

7.2 Best Practices

1. Title of the practice: Integrated Teaching

An integrated approach plays an important role in enriching the skills of the students. It will allow learners to explore, process, refine and present information wherever required.

Integrated learning encourages students to see the interconnectedness and interrelationships between the curriculum areas. Rather than focusing on learning in isolated curriculum areas, an integrated program is based on skill development around a particular theme that is relevant to the student in the class.

Integral to the model of integrated learning is the inquiry approach. Students are active learners who search, interpret, communicate, and process learning to both others and themselves. Inquiry approaches allow for students to construct meaning using their prior knowledge on a subject, and new knowledge gained during the learning process.

Integrated Teaching Includes peer –learning, Group Discussions, participation in workshops, and conferences. Active participation and involvement in field trips is also likely to develop the required skills. The involvement of the students in projects is another important area where they are likely to develop these skills.

2. Personality Development Program (PDP):

Communication and other soft skills are required for all round development of students. They play major role in improving the employability of students. College started the PDP classes for the students with regular course by trained PDP trainers for 3rd year students through JKC.

3. Title of the practice: Mentoring

System Objectives of the practice:

The Mentoring system assigns a faculty member to every student. The faculty member is called the mentor for the student. The mentor plays the role of a personal mentor for the student in all matters. For the institute, the mentor is the first point of reference for all matters concerning any specific student. The mentor guides the student at every step of their stay at the institute to be successful at whatever the student takes up. The mentor personally ensures that the student is aware of all the resources available to the student during their course of study at the institute. The mentor is available to counsel the student in any matter of concern apart from the curriculum also.

The Context:

The Mentoring system is relatively new in general to a student entering the institute. The students do take some time to familiarize and feel more comfortable with their mentors and most importantly develop confidence in them. The students meet their mentors to consult with them regarding the courses to take and to guide them through the registration process. The students then meet their mentors before every internal assessment to update them on their progress in every course. The students also see their mentors after the internal assessments to discuss about their performance and about the scope for improvement next time and the steps to be taken to achieve the same.

The Practice:

A mentor is a personal mentor and counsellor for a student during the duration of stay at the institute. A mentor represents a parent away from home for a student and is the first point of reference for the activities of a student during the complete course of study at the institute.

A mentor is a personal mentor and counsellor for a student during the duration of stay at the institute. A mentor represents a parent away from home for a student and is the first point of reference for the institute. The mentor not only guides the student in academic matters but also any matter of concern for the student. The student seeks the advice of the mentor at every step of their course of study beginning from the registration for courses at the start of every semester. The students meet their mentors regularly. However, depending on the need, mentor conducts more meetings with their students and their parents.

Evidence of success:

The behaviour of the students on the campus in general has witnessed a tremendous improvement and the students are much happier and contented with their course of study at the institute after the implementation of the mentoring system. The pass percentage and the average academic performance of the students have also achieved greater heights with the mentoring system. Some students have presented themselves as quite a challenge for their mentors, but they figure out their priorities and start performing better after counselling sessions with their mentors.