



Art for Healing

Therapy for children with Developmental Disability



NalandaWay is keen to see that children with developmental disabilities, and children who are 'at risk' for conditions such as Developmental Delays, Autism, Mental Retardation, Down's Syndrome, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADD/ADHD), Cerebral Palsy, and Learning Disabilities (e.g. Dyslexia) get professional intervention services. Without timely support, these children would miss normal growth opportunities which could adversely impact their integration.

At our Art for Healing centre in Velachery, we bring in trained specialists to work with the identified children in a systematic programme to address their lags and educational difficulties. The goal of this programme is to educate and empower such students to be dignified, independent, contributing members of the mainstream society. We strongly believe that every child has a potential to learn, irrespective of their abilities or socio-economic-cultural background. The programme aims to maximize their physical, cognitive, social and emotional development.

For Tech Mahindra Foundation, we proposed a 3-month 'Art for Wellbeing' pilot for children from grades 5-8 in 4 ARISE+ schools with the objective of demonstrating success in establishing art-based SEL's contribution to overall wellbeing. Later, we also created an independent curriculum focused on capacitating teachers to facilitate sessions in SEL. The lesson plans that we developed use visual arts, music and movement as its pedagogy and are freely provided to any facilitators who work with children with special needs.



Numbers for 2019-2020:

Locations: 1 | Specialists: 2 | Students: 12

Occupational Therapy Sessions conducted this year: 149

Special Ed classes conducted this year: 332