

*Education need not only be a tool for survival
but for enhancing perception. The children must
blossom and flower into great human beings.*

Sadhguru

Rural Education

Isha Vidhya
Annual Report
2022



Isha Vidhya

Delivers quality education to children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds in rural India



10

schools

10,200+

students
impacted

5,500+

full scholarship
students

48%

girl students

100%

pass rate for
Class 10 and 12





Isha Vidhya

Educate a Child - Make a Life!

A pioneering initiative, Isha Vidhya is committed to making high-quality school education accessible and affordable to all, especially children from rural, underprivileged backgrounds.

How We Do It

Dedicated teachers who receive regular, extensive training to enhance their capabilities

Scalable methodology that can be replicated across schools

Multi-sensory, activity-based learning, which stimulates learning on multiple levels

Interactive, discussion-based classes, which promote analytical and critical thinking skills

English-medium instruction, which emphasizes language fluency at a young age

Extensive libraries in various formats – print, audio, video and computer – to enhance the learning process

Digital classrooms that bring the world into rural schools

Holistic development to equip students with essential skills, without losing sight of traditional Indian wisdom and diversity

Midday Meal

27%

of students pay a subsidized price for a balanced meal, hygienically cooked in the school kitchens

16%

of students eat the midday meal sponsored by donors (For many of these students, this is their only square meal of the day.)



Girl Power

All Class 10 and 12 Toppers Are Girls!

In 2022, all Class 10 and 12 toppers across Isha Vidhya schools were girls. With jaw-dropping scores and soaring aspirations, each of them has blossomed with novel academic interventions. Here is a short and personal sharing of two students' dreams and how they aspire to make a difference in their communities.





Scored
485/500

Reshma - *Class 10 Topper across all Isha Vidhya schools*

Raised by a single parent, Reshma from Isha Vidhya, Erode shares, "My mother never pressured me to study for better marks, and that motivated me to just do my best." Her mother works as a maid. Reshma believes that an IAS officer is the most respected position in the district, so she aspires to become one as a tribute to her mother, donor and school.



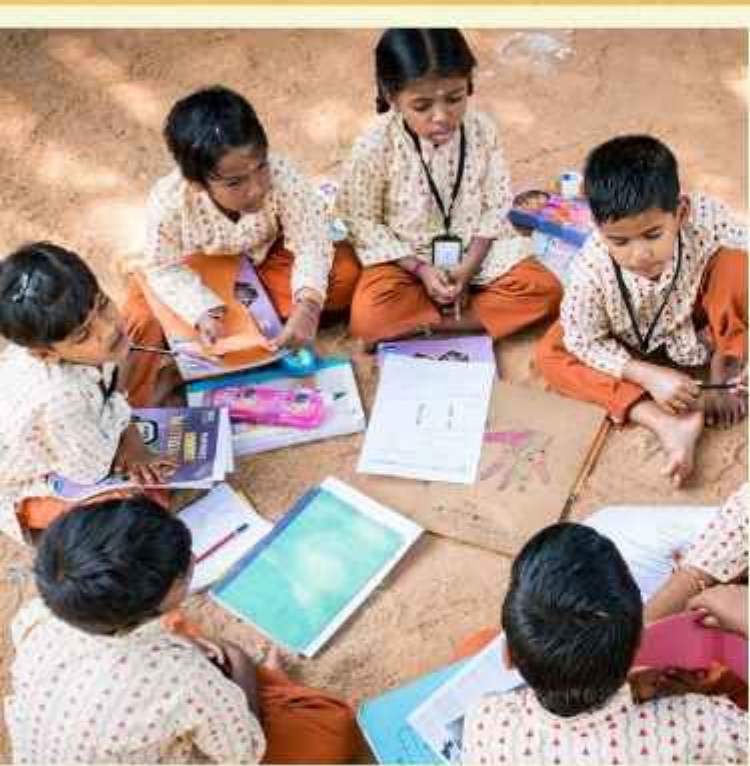
Scored
586/600

Bhuvana - *Class 12 Topper across all Isha Vidhya schools*

From early on, Bhuvana from Isha Vidhya, Villupuram dreamed of being a leader. She is currently studying B.Com Economics and wants to pursue an MBA course subsequently. While she is keen on working at Ashok Leyland, she also plans to take the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission exam to keep her options open. She says, "Being a class leader at school helped me develop leadership qualities, make timely decisions and become a better human being."

Innovative Interventions

Every teacher at Isha Vidhya does their best to ensure that the students grasp what is taught. But sometimes, they need to go the extra mile to help students progress academically, grow as individuals and also become future-ready.



Atal Tinkering Laboratories

The Atal Tinkering Laboratories at seven Isha Vidhya schools are part of the Atal Innovation Mission. These labs facilitate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) learning for students in Classes 4-12. Learning is mostly hands-on and inculcates a design mindset, computational thinking and adaptive learning.

Code Vidhya

Students from Class 4 onwards are offered Code Vidhya, where they learn programming and web design to strengthen logical reasoning, problem-solving skills, creative thinking and other valuable skills that will make them future-ready.

Power English

For students in Classes 1-4 who need extra support, Power English classes with a Total Physical Response activity are conducted. This includes listening to music, reading stories and enacting what they see on video. This activity keeps students focused and improves their language skills.

LEAP - Learning by Exploring and Presenting

Students in Classes 6 and 7 learn to organize their thoughts and express themselves effectively by making PowerPoint presentations on various topics. Each student gathers content, presents it to the class and receives feedback. This helps them improve their communication skills and gain confidence.

Self-Management Spaces

Students take full ownership of a project or event and see it through while being mentored by their teachers. They work in groups on tasks like scheduling, material arrangement and record maintenance, and while doing so, learn organization, leadership, teamwork and other skills.

Triumphant in Sport



Champions League – Vaishnavi, Class 7, Isha Vidhya, Tuticorin

Vaishnavi won the title of Individual Champion (under-14 age category) at the school and district levels after winning first place in high jump and the 600m race, and second place in the 200m race. She says, "I take my PE teacher's advice seriously and train diligently before and after school every day. I am also intent on pursuing medicine and becoming a doctor in the Armed Forces."



Seasoned Athlete – Praveenkumar, Class 11, Isha Vidhya, Dharmapuri

Praveenkumar values the importance given to sports at Isha Vidhya and aspires to win a medal in athletics at the national level. He has been on a winning streak in athletics (running, shot put and long jump) at the school, district and zonal levels since 2014. He says, "*Continuous challenges, where one leads to another, keep me hooked on playing a game.*" He studies on a scholarship and wants to become a software developer and work for a reputable company to fulfill the wish of his single mother.



Silambam Star – Madev Sundar, UKG, Isha Vidhya, Tuticorin

Madev Sundar set a world record in his age category by doing Silambam (a traditional weapon-based Indian martial art) continuously for three hours at the Silambam World Record event held by Global World Record at Tuticorin. Inspired by his father, he began learning Silambam at the tender age of three.

Extracurricular Excellence



Never at a Loss for Words

Sankari, Class 7, Isha Vidhya, Nagercoil

Sankari recites Thirukkural (a classic Tamil language text) effortlessly. She recently recited 1,330 Thirukkural and was conferred "Thirukkural Mani". This added to the already growing list of awards she has already won. Last year, she hosted the Children's Day celebrations at the Grace College of Education and conducted a Thirukkural quiz. She has also completed Level 3 in the Spelling Bee competition with distinction. She shares, "I want to fulfill my mother's and grandmother's dream by becoming a collector and serving society, and also creating awareness about Thirukkural across borders."



Quizzing Stars

Students of Isha Vidhya, Coimbatore

Students of Isha Vidhya, Coimbatore walked away with the first prize and an overall trophy in an inter-school quiz conducted by Karunya University's Robotics Department. Their parents were elated and very appreciative of the teaching methodologies. The students sailed through the three rounds easily, thanks to their practical experience in robotics at school and Atul Pant's (Timeless Lifeskills Foundation) online mentoring.



Doll Quiet Book

Haritha, Class 7, Isha Vidhya, Salem

Haritha was inspired by a 3D picture book in her school library and gave wings to her creativity by making her 3D Doll Quiet Book after school hours. She shares, "I love the innovative art and craft classes at Isha Vidhya and am excited to experiment and make larger 3D books to give to my friends and relatives on their special days."

Celebrating Teaching

Unique development programs help Isha Vidhya teachers attune to the Isha way, where they teach joyfully, counsel rather than punish and treat students with love and care. As a result, teaching for them becomes a celebration of educating and witnessing their students' triumphs.



Programs for Teachers

Happy Classroom Trainings are three-day induction programs to gauge teachers' abilities and impart teaching tools

Methodology Workshops in which subject-specific techniques involving activities, discussion, creative thinking and exploration are demonstrated and practiced

Leadership Programs for principals, vice-principals and a few teachers on skills such as time management, situational leadership, team management, feedback, follow-up and more

Class Observations and Feedback Sessions in which senior school staff observe a class and discuss areas for improvement with the teacher, whose development is monitored and further supported

HERO (Hope Efficacy Resilience Optimism) in which teachers learn about the power of thought, overcoming difficulties and how to attend to day-to-day activities joyfully

A Teacher Shares

I've become a better mother because of Isha Vidhya and working here as a teacher.

— Padma Priya
Teacher, Isha Vidhya, Coimbatore

"When I first joined Isha Vidhya, I knew how to take classes, but I did not know how to do so playfully and joyfully. Then I attended Isha Vidhya's teacher training, where I first learned how to enjoy my classes myself and then how to keep the children happy. After some time, I realized how to be with the children. That's the main part of Isha Vidhya — how to be happy with the children, how to handle them without punishing them. So, gradually, my classes became much more interesting. This had a ripple effect on my home situation as well. I have a young daughter, and the way I approach her, the way I behave with her, has completely changed. And Isha Vidhya is not part of my life; Isha Vidhya is my life!"



Ingenious Classes

Financial Literacy

This out-of-syllabus offering to Class 11 students covers saving, spending, borrowing, investing and financial planning through activity-based learning, discussions and the experiences of students and their families.

Lightning Classes

All students do not grasp new lessons at the same pace. So Lightning Classes are conducted concurrently with regular classes for those students in Classes 1-8 who need extra support in English, Tamil and math using our own learning materials, workbooks and manuals.

Media Literacy

Media literacy helps students make sense of and discern digital media communication, analyze information, consciously choose how to respond and use media to create and make a positive difference in the world.

NDA-JEE Classes

Isha Vidhya volunteers coach about 400 Class 11 and 12 students online for about an hour after school to prepare them for the National Defence Academy, the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test and the Joint Entrance Examination. This includes familiarizing them with examination patterns, sharing tips and shortcut methods to solve mathematical problems and derivations.





The Lives We Touched

From Scholarship Student to Seaman

Raviprasad

Alumnus, Isha Vidhya, Dharmapuri

Raviprasad, is an anti-submarine warfare sailor for the Indian Navy. He was born in Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu into a poor family. His mother is a homemaker, and his father works for the Tamil Nadu State Marketing Corporation. Due to his father's drinking habits, his parents separated when he was only eight years old. When his father gave up drinking after about two years, the family reunited and Raviprasad transferred to Isha Vidhya, Dharmapuri in Class 5, which marked the turning point in his life. "Isha Vidhya gave me a lot of freedom, and I haven't seen any school like that in rural areas. The study method here is unique, as are the teachers. The relationship between teachers and students is like a friendship," says Raviprasad.

When he was in Class 8, his father, who was barely making enough to fulfill his family's basic needs, reluctantly decided to transfer him to a government school, but to his surprise, Isha Vidhya granted his son a scholarship. Raviprasad studied on scholarship from Class 8-12. "I have won several medals and certificates in chess. In school, I also discovered that I'm a good Tamil orator, and I won over a dozen medals for Tamil speeches. The school encouraged me to play more games like kho-kho, volleyball, and football," he recounts.

After about a year of joining Isha Vidhya, Raviprasad grew fascinated by aeronautical engineering. When he told his father about his plans to pursue it, the reality hit him — his father could not afford it but suggested that he try

his luck at something related to flying, such as the Indian Air Force. "My math teacher, Pugazhenthir Sir, supported me a lot. He constantly told me that my aim was very different from others. He encouraged me to focus on joining the Indian Armed Forces and work diligently towards my goal," shares Raviprasad. However, due to COVID-19, the Indian Air Force did not open applications. Knowing that his parents were struggling to make ends meet, Raviprasad could not wait another year and decided to join the Indian Navy instead.

Raviprasad's journey to the Indian Navy was grueling, to say the least. When he was called for the exam at INS Adyar in Chennai, he only expected a written test, as no details about the exam had been shared beforehand. "I had only had a cup of tea in the morning before the written test, but immediately after this, they announced that they would conduct the physical test." To pass the test, applicants were to run 1.6 km within seven minutes and do ten pushups and 20 squats. Raviprasad passed the test with flying colors, running 1.6 km in 5 minutes and 50 seconds. After the physical test, it was time for the final and most challenging part: Basic Training, which took place at INS Chilka in Odisha. "Basic Training was very difficult. Our phones were taken away, and we were allowed to contact our family only three times a week. We weren't given enough water to bathe or even to drink, as they wanted us to be ready for all situations," shares Raviprasad.

When he completed the Basic Training successfully, his phenomenal achievement was a proud moment for Isha Vidhya. On India's 75th Independence Day, he accompanied the chief guest at Isha Vidhya Dharmapuri to raise the national flag in his glorious uniform. "There was so much excitement and happiness. I don't have words to describe it," recalls Raviprasad. Thanks to his determination, diligence and teachers' support, Raviprasad made it to the Indian Armed Forces against all odds.





The Lives We Touched

Role Reversal: From Student to Teacher

"If you think about it, I was a kid who grew up in this school. I had observed the teachers and fully imbibed the school atmosphere. So I decided to join Isha Vidhya as a full-time teacher and give back what I had gained as a student."

—Siva Sankari
Alumnus, Isha Vidhya, Coimbatore

"I entered the portals of Isha Vidhya, Coimbatore as a Class 2 student. We were the first batch of students in the school. There were just eight teachers and eight classrooms at that time. My mother also works at the school as a teacher. In my childhood, inspired by my mother, I would act like a teacher at home, writing on the blackboard, enacting the way teachers walk and speak. After Class 12, I decided to choose commerce as my stream. While I was pursuing my Masters, the faculty would often use my notes to conduct seminars and handle the classes. That's when I realized that I have a knack for teaching.

"One day, I received a call from Isha Vidhya, where they told me that a teacher was not available for two days and asked if I could volunteer. There happened to be a vacancy for English teachers and during a casual conversation the school had with my mother, she mentioned that I was available. During those two days of volunteering, I thought, 'I am in my school, this is my classroom, I studied here, I did everything here.' The way I was able to handle the students, the way I taught, I could see myself maturing into a full-fledged Isha Vidhya teacher.

"If we have to talk about my mother and I, I have to say that it is a double treat for me. I decided to become a teacher after seeing her. Frankly, my mother would spend more time at school than at home, because of which I would sometimes get upset with her. But now, I have a job. I wake up in the morning and bring my mother on my scooter; we both come to school together. This is like a dream come true for me.

"The bond I have with my students — it is like a family. Here, as a teacher, I am experiencing every moment wholeheartedly. If you'd ask me whether I would have received this kind of feeling, this kind of excitement anywhere else, I would really doubt it. So I am just living every bit of every moment here and I am very happy in Isha Vidhya as a teacher."





An Appeal

Isha Vidhya runs ten rural schools in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, with 10,000+ students from Lower Kindergarten to Class 12. Over 60% of them are supported by scholarships and a majority of them are first-generation school goers. Without this opportunity, these children would face a bleak future. The Isha Vidhya team is doing its best to offer quality education to these children. Keeping in mind the parents' situation and the interests of the children, we seek continued support from all our donors to ensure that the necessary funding is mobilized to keep the schools running. We also invite volunteers who can help our academic and fundraising teams in their efforts.



donations@ishavidhya.org



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Income & Expenditure Statement (All figures are in INR (in lakhs))			
Income for the year ended on	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-20
Earned / Self-generated income	787.90	471.31	1004.69
Donations from Indian sources	1406.11	1403.34	627.28
Donations from international sources	432.05	521.37	184.05
Other income	367.57	341.73	239.09
Total Income	2993.62	2,737.95	2,055.11
Expenditure for the year ending on	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-20
Program-related expenses:			
Salaries & benefits	978.58	889.73	915.26
Staff training	1.31	0.03	14.28
Staff travel	6.07	1.28	14.70
Office support expenses	257.00	109.81	187.04
Material procured (Consumables like food / books / provisions)	245.35	172.30	260.59
Event registration & public awareness expenses	-	1.77	31.91
Student transport expenses	182.59	104.66	301.22
Depreciation on buildings	187.63	195.69	179.48
Depreciation on assets other than buildings	174.77	171.29	172.78
Other expenses	15.51	49.01	34.73
Total Expenditure	2,048.81	1,695.76	2112.00
Surplus / Deficit	944.82	1,042.19	-56.88

Notes

Income & Expenditure Statement:

- All figures pertain to the Isha Vidhya project. Relevant amounts which appear as part of the accounts of the Parent Trust (Isha Education) have also been identified and aggregated here to present a complete financial picture of the Isha Vidhya project.
- All donations are received only in the name of the Isha Education Trust, which has FCRA and 80G approvals.
- Other income includes bank interest appearing in Isha Education's accounts.
- Buildings are appearing in the books of Isha Education Trust but used exclusively for the Isha Vidhya project.

Balance Sheet (All figures are in INR (in lakhs))			
Assets as on	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-20
Fixed assets			
Land & buildings	2,304.17	1,900.44	2,012.15
Other assets	1,075.79	942.37	958.65
Investments	7,473.49	6,772.52	1,788.65
Loans and advances			
Deposits	19.88	9.36	3.63
For capital expenses	-	-	-
For operating expenses	1.43	5.97	19.19
Cash and bank balances	442.86	320.07	3,505.49
Other current assets	80.64	56.49	65.69
Excess of expenditure over income	-	-	56.88
Total Assets	11,398.26	10,007.23	8,410.32
Liabilities as on	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-20
Isha Education Funds	8,329.23	7,458.15	6,453.38
Corpus and utilized earmarked fund transferred	2,146.28	1,970.07	1,731.59
Restricted / Earmarked funds	912.63	562.72	208.95
Current liabilities and provisions	10.12	16.28	16.41
Total Liabilities	11,398.26	10,007.23	8,410.32

Notes

Balance Sheet:

- All figures pertain to the Isha Vidhya project. Relevant amounts which appear as part of the accounts of the Parent Trust (Isha Education) have also been identified and aggregated here to present a complete financial picture of the Isha Vidhya project.
- Fixed assets include assets Rs. 2,026.43 lakhs Rs. 1,911.39 lakhs and Rs. 2,312.97 Lakhs for the years 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 respectively, appearing in the name of Isha Education but used exclusively for Isha Vidhya.
- Inter concern transactions are clubbed with Isha Education funds.

Receipts & Payments Account (All figures are in INR (in lakhs))			
Receipts for the year ended on	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-20
Opening cash and bank balance	320.07	3,505.49	2,642.94
Earned / Self-generated income	787.90	471.31	1,004.69
Donations from Indian sources	1,406.11	1,448.34	1,697.61
Donations from international sources	1,403.22	1,125.63	358.29
Reduction in value of investments	-	-	-
Increase in current liability	-	-	2.94
Inter concern transaction	-	-	760.38
Other receipts	367.57	341.73	239.09
Decrease in current assets	-	9.20	-
Total Receipts	4,284.87	6,892.50	6,705.94
Payments for the year ending on	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-20
Capital items/ assets purchased for the organisation	396.89	239.00	492.32
Increase in investments	700.97	4,983.87	922.13
Increase in current assets	30.12	-	26.27
Decrease in current liabilities	6.16	0.12	-
Inter concern transactions	1,021.45	20.66	-
Operating expenses	1,686.41	1,328.78	1,759.73
Total Payments	3,842.01	6,572.43	3,200.45
Closing cash and bank balance	442.86	320.07	3,505.49

Notes

Receipts & Payments Account:

- All figures pertain to the Isha Vidhya project. Relevant amounts which appear as part of the accounts of the Parent Trust (Isha Education) have been identified and aggregated here to present a complete financial picture of the Isha Vidhya project.
- Cash and bank balance include funds pertaining to Isha Vidhya appearing in the accounts of Isha Education.
- All donations are received only in the name of Isha Education, which has FCRA & 80G approvals.
- Other income includes bank interest pertaining to Isha Vidhya appearing in Isha Education accounts.
- Capital assets include those assets exclusively for Isha Vidhya, but appearing in Isha Education's account.

We are deeply grateful to our sponsors





*Incredible things can be done simply if we are
committed to making them happen.*

Sadhguru

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