



# THE BRIGADE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

near METROPOLIS

## IN THE NEWS

Deccan Herald, Feb 6th, 2009

### SNIPPETS

#### Neighbourhood school

**BANGALORE, DHNS:** The Brigade Foundation, a non-profit trust will set up the Brigade International School, at Mahadevpura on Whitefield road as part of its 'Neighbourhood Schools' concept. The school sched-

uled to open for the academic year June 2009 - 2010 will offer both ICSE and IGCSE streams from nursery till the seventh standard. The school is being set up on four acres of land with state of the art classrooms, including a swimming pool and a 900 seater air-conditioned auditorium.



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*O nanna chetana,  
aagu nee aniketana*

## IN THE NEWS

Deccan Herald—Education, Feb 12, 2009

# Brigade Group's new school

**G**lobalisation was once defined by a wise soul as localisation of the globe, and almost as if to lend credence to it, the Brigade Foundation as part of its 'Neighbourhood Schools' concept is setting up The Brigade International School. The school, which will commence for the 2009-2010 Academic year has been set up over four acres of land at Mahadevpura on Whitefield Road. This is the second school set up by the foundation to add to its existing school at J P Nagar; a third is in the pipeline.

Chair Person of the Brigade Foundation, Gita Shankar says, "Our aim is to create to create global citizens with rootedness." This philosophy is reflected in the school's motto '*O nanna chetana,*

*DH photo*



Mathew Abraham, DGM, Brigade Foundation.

*aagu nee aniketana*' (My spirit, transcend all boundaries) borrowed from 'Aniketana', a poem written by poet laureate Kuvempu.

The non-residential co-education school will offer both the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) and the Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE) streams from nursery till the seventh standard. "Our syllabus will be such that students will be able to cope with syllabi anywhere in the world," says Gita.

True to its motto, the school will offer Hindi, Kannada and French as languages along with compulsory classes for spoken Kannada. Gita says, "We believe it is very important to relate and understand the language and culture of your immediate environment to be good citizens." Another unique feature is the system for nursery or pre-school, which will be a combination of best practices from Montessori and traditional systems of education. "Young children need a mother figure away from home and with this we hope to give them the necessary attention," she adds.

The school will provide state of the art facilities to its students including a swimming pool, athletics facilities and basketball courts. Besides regular classrooms, students will also have 'Eureka rooms' to explore abstract concepts from science and mathematics. These rooms will allow students to explore and manipulate physical objects to help them translate theories and laws to reality. A central repository known as the Knowledge and Information Bank (KNIB) will also be established for all information on curriculum and training.

The process of recruitment has already begun for teachers. All teachers will have proficiency in spoken English along with the necessary pre-req-



Gita Shankar, Chair Person.

uisites. According to Gita, students are known to be hard on teachers with poor diction. Applications for admission into the school will soon be accepted and the fee structure for a term begins at Rs 30,000 for nursery and slightly more for higher classes.

Application forms will be available at:  
Brigade Foundation  
34, Cunningham Road, Bangalore - 52.  
Ph: +91 80 4114 8397

KAUSHIK CHAKRAVARTHY



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O nanna chetana,  
aagu nee aniketana

## IN THE NEWS

DNA, Feb 6th, 2009

**classact**


### Deconstructing the term 'international'

Bangalore lays claim to the most number of international schools in the country. So what does the international tag really mean to a parent and how does it benefit a student in the long run? Education expert, **Gita Shankar** tells **Team DNA** about some of the distinct practices and standards expected of international schools.

**S**tudents studying at international schools from the nursery level to standard five should be equipped to adapt to a new syllabi or schooling system. This is especially relevant in a scenario where more parents hold transferable jobs or could travel abroad on projects.

It is, ultimately, not just about syllabus, but how lessons are delivered in class, which makes all the difference. The school should focus on hiring faculty with experience, but should also aim to train them to deal with changing classroom scenarios.

Nowadays, it is safe to assume that nearly 25 per cent of students in a given class are more informed than the teachers. They should, however, be confident to take this in their stride and tell students, "I don't know something in the subject, but I can check and revert." Students perceive them depending on how they handle such situations.



Students often challenge teachers in classrooms. It need not always be a verbal challenge, but it is evident in their body language. We offer counselling on campus to both teachers and students.

This helps them sort out issues and talk to someone in total confidentiality. This will encourage them to perform better in their roles as educators. School managements need to understand and acknowledge that teachers are under a lot of stress. Teachers are expected to research, analyse, assess and deliver lessons. They need to be equipped with teaching aids to ease their workload. This goes a long way in helping students understand the subject being taught.

International schools have to instill the best teaching practices. Subject teachers can deliver lessons in unique ways, if encouraged. However, it is the school's responsibility to identify, encourage and document such teaching practices.

Schools should also take on the responsibility of instilling good behaviour in students. Often, since parents pay a hefty fee to send their child to an international school, a child's disrespectful behaviour towards teachers is often excused. This aspect should not be ignored.

A school atmosphere has to be conducive to learning. We believe in a practice called 'whole school behaviour', which means every aspect of the child's education has to be observed.

**Githa Shankar is chairperson of the Brigade Foundation, which runs the Brigade School and the Brigade International School**



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The Hindu, Feb 12, 2009

# Moulding young minds

## Keeping them busy with meaningful activities

Correspondent

**BANGALORE:** Githa Shankar, chairperson of Brigade Foundation, has a number of educational ideas. In her observation of children over the past few years at Brigade School, J.P. Nagar, she has found ways to stimulate the children's thinking and keep them occupied with meaningful activities.

She has also learnt that children have an amazing ability to focus on a task for an extended period of time.

"I have also noticed that children thrive in an orderly environment and [they] love repetition," she says.

The success of the first school has encouraged Brigade Foundation to plan a number of neighbourhood schools.

Admissions are open at The Brigade International School on Whitefield Road near Brigade Magnapolis from the academic year 2009.

The co-educational and

- The success of the first school has encouraged Brigade Foundation to plan more

- Admissions are open at The Brigade International School on Whitefield Road

non-residential school will have classes from nursery to Standard 7. New classes will be added each year up to Standard 12.

The school will offer IGCSE/ICSE curriculum. Brigade Foundation also has plans to establish a school in the Rajajinagar-Malleswaram area.

Ms. Githa says that the new school will have regional flavour. The students may come from the upper economic strata but they will be taught to speak Kannada till Class V. The school's motto and logo is extension of its philosophy, "O nanna chetana, aagu nee aniketana" (O my spirit, transcend all boundaries). Probably, it has evolved out of her own experience.

She says: "We speak Kannada at home, though I am a Malayali and my husband, a Telugu."

Ms. Githa notes that children have a highly permeable mind and they will provide opportunities for students to investigate their surroundings. Young children will be taught Kannada through delightful activities.

The international school will be located on a four-acre campus amid landscaped gardens.

The facilities at the school include a swimming pool. The Brigade Foundation is planning to establish a school for the children from underprivileged section of society. For details, visit [brigadeschools.org](http://brigadeschools.org)