

Simplifying Education Management with Educube™

The world's largest private school, City Montessori School in Lucknow, India, had a problem - how to effectively manage a multi-campus institution with 47,000 pupils, 3,800 staff, 3,700 computers and 20 schools.

"We have had good technical support from Globals and a very amicable working relationship with them. They have been responsive to our queries and requests. The modules have helped to reduce the burden of tedious administration and are proving popular with the teachers and other staff."

Dr. Geetha Gandhi Kingdon
Director, City Montessori
Schools, Lucknow

Background

It is a common saying that 'All life is an experiment', but little did Dr. Jagdish Gandhi know that his experiment would cause such a huge impact.

Dr. Jagdish Gandhi was born on 10th November, 1936 to the parents of a poor family in the Barsauli Village in the district of Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India. Immensely motivated by Mahatma Gandhi, an idealistic Dr. Jagdish Gandhi wished to offer a better future for the world's children through education. In 1959, with just five children on role, no personal wealth and borrowed capital of Rupees 300/- , Dr. Gandhi opened the City Montessori School in Lucknow, India. With his wife, Mrs. Bharti, Gandhi laid the foundation of Sarvodaya Seva Sansthan, a registered body under which all their activities - social, educational and cultural are performed.

The School

The City Montessori School differs from others in a number of ways. With 47,000 pupils from kindergarten to high school level it features in the Guinness Book of Records as the biggest private school in India. Its teaching is also of the highest quality and the schools' students regularly feature in the 'Toppers' list.

More than anything the school excels because of its belief:

'A broader, bolder, better education acknowledges that every child is potentially capable of becoming a light of this world'.

City Montessori School won the 2002 UNESCO Prize for 'Peace Education' in recognition of its efforts to promote the universal values of education for peace and tolerance at a time when these values were increasingly being challenged.

The school gradually grew so that, today, it is made up of a wide number of institutions with 20 campuses based in Lucknow alone. Dr. Gandhi regularly holds international conferences and festivals to highlight and support the overall development of the school. Growth has been extraordinary.

The Issue

As the institution grew, it became increasingly difficult to manage effectively and a new solution was required before the school suffered. The issue was complex and required a significant amount of input from a large number of people.

City Montessori School was reported as the Guinness World Records largest school in the UK Press, August 2013

One of the issues was that, due to multiple campuses, effective communication between each, as well as the head office itself, was severely impacted. Admissions for all the campuses were through the head office but information was not always being passed to the relevant ones. This naturally led to much confusion in the administration department. There was also a problem in the transport and payroll departments – again due to the multi campus nature of the school.

City Montessori School was, therefore, in need of an integrated, online service solution through which these operations could be better managed, communication between head office and the various campuses could be seamless and overall performance could be continually assessed and improved as and when needed.

The Solution

Educube™ – Simplifying Education Management

Dr. Gandhi was introduced to Globals and he, alongside his Senior Management Team, was shown the cloud based, ERP and collaborative learning solution Educube™. A demo of the product showed them how effective it could be in enhancing their management and operational capabilities. The demonstration was very well received; the Globals implementation team discussed all the issues with the school's administration department and came up with a suitable project plan to implement the appropriate management modules according to individual needs.

The implementation process began on August 2011 at the City Montessori School head office. The first, and critical, task was to create an online master database from the existing, paper-only, data available. This focussed on fees management, payroll management, the production of e-report cards and performance reports.

By September 2011, the first two campuses were operating from the master database and, for the very first time, City Montessori School published e-report cards in the first term of the 2011-2012 academic year.

With this successful implementation, Globals was asked to continue with the implementation across all campuses.

The Results

Significant improvements have been delivered on the back of the Educube™ install and include:

- 30% reduction in manual labour
- Plan book maintained and carried forward to the following year
- Redundancy and duplication of data eliminated
- Attendance recorded swiftly online
- Electronic data ensures faster and error free analysis available anytime
- Once complete, data in the admission module is used for registration, attendance and other related modules
- Data from student attendance is automatically fed to fees module
- Data from staff attendance is automatically fed to payroll
- The maintained curriculum module enables delivery of progress reports and enhances the statistical analysis of the students performance effectively
- SMS Integration allows effective communication with parents

In total 24 Educube™ modules were implemented to deliver a successful installation for the 20 City Montessori School campuses.

Finally, to ensure that the successful implementation is used effectively, an intensive training programme was delivered. Through this, all staff came to realise the significant benefits that working with Educube™ gave them.

References:

www.cmseducation.org/
www.cmseducation.org/guinness/index.htm

Contact

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