

Y C I S

(YOUNG COMMUNITARIAN OF INDIAN SCHOOLS)

Introduction

The Board in its 'Vision 2020' gives emphasis on holistic education which is based on the principle that each child be nurtured and educated through both academic and non-academic means.

Considering Voluntary Social Service as part of holistic education, the Board encourages students to contribute selflessly for the cause of community. It empowers students to feel, experience and understand different walks of social life while also helping them develop their personality and ultimately, becoming responsible human beings.

In order to inculcate and promote the habit of selfless volunteering among the students of Indian Schools, the Board has decided to constitute an award – '**Young Communitarian of Indian Schools**' with effect from the current academic year. This award will be conferred upon those students who have exhibited social commitment and responsibility as one of their primary goals in life.

Young Communitarian Award will carry a Citation Certificate, Memento and Young Communitarian Medal.

Objectives:

The broad objectives are to:

- Connect the school with the community and enhance learning through practical experiences.
- Utilize own skills and resources to understand social needs, give or provide solutions to the community, and eradicate social imbalance or uphold justice/equality.
- Understand themselves in relation to their community.
- Develop passion for selfless service.
- Develop competence required for collective existence and sharing of responsibility.

- Self-development by experiencing the different spheres of community life.
- Instill confidence in mobilizing community participation.

Working Model

Volunteering here refers to an altruistic activity where a student of Indian Schools in Oman, provides services for no financial or social gains, to benefit another person, group or organization.

The process leading to **YCIS** is of three folds. The volunteer student is expected to contribute in three different components of social life.

- I. The volunteer is expected to contribute to the development of community.
- II. The volunteer should serve the poor and the needy of the society.
- III. There should be a contribution towards preserving the environment.

In each of these fields, the student is expected to spend **20 hrs** each so as to be eligible for this award over a period of **minimum 1 year and maximum 2 years**.

All students completing the required criteria shall be eligible for the award.

Some of the activities (not limited) that could be undertaken in each of these categories are as follows:-

a) Community Development

- a. Organizing short-term workshops for blue collared expatriates on English speaking, finance management, Computers & other skills
- b. Organize Entertainment programs at labor camps.
- c. Organize a Community Blood Donation Drive
- d. Organize development programs for families of blue collared employees in collaboration with trained parents so as to capacitate them to earn additional livelihood.
- e. Read and write letters on behalf of illiterate expatriates.

- f. Read out books or letters to a person who is visually challenged.
- g. Organize summer reading programs to encourage kids to read

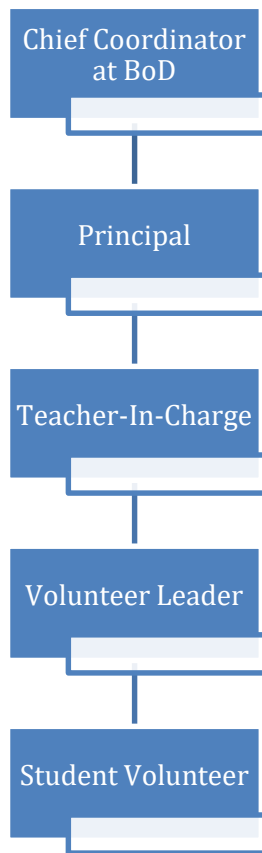
b) *Assisting the needy*

- a. Spend qualitative time with terminally ill people in hospitals.
- b. Identify downtrodden people in the locality and address their needs.
- c. Raise charity funds for the benefit of downtrodden people in the locality.
- d. Organize charity functions to raise funds for specific causes such as Food Sale, Charity sports events, Charity Car wash etc.
- e. Efforts towards providing food, clothes and shelter to the needy. Eg: Gift boxes with basic supplies
- f. Organize events to promote inclusion of physically, mentally disabled children and adults. Eg: Wheelchair basketball
- g. Organise donation drives – old books, clothes for Dar Al Atta and other charities.

c) *Preserving the environment*

- a. Cleaning programs at the school premises.
- b. Clearing the debris in beaches (if available).
- c. Organizing environmental related awareness programs for community/school mates. Eg: Recycling contests
- d. Organizing rallies to create awareness among general public about the need for preserving environment.

Organizational Structure



- All children from 5th Grade and above are eligible to enroll in the program.
- There will be a Teacher-in-Charge of this Communitarian activity in each school. He / She will be responsible for authorizing and certifying the activities undertaken by each volunteer. For group activities, there will also be a student in-charge.
- YCIS Club can be constituted in every school; students desiring to participate in the communitarian activities will be members of the YCIS Club.
- The Teacher-in-Charge will be reporting to the Principal of the school as well as with the Chief Coordinator at BoD for day-to-day functioning of YCIS Office in the school.
- Chief Coordinator at BoD will prepare and disseminate the guidelines for authorization of activities under YCIS, guidelines for documentation, and preparation of awardee lists for the approval of Board of Directors from time to time.

Implementation

- Students who wish to take up this endeavor should do so by filling up Expression of Interest to undertake YCIS activities. The form should be signed by the student as well as the Parent/ Legal Guardian.
- The student must develop and implement a personal school or community service plan, which has been approved by his /her teacher-in-charge, Chief Coordinator and Principal. The plan should identify the need to be addressed, and the plan for personal involvement.
- In order for a project to be eligible, it should cater to ALL 3 categories explained above, with evident and clear impact on the community.
- The schools shall not fund any of the projects. All monetary or otherwise resources should be raised by the volunteers themselves.
- Projects performed by students must be of a non-hazardous nature and occur outside of the school day/hours.
- Projects of political, religious and all other controversial subjects shall not be considered.
- No student shall receive or take monetary compensation for the services rendered.
- The student may document service work hours during the school year and during the summer.
- Each student is responsible for documenting the specific services performed and acquiring the authorizations and certifications from the presiding Teacher-in-charge to certify the hours of service.