apeejay School, ranked second in the HT-C fore survey, was established in 1972.

"Apeejay is not just a school now," said principal S. Samra. "It represents a spirit, a will to achieve and it captures the passion for excellence."

The setting up of the Dayanand Public schools in the seventies and the DAV network of schools in the eighties were important steps in fulfilling the educational needs of Faridabad.

Delhi Public School opened its branch in Sector 19 in 1995.

"Today the student strength is 4,346 from 663 when the school was set up," said Stalin Malhotra, director-cum-officiating principal of the school. "We provide hi-tech education to our students — the subjects taught are supplemented by animation-based lessons."

The increase in the number of private schools fuelled competition among them, bettering the quality of education. With the setting up and coming of age of schools such as Modern Vidya Niketan (started in 1983), Ryan International School (1991), Eicher School (1994) and Manav Rachna School, Sector 14 (2007), Faridabad entered a new era of education.

"Faridabad has seen a revolution in the education sector over the years," said Bhalla. "People are willing to invest in their children's education."

Faridabad residents clearly have many more options to choose from today.

TOMORROW

We look at the top 10 schools of Ghaziabad and what makes them so special



Power to the students

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Situated on the Delhi-Mathura Road, Delhi Public School, Faridabad has carved a niche for itself with its academic excellence in the 15 years of its existence.

"Our main objective is to impart world-class education to our students," said Stalin Malhotra, director-cum-principal of DPS Faridabad. "We lay stress on learning through doing and learning is more fun-filled in our school."

Malhotra said the focus was on the students' all-round development — "be it academics, sports, art and cultural activities, personal development and

Producing all-rounders

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Established in 1972, Apeejay School has become a household name in Faridabad, and is known for its academic and sports record.

"The overall educational scenario at the school was excellent and there was a lot of thrust on extra-curricular activities and sports," said former Indian wicket keeper Vijay Yadav, who studied here for two years. "I excelled in cricket and I cannot ignore Apeejay School's contribution in grooming me."

The school has an English literary

Learning Curve



Enable joyful learning



DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL

Location: Sector 19
Board: CBSE
Website: www.dpsfdb.com
Phone: 0129-2280522/2290522
Nursery cost: ₹24,000 per annum
Average number of students in a section: Class KG to 5 - 40; Class 6 to 10 - 41 and Class 11 to 12 - 39

■ DPS uses Information Technology to maximise students' potential. ARIJIT SEN/HT

Competitive advantage

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Modern Vidya Niketan (MVN) shot to fame in 2009 when it produced the IIT-JEE topper, Nitin Jain. "The discipline and quality of teaching (at the school) helped my son to a large extent in excelling in the IIT entrance examination," said Nitin's father N.C. Jain.

MVN, Sector 17 is one of the most sought-after schools in Faridabad because of the quality of education it

MODERN VIDYA NIKETAN
Location: Sector 17
Board: CBSE
Website: www.mvneducation.com
Nursery cost: NA
Average number of students in a section: NA

offers and the number of its students who do well in competitive exams. Started in 1983, it was the first institute of the MVN society.

other extra-curricular activities." The school has introduced 'smart' classes, which is a blend of teaching and technology.

"The inter-school sports competitions held at the school contribute immensely in the over-all development of students," said Mathew Kaul, a former student of DPS who now studies in Delhi University.

APEEJAY SCHOOL

Location: Sector 15
Board: CBSE
Website: www.apeejay.edu
Phone: 0129-2285932
Nursery cost: ₹38,400 per annum
Average number of students in a section: 45

club, science club, environment club and reader's club.

It also runs an 'economic activity club', in which students learn things such as sustainable development.



■ Learning is full of fun-filled activities at Apeejay School. ARIJIT SEN/HT

the various stages of the learning process, including grasping information, analysing its implication, exploring its value and applying it.

Development of these skills requires the child to feel accepted, protected and respected.

Importantly, characteristics of a good school are intertwined with a comprehensive life skills education.

Therefore, a good school should: create experiences, environments and relationships that enable joyful participatory learning for children; help children develop self-definition, self-

confidence, self-assurance and the belief that they can make a useful contribution to their community and country; be a place led by visionary teachers who appreciate that education goes beyond the classroom; be run according to a shared mission and publicly declared values and standards; have practical policies and operational mechanisms that are faithful to the school's mission.

(The writer is programme director & psychiatrist, Expressions India — The Life Skills Education & School Wellness Programme)

4 Eicher School, Sector 46

Board: CBSE
Website: www.eicherworld.com
Phone: 0129-2437583
Nursery cost: ₹40,800 per annum
Average number of students in a section: Class KG to 5 - 30 and Class 6 to 10 - 35

5 Manav Rachna International School

Location: Sector 14
Board: CBSE
Website: www.mris.edu.in
Phone: 0129-4197200
Nursery cost: ₹53,200 per annum
Average number of students in a section: Class KG to 5 - 25 and Class 6 to 12 - 28

6 Ryan International School, Sector 21 B

Board: CBSE
Website: www.ryanfaridabad.co.in
Phone: 0129-4273700
Nursery cost: ₹30,096 per annum
Average number of students in a section: 40

7 DAV Public School, Sector 14

Board: CBSE
Website: www.dav14faridabad.org
Phone: 0129-2283335/36/37/38
Nursery cost: ₹30,300 per annum
Average number of students in a section: Class KG to 5 - 35 and Class 6 to 12 - 40

8 St. Joseph's Convent School

Board: CBSE
Website: NA
Phone: NA
Nursery cost: NA
Average number of students in a section: NA

9 DAV Public School, Sector 37

Board: CBSE
Website: www.dav37.net
Phone: 0129-4279200
Nursery cost: ₹15,480 per annum
Average number of students in a section: Class KG to 5 - 45; Class 6 to 10 - 44 and Class 11 to 12 - 40

10 Carmel Convent School, Sector 7 D

Board: CBSE
Website: NA
Phone: 0129-2243344
Nursery cost: ₹7,920 per annum
Average number of students in a section: Class 1 to 5 - 55 and Class 6 to 10 - 48

TALK TO US

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