

BALKENDRA - its New Face, New Ways and Scope.

The purpose of this Document is to present the new BALKENDRA - its New Face, New Ways and Scope.

New Face is its newly repaired building and interiors, school furniture and accessories to ensure a covid conscious environment.

New Ways represent new considerations and processes for the benefit of Balkendra as a whole - teachers and students alike.

New Scope to provide students the benefit of hands-on presentations and the freedom.

These changes are described in Appendix 1 & 2 below.

To all reading this document I say, visualize yourselves in a prepared environment, surrounded by activities and dreams .. wouldn't you want to choose your own activity cards

*Chaliye... maye apnea Rajya Sabha banayenge, chaliya mai bhi solar system banayenge ...
sub supplies to ready hai ... may ek flower dissect karenge aap ko yaad hai marigold
may kitna petals hai ...aap apna hair microscope ke niche dekhaye ... chaliye ek poem
pahenge ... Mei to aaj bhohot sara triangle banayenge, our fir kite banayenge...*

A student typically does not absorb as much without the opportunity for his/her own free will at play. But when free to learn, children move at an enormous speed leaving the teacher behind. The teacher is the important facilitator, introducing a lesson with a presentation and representations, guiding the student during his process of experiences and self learning.

Key concepts here are Teacher Preparations, a Prepared Environment, and meeting Children's Needs, even for a rural 2 hr. tutorial process for five to ten year olds, because curiosity and desire to learn run high.

At this point, Balkendra is an investment in process. This will be followed by investment in content if needed.

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===== This in a nutshell is the renewed Balkendra! =====

Appendix 1: New Face

Pictures of the New Classrooms and resurfaced desks, New Storage for materials and supplies, Provisions for Sanitization, New hand wash and drinking station, New bathrooms including separate bathrooms for girls are shown in Appendix 3 below. The pictures show the new face of Balkendra after the chaos of the massive repairs done to shore up Shanti Ashram.

Appendix 2: New Ways & Scope

The New Ways includes the following elements:

- 1a. Preparation of Teachers and the Environment
- 1b. Meeting the Children's Needs
- 1c. Accessibility and predictability
- 1d. Scope
- 1e. Integration

1a. Preparation of Teachers and the Environment has been a process of organizing the teachers and the environment.

This includes preparing individual Folders for each subject. Each Folder includes the following key items:

- The Syllabus - per grade
- Corresponding Monthly Lesson plans - "
- ** Teacher directed Lessons & Exercises - " per topic
- ** Prepared Cards for Independent Student Activities per grade, per topic

(Being the teachers' first year at this, Prepared activities will continue to be built throughout the year from textbooks, workbooks, other materials)

1b. Meeting the children's Needs is to address the children's need for Freedom, Movement and Choice. Allowing them to choose their own activities - once grasped - a math problem, draw a map, copy the names of the planets, make a list of nouns when you go to the market is meeting the children's needs - its results are far reaching.

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1c. Accessibility represents the Environment's ability to allow ease of movement, access to activities in the surrounding areas.

Activity Cards, Experiments, microscope table with supplies, all have a place if not on a shelf perhaps on steps, or on an ashan (carpet) on the floor - simply accessible and predictable.

1d. Scope - scope basically remains unaltered. However, the benefit of hands-on presentations and the freedom for students will add new opportunities for the children's learning experiences and scope.

1e. Integration: That final and most important ingredient that brings it together and makes it happen - How will this happen?

it is again the Needs of the child - It is at this moment when the child feels drawn, that the child and the environment integrate. The ability to be free, to move and choose of one's own free will is the catalyst that sets things in motion. And away stands the teacher, the observer and guide whose guidance is well needed!!

The above is a quick summary of the New Way or Methodology that will be implemented. The key is Teacher Preparation. Thus the last several months have been spent in preparing and organizing materials for each of the subjects that will be taught. All of these materials have been organized in folders both as hard copy and soft copy for ready reference by the teachers.

As an example, The Teacher Preparation Folder for Mathematics can be viewed at this link ⇒ <https://tinyurl.com/7s6m53wv>

The consolidated Teacher Preparation Folders for all the subjects (English, Science, Social Science, Mathematics, Computers, Hindi) can be found at this link ==> <https://tinyurl.com/zdvv796m>

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Appendix 3: Balkendra - New Face in pictures

The following pictures show the new face of Balkendra after the chaos of the massive repairs done to shore up Shanti Ashram.

New Classrooms and resurfaced desks organized with social distancing:



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New Steel Storage cabinets for materials and supplies:



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Provisions for Sanitization and student health:



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New hand wash and drinking station:



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New bathrooms including separate bathrooms for girls:

