

Innovative Practices on Campus: Breaking Barriers, Nurturing Ideas

In today's dynamic world, schools must evolve from being institutions of instruction to ecosystems of innovation. As an Academic and Administrative Director, I believe that innovation in education begins with the courage to challenge the conventional and the willingness to embrace technology. But innovation doesn't end with technology — it thrives in mindset. We introduced cross-curricular learning, where subjects overlap and ideas intersect. Students now engage in projects that explore climate action through science, storytelling through History/English, and critical thinking through everyday life.

At our school, we have reimagined the way learning happens. Our classrooms are no longer confined spaces — they are flexible, tech-enabled environments that inspire collaboration, exploration, and creativity. We have incorporated tools like smart boards and interactive displays to make learning lessons into experiences.

Breaking the rigid barriers of subject divisions, we encourage cross-disciplinary projects that merge science, literature, art, and social studies — allowing students to solve real-world problems with creative insight. Our student innovation cells offer young minds the freedom to propose and lead their own ideas, from sustainability campaigns to peer mentoring programs.

We also use LEAD dashboards to monitor academic progress and well-being, enabling a personalized approach to learning. Learning here isn't limited to classrooms — it's embedded in every corner. Most importantly, we foster a fail-forward culture. Students are encouraged to take risks, make mistakes, and learn through experience — building not just academic strength, but resilience and leadership.

Innovative practices are the keys to unlock the full potentials of students and preparing them for future challenges.

* **Assessment** is a crucial aspect of education, allowing teachers to evaluate student learning and understanding. Two effective assessment methods are oral tests for Grade 1-5 and slip tests for Grade 6-12 on daily basis.

Oral Tests for Grade 1-5

Oral tests, are particularly effective for Grade 1-5 students, as they assess communication skills, builds confidence, develops public speaking skills and fosters creativity.

Slip Tests for Grade 6-12

Slip tests are written tests where students are given a slip of paper with questions. This assessment method is particularly useful for Grade 6-12 students, as it encourages critical thinking, assesses knowledge retention, develops writing skills and prepares students for exams.

* **Project-based learning** (PBL) method encourages students to work on real-world projects that integrate multiple subjects and skills

* **STEM SKILLS** foster creativity, entrepreneurship allowing students to turn their ideas into reality.

* **Interdisciplinary learning** breaks down traditional subject barriers and students develop a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness of different disciplines.

* By leveraging **technology-smart classes**, We provide students with immersive and interactive learning experiences that prepare them for the digital age.

* **Student-led initiatives** ranges from environmental sustainability projects to social entrepreneurship ventures, allowing students to develop valuable skills and make a positive impact in their communities. Engaging student in various clubs and activities like green club -cleaning of beach,ralley on avoiding junk food and encouraging heathy eating and hygienic practices, road safety awareness programs etc.

***Competitions** for Phonetics, English Recitation, Tamil Recitation, English&Tamil Calligraphy,Crayon Colouring,Drawing,story telling,outdoor sports,indoor sports,bottle art,clay art,bottle art,collage,painting ,GK,Rangoli etc. Various days are also celebrated to commemorate the leaders and special events/occasions.

*We show them Departmental awareness videos and conduct career guidance programs to shape them into good and successful citizens with morality

Innovation in education is not about replacing books with screens. It's about creating a space where every learner is heard, every teacher is empowered, and every idea has the room to grow. Teachers aren't just instructors; they're facilitators, mentors, and designers of learning experiences.

But perhaps the most powerful innovation we've adopted is cultural: a fail-forward mindset. We encourage students to take risks, make mistakes, and grow from them — because failure, when reflected upon, leads to resilience and innovation. The state-of-the-Science laboratories,allow students to apply their theoretical knowledge in practical settings.

In every corner of the campus, we aim to create a learning culture where students feel heard, teachers feel inspired, and ideas are nurtured without fear. Because when we break barriers, we don't just teach — we ignite change.

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