



The Education Ministry Master Plan

Punalur Diocese

Introduction

The educational policy propounded by the Catholic Bishop Council of India reinstates that the ultimate objective of sound education is not only a sole means of advancing the individual capabilities and obtaining the success of life but it should also function as a catalyst to enable the individuals to uplift the social welfare. It is the prophetic mission of the Christ himself that the Church continues through her educational ministry. The Church envisions education as a platform to nurture values and witness the truth.

It has been 30 years since the diocese of the Catholic Church, being centred on Punalur, came into being. It is a Herculean task to solve the social, educational and the vocational backwardness of people. The social Upliftment can be made possible only by resolving the educational backwardness of the people. With this realisation in mind, we should be able to come over the educational degeneration by incorporating innovative ideas.

Educational Vision

The mission of Catholic education is to help the human society to acquire the full fledged growth of the human personality and create an ameliorated world to carry out virtuous deeds for the society (Vatican Council document 3).

The aim of Catholic Church is to implement an educational process which leads us from competition to collaboration and slavery to liberty. The Church carries forth this educational ministry with a view to bring desirable social changes. It is the perspective of the

Church to ensure the education for the betterment of the whole society in accordance with her prime duty to bestow education for her faithful. By realising and seizing the newly opened opportunities, the diocese of Punalur can resolve the backwardness at a greater extend.

Functionality

The functional emphasis of the educational ministry is to encourage higher education for the excellent vocational opportunities, in addition to the enrichment of the existing public educational activities. Our aim should be centred on realising the various professional opportunities in the national and international level and equipping the new generations of our diocese to exploit all those possible opportunities.

Our technical institutions and other educational institutions must be more efficient in achieving the overall respect of the society and thereby making it possible for the growth of the institution.

Action plans should be formulated to improve the personal excellences like emotional quotient, communication skills, creativity and the leadership quality of our diocesan members.

The Catholic Faith

1. The action plan should be envisaged and executed with a view to imprint Christ in each student based on the teaching of the Church
2. A value based personality development should be ensured in every student. For this purpose, value education as well as the training classes on Christian way of life should be made effective in all schools.

3. In order to bestow students training on value-perception, ideal Catholic faith and leadership training the organizations like KCSL should be established and activated in all schools.
4. For the spiritual and pastoral needs of the students there should be a chapel as well as a Chaplain and the Eucharistic Mass should be celebrated on the first Friday of every month.
5. The images containing the Christian messages, Crucifix and other related things must be established in specific parts of the school Enrolment and Excellence of Students
6. Annual retreat should be conducted for all the teachers as well as the Catholic students of our diocese.

The students-access and promotion of excellence

1. The members of the diocese should not be denied the deserving access to our educational institutions in any case.
2. A system should be enabled to access at least 10 percent of the students of our diocese in each educational institution including the diocesan management as well as the religious management.
3. No Catholic student should be deprived of quality education due to financial constraints.
4. Competent students should be identified from the weaker sections and special training and encouragement should be given for their professional advancement and the nurturing of leadership quality.
5. Special reservation should be ensured in the admission process for the students hailing from poor backgrounds.

6. The students who display excellence in their studies should be identified and special training should be given for them.
7. Students who are excellently competitive in sports and arts must be discerned and they should be given due encouragement and training.
8. The Career Guidance Bureau should be begun to provide guidelines on various careers and employment availability courses.
9. Counselling units should be started in all schools to give counselling to students who undergo personal and familial problems.

Students' fees and scholarships

1. Educational Development Committees should be constituted for the general conduct of the educational institutions and to provide scholarships as well as ensuring the basic facilities of the schools.
2. The required amount should be met transparently with the assistance of the PTA and availed of it for the development of the school.
3. For those who are economically backward a certain percentage of scholarship should be given to them by taking into consideration their learning and behaviour

The creative participation of parents

1. Parents are the very first teachers of the children. Parents should acquire the primary knowledge of the opportunities of professional education. Attempts are required from the part of the diocese for this purpose. Parents need to be aware that the investment for the higher education is valuable if their children should have access to the higher professional spheres.

Physical facilities and infrastructures

1. To make the education more efficient the new technologies like Computer, Internet and LCD projector etc should be facilitated in every school.
2. For the development of Educational institutions and the Scholarships for higher education an Educational Fund should be raised by accepting donations from existing teachers and other employers including those who are employed abroad and the persons having other source of income.

Excellence of the teachers

1. If the members of the diocese have to reach higher professional education and modern labour, the excellence of teachers who work in diocesan institutions, is a critical factor. The manager and teachers should also ensure that the quality of the excellence is evaluated from time to time and the appropriate training is provided as per the demand of the changing world.
2. Teachers should not only confine their responsibilities in the classrooms alone but they also have to strive for the excellence of students both individually as well as in collaboration.

3. The teachers should also become a Career Guide and a Role Model for the students.
4. The teachers should educate their children in the diocesan schools where they teach and should try to care other students just as their own kids.
5. There should be an active involvement and effort from the part of the diocese to find honour and encourage the most excellent teachers and finest schools of the diocese.

Local Manager

The parish priest will be the local manager of the aided/unaided and technical institutions that run adjacent to the parish.

Tasks

1. Ensure the quality of education, the standard of education and the discipline of the parish school.
2. The local manager should hold a very congenial relation with the school authorities and assist them in any emergency and it should be informed to the Diocesan office.

Educational Ministry Committees

1. Education should be of major importance in the parish ministry.
2. Education is therefore the most important way to enter the mainstream of the society. So, while forming the Educational Committee, the competent and capable members of the Parish

should be identified to lead the educational activities in the parish.

3. The details of students that display their learning standard from LKG to higher education sector should be prepared to organise programs to boost up the learning level based on it.
4. Even a single student in the parish should ensure that higher education is not denied due to financial reasons and an educational fund should be formed for that purpose.
5. In order to ensure a value based life, in addition to Catechism, special training should be given for the Personality Development, Leadership Quality and Communicative skills.
6. Workshops should be facilitated at the Feronia level and proper guidance and information should be given to ensure each student's employability.
7. PSC Coaching, Bank Coaching, Civil Service Orientation Programs, Entrance coaching etc should be implemented at the Feronia levels.

Diocesan level Education Ministry Committee

The Education Ministry Committee is actively engaged in the mission of enlightening each generation with the up-to-date vision and conviction for gaining required knowledge to obtain a decent job. This is a system that integrates the diverse educational activities in the diocesan and parish level.

Theological basis

The Church also has its own duty in building a better world. It is only through higher education that a socially, economically and culturally matured-generation can be nurtured. As per the decree of The Second Vatican Council the right education makes it possible for the formation of human personality and it equips him to function responsibly in accordance with the ultimate end of human life for the betterment of the society to which he belongs.

The Council states that the education should ensure the amalgamation and development of the physical, moral and intellectual qualities. It should also bestow a sense of responsibility, an exalted and sustainable mind and right liberty. According to the Council it is the right of children and young people to evaluate moral values with right conscience and embrace them with a new personal rigour and to be persuaded to learn more about God and to love Him. In addition to calling it as a *sacred right*, the Council claims to the concerned authorities not to deny it and exhorts to ensure generously that it is implemented in all the areas of education around the world.

The Council reminds that the parents are obliged to extend help in accordance with their financial capacity for the development of the school where their children are educated. Furthermore, it is proudly declared that the Church, as the mother of faithful, is ought to bestow education. It points to the fact that it is a right and obligation to provide and receive simultaneously the ministry of education in the Church.

Vision

By embracing the clarion call of the church to make education universal and perfect, assure the comprehensive personality development and excellent training; instil sense cooperation and dignity of human life and its value in the minds of the future generation and bring changes in the sphere of knowledge as per the demand of the age.

Objective

Develop a style of student-centric or individual centric approach, unlike the traditional approach which had focused only on the activities of the Corporate Management and Institutions.

Educational Committees

The education committees should encourage the comprehensive educational activities of the diocese and the members of the Committee should never be driven by any profit motives and render selfless services for the educational progress. The Educational Committees should be selected at the level of Parish, Feronia and Diocese.

Activities

1. Coordinate all educational activities of the diocese
2. Ensure support and encouragement for nourishing the educational activities.
3. Ensure that the grace as well as a Christian atmosphere is maintained in the diocesan educational institutions.
4. Special focus should be given to the most backward sections and areas of the diocese and nurture them.
5. Avail of all the opportunities in collaboration with government and non-government educational agencies for the educational nourishment.
6. Formulate action plans for improving the quality of education and execute them.
7. Provide inspiration and encouragement for modernization in the field of education.
8. Create and implement programmes that ensure the educational standard of students.
9. Identify the students with poor academic performance and provide them with supplementary education.

10. Raise special funds to assist financially backward students for higher education.
11. Set up libraries and reading forums to improve the reading habits of students.

Parish Education Ministry Committee

The parish Education Ministry Committee can be formed with five members headed by the Parish priest. SSLC will be the minimum qualification for the membership.

Tasks

1. Cooperate sincerely with the activities of the Diocese Education Ministry Committee.
2. Make a comprehensive survey of the educational standard in the Unit and prepare a clear gathering of data.
3. Realise the learning standard of students in the Unit and ensure necessary support.
4. Assist them to avail of the Educational Scholarships.
5. Encourage the Youth to attend PSC tests.
6. Provide special assistance and encouragement to gifted-Children who are financially poor.
7. Promote formal and informal educational activities and uplift the educational standard of the Unit.
8. Encourage children to the field of art and literature.
9. Encourage reading habits.
10. Promote Catholic publications.
11. Provide right knowledge about Media

Ferona Education Ministry Committee

1. Organize educational seminars and discussion classes.
2. Conduct the Career Guidance Program.
3. Prepare students for competitive examinations at the Feronia level.
4. Organize Quiz, Debate and Elocution Competitions.
5. Conduct Personality development classes.
6. Organize Counselling at the Feronia level.

Animation program (Diocese Feronia/ Parish level)

1. Gather the Statistics of students.
2. Collect the Statistics of students having higher education.
3. Organize training programs (programs on writing, reading and pronunciation skills are organised at the diocesan level). This will help to avoid illiteracy and improve the knowledge of Malayalam, English and Maths.
4. Conduct evening classes. (Organise evening classes for the lower classes as well as High School classes of the selected Parishes)
5. Organize Vacation Coaching Camps. (Organize different coaching camps during vacations. Eg. Skill development, drawing, Story Writing, Elocution, Leadership Development, General Knowledge.)

Value Fest

1. Organize a various value based programs.
2. Visit the sites of historical importance.
3. Organize study tours. (VSSC, Planetarium, Magic Academy)

Higher Education Program

1. Organize basic classes for the subjects like English and Maths at the Feronia level.
2. Conduct entrance coaching classes. (For +1&+2 students).

3. Organize PSC Coaching, Bank Coaching, IELTS Examination Training Programs and Mock Exams.

The Statistics of the Diocesan Educational Institutions

1. Aided

1. HSS - 1
2. HS -3
3. UP school -4

2. Un Aided

Diocesan Management

1. CBSE -1
2. ICSE -1
3. STATE SYLLABUS -2

Religious Management

1. CBSE -2
2. ICSE -1
3. STATE SYLLABUS -
4. Other -

3. Technical Institutes

1. ITC - 3

4. Other

1. LSC -1

Tasks

1. Ensure the academic standard of the Technical education institutions.
2. Ensure the discipline of the Technical education institutions.
3. Ensure educational quality of Technical education institutions.

Functions of the Finance Council

1. Gather finance for the Technical Education Institutions.
2. Carry out the renewal, reconstruction and other related activities of Technical Education Institutions.
3. Keep a track of the Income and Expenditure and present them.

Source:

1. CBCI Decree, Bangalore 27 th GB, 8-5-2006
2. All India Catholic Education Policy 2007, CBCI Commission for Education and Culture.
3. Guidelines of the KCBC for Self Financing Education Institutions.
4. KRLCC 9 th General Body, February 9-11-2007

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