

Best Practice 2

Title of the Practice:

Promoting Women Education: Initiative to Encourage Regular Girl Student Users of the College Library

Objectives of the Practice:

Libraries have supported institutional initiatives in widening access, public engagement, academic entrepreneurship, lifelong learning and student well-being. They have become campus champions for open research and decolonising the curriculum. But to secure their future on campus they must switch from a transactional to a relational model of librarianship. In this regard, Gushkara Mahavidyalaya, affiliated to the university of Burdwan and established in 1965 in the semi-urban town Guskara, aims to foster ample access for the girl students to its central library keeping in mind the following issues: gender equality, empowerment of the girl student and the dissemination of a deeper awareness about the requirement of library work.

The Context:

Girls belonging to economically underprivileged sections of society often lack access to quality education. In our college more than 50% of students are female. The number of female students is steadily increasing because of the availability of a number of schemes and scholarships such as Kanyasri Prakalpa initiated by Government of West Bengal. The college has arranged a special initiative to encourage girl student users of the library. The library of this college aims to provide gender sensitization ambience for all its students – female and male. The librarian as well as the college authority are aware of the various challenges during their library visit. That will motivate not only the girl students but also the entire student community across gender lines.

The Practice:

In many parts of India, especially in rural areas, access to quality educational resources may be limited. Libraries in higher education institutions offer a wide range of books, journals, research papers, and digital resources that can significantly enhance a girl student's knowledge base. Our college has a well-equipped library with more than 37 thousand books, access to e-journal and journals like *Economic and Political Weekly*, *Current Science*, *Yojana*, *Socrates*, *Anustup*, *Journal of Contemporary Thought* and so on which positively impacts a girl student's academic performance. The resources and materials available in libraries enable them to excel in examinations, assignments, and projects.

Each year one regular girl student is selected and actively encouraged by the central library of Gushkara Mahavidyalaya. She is identified on the basis of the frequency of her library visits. In near future we will introduce a scheme whereby the best girl student user will be given an award in recognition of her dedication to library work.

Despite the positive impact of library work on a girl student's academic journey, there are several constraints and limitations prevalent in the context of India's higher education system. In some conservative communities, girls may face restrictions or bias against accessing libraries, particularly during certain hours. These cultural barriers can limit their engagement with library work and hinder their academic growth. India still faces gender disparities in access to education. Despite efforts to promote inclusivity, girls might encounter societal prejudices that discourage them from engaging in academic activities beyond the classroom. While digital resources are becoming increasingly important, there is a significant digital divide in India, with many students lacking access to computers or the internet. This divide affects their ability to leverage online resources available through libraries. Some girl students might not fully realize the potential benefits of library work or may not receive adequate guidance on how to effectively utilize library resources for their academic progress. Balancing library work with academic commitments, extracurricular activities, and household responsibilities can be challenging for some girl students, especially in rural areas where gender roles are more traditional.

Evidence of Success:

Active encouragement from the library and college authorities instills a sense of confidence among the girl students who are selected for their dedication to library work. Library

work encourages students to develop independent learning habits. As girls often face societal pressures and expectations, having a supportive environment like a library allows them to explore subjects of interest, conduct research, and pursue self-directed studies without external interruptions. Libraries are essential hubs for research activities. Engaging in library work exposes girl students to research methodologies, information retrieval techniques, and critical thinking skills, which are essential for academic success and future careers.

Problems Encountered and Resource Required:

Because of problems related to transport it often becomes difficult to attract the students to the library after 3pm on a working day. They are in a hurry to go back home. The college is trying its best to encourage the students to visit the library frequently. We intend to enhance the number of girl student users by increasing the college funds intended for this purpose. Moreover, the access to the following open e - resources at present available in the library of Gushkara Mahavidyalaya can be provided to the students for the advancement of knowledge: 1) Open Textbook Library 2) Online Periodicals Repository 3) NCERT Books 4) *Cambridge University Press* 5) *Oxford University Press* 6) *Taylor and Francis* 7) *JSTOR* 8) *NDL* 9) *World Digital Library* 10) *DOAJ* 11) *DOAB* 12) *Worldwide Science Sources* 13) *Vidya-Mitra*.

Roll No.	Class	Section	Remarks	Roll No.
272	6th SEM	2021	for book deposit	25
276	6th SEM	2021	for book deposit	08
280	6th SEM	2021	for book deposit	206
172	6th SEM	2021	for book deposit	25
216	4th SEM	2021	for book deposit	16
218	5th SEM	2021	for book deposit	26
22	7th SEM	2021	for book deposit	01
27	6th SEM	2021	for book deposit	16
28	6th SEM	2021	for book deposit	16
280	6th SEM	2021	for book deposit	1044
284	6th SEM	2021	for book deposit	1044
282	6th SEM	2021	for book deposit	1044
286	6th SEM	2021	for book deposit	479
288	6th SEM	2021	for book deposit	130
267	1st Sem B.A	2021	for book deposit	17
15	07	2021	for book deposit	953
95	5th Sem B.Sc	2021	for book deposit	721
14	08	2021	for book deposit	725
473	2nd year	2021	for book deposit	331
20	6th Sem	2021	for book deposit	1107
				555
				205
				18
				557
				100
				106
				529
				543
				593
				68

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Roll No	Class Year	Signature	Signature
2021			
953	BA 3rd Sem	Amal Kanti Biswas	for Bank Return
961	BA 2nd Sem	Pradyumn Prasad	for Bank Return
953	BA 1st Sem	Amal Kanti Biswas	for Bank Return
1018	BA 1st Sem	Amrita Mondal	for Bank Return
34	B.Com 6th Sem	Soumya Ghosh	for Bank Return
160	B.A 5th Sem	Subarna Das	for Bank Return
271	BA 1st Sem	Pooja Maji	for Bank Return
2021-22			
2021			
01	B.Sc 6th Sem	Soumya Mondal	for Bank Return
413	B.B 6th Sem	Dendulika Das	for Bank Return
05	B.Com 6th Sem	SK Jagan Nath	for Bank Return
20	B.A 1st Sem	SK Jagan Nath	for Bank Return
160	B.A 6th Sem	Subarna Das	for Bank Return
728	B.A 6th Sem	Mahadev Maji	for Bank Return
23	B.Sc 1st Sem	Atchannandan Mondal	for Bank Return
2021			
106	BA 2nd Sem	Suman Das	for Bank Return
1078	BA 2nd Sem	Suman Das	for Bank Return
2021			
553	BA 2nd Sem	Amrit Bairagi	for Bank Return
304	B.A 2nd Sem	Ranjan	for Bank Return
559	B.A 2nd Sem	Ranjana Maji	for Bank Return
457	B.A 2nd Sem	Amrita Mondal	for Bank Return
307	B.A 6th Sem	Soumya Ghosh	for Bank Return
90	BA 6th Sem	Soyani Sinha	for Bank Return

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2021			
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961	BA 2nd Sem	Pradyumn Prasad	for Bank Return
953	BA 1st Sem	Amal Kanti Biswas	for Bank Return
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Roll No	Class	Signature	Signature	Roll No	Class
591	4th sem	S. Subhakar	১১ শ্রী	152	2nd
591	4th sem	S. Subhakar	১১ শ্রী	154	2nd
	02	04	2022	155	2nd
				156	2nd
320	2nd sem	Esila Mukherjee	১১ শ্রী	157	2nd
345	2nd sem	Prithi Mukherjee	১১ শ্রী	158	2nd
581	4th sem	S. Subhakar	১১ শ্রী	159	2nd
1094	4th sem	P. uaharu	১১ শ্রী	160	2nd
591	4th sem	Pulnee Saha	১১ শ্রী	161	2nd
38	6th sem	Subhashree Ghosh	১১ শ্রী	162	2nd
498	6th sem	Souraswatee pal	১১ শ্রী	163	2nd
765	4th sem	Sukhadip Saha	১১ শ্রী	164	2nd
182	4th sem	Md Rajajuddin	১১ শ্রী	165	2nd
632	4th sem	Prithi Mondal	১১ শ্রী	166	2nd
24	4th sem	Suman Datta	১১ শ্রী	167	2nd
337	6th sem	Gaouri Banerjee	১১ শ্রী	168	2nd
345	5th sem	Monisha Ghosh	১১ শ্রী	169	2nd
1080	4th sem	Raka Choudhary	১১ শ্রী	170	2nd
04	03	2022		171	2nd
214	1 sem	Mahadev Das	১১ শ্রী	172	2nd
38	1 sem	Sujoy Halder	১১ শ্রী	173	2nd
632	1th sem	Prithi Mondal	১১ শ্রী	174	2nd
630	4th sem	Taruna Mondal	১১ শ্রী	175	2nd
53	4th sem	Deelip Datta	১১ শ্রী	176	2nd
22	4th sem	Suman Pal	১১ শ্রী	177	2nd
651	2nd sem	Apurba Malakar	১১ শ্রী	178	2nd
533	2nd sem	Apurba Biswas	১১ শ্রী	179	2nd
654	P.G 4th sem	Rakhi Maji	১১ শ্রী	180	2nd
655	P.G 4th sem	Saloraj Khatun	১১ শ্রী	181	2nd
656	P.G 2nd sem	Tamara Hatan	১১ শ্রী	182	2nd
05	04	2022		183	2nd
853	1st sem	R. mala mukher	১১ শ্রী	184	2nd
781	3rd sem	Boordana Barui	১১ শ্রী	185	2nd

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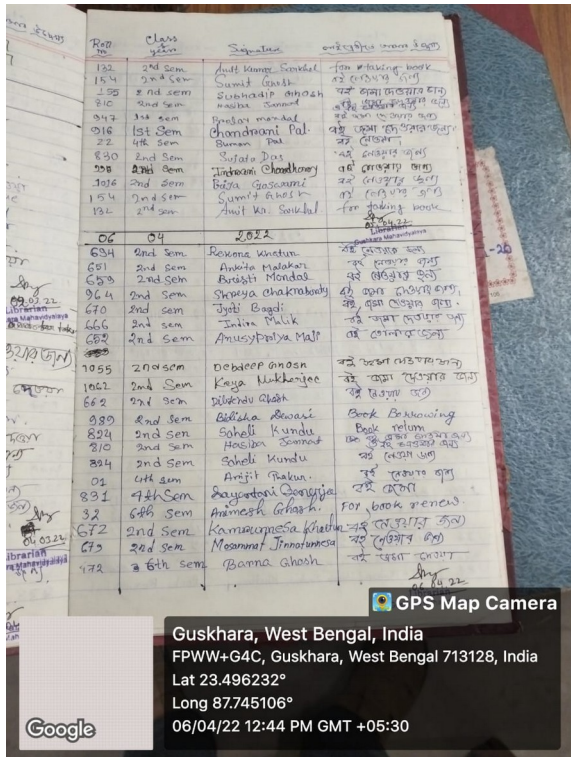
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