

Tele & Fax: 26151564
ASCN : 39292
E-Mail : schoolssection.aweshq@awesindia.edu.in

Army Welfare Education Society (AWES)
FDRC, Building No 202
Shankar Vihar (Near APS)
Delhi Cantt, New Delhi -110 010

B/45785/IE/AWES

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HQ Southern Command (AWES Cell)
HQ Eastern Command (AWES Cell)
HQ Western Command (AWES Cell)
HQ Central Command (AWES Cell)
HQ Northern Command (AWES Cell)
HQ South Western Command (AWES Cell)

GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTING INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AND ENSURE CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH IN ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1. As we continue our commitment to providing quality education and ensuring the well-being of our students in Army Public Schools, we must adhere to certain guidelines regarding inclusive education and mental health support.
2. In accordance with CBSE guidelines and the National Education Policy (NEP), schools are mandated to provide comprehensive support to Children with Special Needs (CwSN). This includes ensuring access to necessary medical facilities, vocational training, guidance, counseling, and therapeutic support. Schools should employ appropriate staff trained to address the diverse needs of CwSN effectively, fostering an inclusive learning environment that meets both educational and developmental requirements.
3. Guidelines to ensure effective implementation of the Inclusive Education program:-
 - (a) Ensure that all students, regardless of their abilities or disabilities, have equal opportunities for active participation in all school activities.
 - (b) Avoid assigning additional duties, such as subject teaching or exam invigilation, to special educators or counsellors. Their primary focus should be on providing specialized support to students with special needs.
 - (c) While the shortage of teachers may necessitate the utilization of special educators for substitution periods, prioritize the allocation of these periods for value education and group therapy sessions. This will not only support the holistic development of students but also foster a more inclusive and supportive learning environment.
 - (d) The children with special needs are to be evaluated with consent of the parents by a multi-disciplinary team of psychologists, appropriate rehab professionals, special educators and depending on the level of the child given admission in age- appropriate class.

(e) It may be noted some children may have more potential for skill training, they may be given the option to attend the same in accordance with CBSE Guidelines att as per Appx A.

(f) CBSE Guidelines are to be followed for all the classes to encourage inclusion at each academic level att as per Appx B.

(g) Emphasize the imp of utilizing the services of counsellors to support the mental health and well-being of students.

(h) Encourage regular counselling sessions for students who may be experiencing academic, social, or emotional challenges. In case the school counsellor is not able to manage the case, the child with the consent of the parents should be referred to a clinical psychologist.

(j) Ensure that counsellors have adequate resources and support to effectively address the diverse needs of students and promote positive mental health outcomes.

(k) Parental engagement should be encouraged and approached with utmost empathy.

(l) Comprehensive data may be submitted on quarterly basis on CwSN and children identified with stress related issues att as per Appx C.

4. By implementing these guidelines, we can create an educational environment that is inclusive, supportive, and conducive to the holistic development of all students. Your cooperation and commitment to these principles are essential in ensuring the success of our collective efforts.

5. For any query / clarification, please contact faculty IE, AWES through email facultyie.fdc@awesindia.edu.in .

