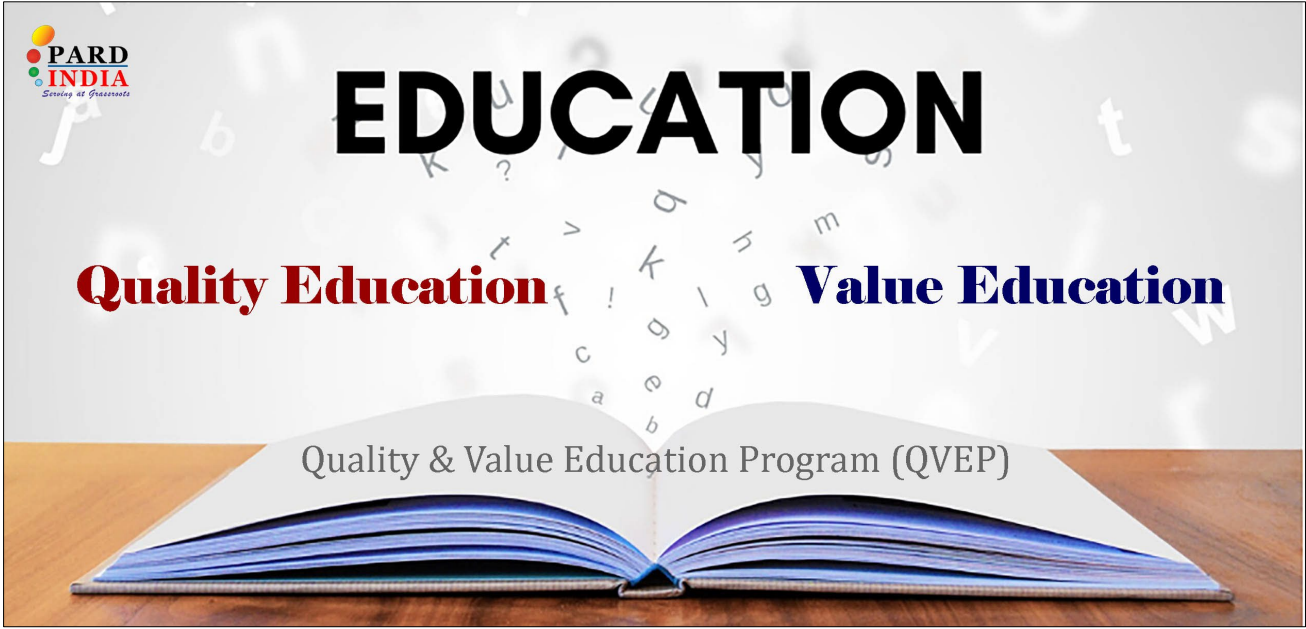


# Quality & Value Education Program (QVEP)

Inspiring Young Minds



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## Rural Education and Development (READ) Project

# Quality & Value Education Program (QVEP)

“Education is not a preparation for life; education is life itself” – John Dewey.

## 1. Introduction

Education is the foundation of a prosperous and empowered society. Education plays a vital role in the development of a nation. However, dropout rates in Indian schools have been a major cause of concern for policymakers and educators. It is also a significant issue in many countries worldwide, especially in developing countries.

According to UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring Report 2020, Globally, 1 in 12 primary school-age children (59 million), 1 in 6 lower secondary school-age adolescents (61 million) and 1 in 3 upper secondary school-age youth (138 million) are out of school.

As per the data presented by the Ministry of Education (News in Hindustan Times of Feb 8, 2023) shows that over **1.2 million students are out of school across India**, most of them at the elementary level. Out of the 12,53,019 students, 6,97,121 were boys while 5,55,854 were girls, and 44 were transgender persons. In terms of education level, 9,30,531 children were identified out of school (5.02 lakh boys and 4.27 lakh girls) at the elementary level and 3,22,488 at the secondary level.

Many factors contribute to high dropout rates, including poverty, lack of access to quality education, lack of support from families and communities, and social and cultural norms prioritizing other activities over education. Addressing these factors requires a comprehensive approach involving schools, educators, families, communities, and policymakers.

Efforts to reduce dropout rates include improving the quality of education, providing financial support to students and families, creating supportive learning environments, and addressing social and cultural barriers to education. Working together can help more students stay in school and achieve their full potential.

In India, quality and value education are the real needs of the hour to raise educational standards, ensuring every child and student completes their higher education to compete in the global market.

The country's future depends on a quality and value-based education provided in every school, which plays a significant role in student education. Education administrators are more responsible for promoting policies that integrate schools, communities, and nations into a system that supports the development of the whole child, ensuring that each student is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged.

Since its commencement of services in rural areas in 2011, PARD INDIA has been raising the voices of millions of V-kids who do not have access to quality of education to compete in the competitive world. We are committed to working towards the agenda of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (**SDG4**) combined with the Indian value system in education to ensure inclusive and equitable quality and value education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all students by 2030.

## 2. Essence of Education

People learn society's basic norms, rules, regulations, and values through education. Education is the most essential tool for the betterment of humanity and the development of modernization in civilization. In every government, education is considered the most critical pillar that holds the nation together and leads the state toward ultimate success.

Education is not simply a content delivery system but designed to help all children reach their full potential. Every child must be in school, and the quality of those schools must improve so that students are prepared to be productive citizens, ready to lead the future.

We must ensure that education is inclusive and structured to realize each child's potential regardless of location or economic status. Don't let the words change their meaning - **a quality & value education is needed for all.**

## 3. About Quality Education – SDG4

The meaning of quality education is pedagogically and developmentally sound and educates the student to become an active and productive member of society. A quality education provides the outcomes needed for individuals, communities, and organizations to prosper.

A quality education focuses on the whole child - each student's social, emotional, mental, physical, and cognitive development regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or geographic location. **It prepares the child for life, not just for testing.**

Quality education enables students to develop all their attributes and skills to achieve their potential as human beings and members of society. Quality education implies looking into what desirable changes the educational institution wants to make in each student. Achieving inclusive and quality education for all reaffirms the belief that **education is one of the most powerful and proven vehicles for sustainable development.**

There is no substitute for quality education for a country's overall economic, social, and moral prosperity. Only **quality education can build students into a skilled workforce** in

line with the international labor market. So, there is no compromise in providing quality education - the government must work on this policy.



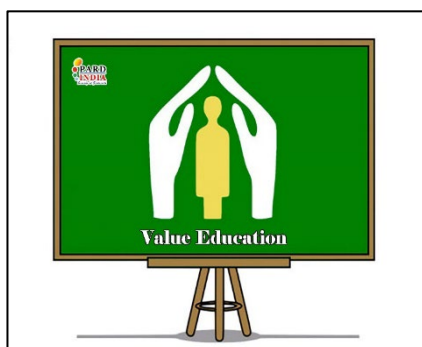
The most effective means of achieving Sustainable Development Goals is solely quality education. Quality education is one of 17 Global Goals that make up the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - **SDG Goal 4: Ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all.** Everyone has a role to play in improving the quality of education to meet the ambitions of the SDG4 by 2030. Governments, teachers, and schools have a vanguard role, along with parents, communities, and students.

#### 4. About Value Education

As we see, society is diminishing in terms of values daily. It is necessary to develop programs to inculcate values in society. Today's Indian youths are more confused because of the bombarding of new technological devices, information explosions, and violent news by the press & media. To teach the value system in their confused minds and make them value-oriented, educational institutions should take the initiative to impart value-based knowledge to this new generation. Imbibing the qualities of good conduct, self-confidence, and high moral values would help students earn a significant place in society.

**Education without values is like a flower without fragrance.** Students should realize that character building is equally essential as career building. A good character in life is the ultimate thing that stretches a person's self-realization. Values-based education aims to make the student work with the right attitude and standards to face the outside world.

A mere desire or aspiration to progress in life is not enough. **Success should be based on values.** And for that, value-based education must be imparted in today's educational institutions so that the students may emerge as exemplary leaders in their chosen fields.



Value Education means teaching and learning of ideals. The aim is for students to understand moral values and show good behavior and attitude towards society. Crime is increasing daily instead of the literacy rate in today's world.

Value-based education gives a positive direction to the students to shape their future and even helps them to know the purpose of their life.

It creates a robust learning environment that enhances academic attainment and develops students' social relationship skills throughout their lives. The aim is for students to understand the values and reflect them in their attitudes and behavior and contribute to society through good citizenship and ethics.

The explicit benefits of value education include the following:

- ✓ Cooperation in asking questions to teachers.
- ✓ Shows responsibility in doing homework.
- ✓ Increase capacity to work independently.
- ✓ Implement their learning in their practical life.
- ✓ Attentive in class.
- ✓ Helps students to make their own decisions.
- ✓ Develop healthy minds in them.
- ✓ Create a strong bond between teacher and students.

## 5. Salient Features of Quality & Value Education

Quality Education	Value Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free &amp; equitable access to education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive attitude to face the outside world</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate Infrastructure &amp; ICT facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Character Development</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective learning environment through qualified teachers and well-designed curriculum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personality Development</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equal access to the vulnerable and disabilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Thinking</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skill Development &amp; Employment to decent jobs in a global environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life skills</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation of parents &amp; local communities in the development of students and schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moral Values</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperity of individuals, communities, and societies towards sustainable development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empathy</li> </ul>

“Education is at the heart of both personal and community development.”

## 6. Need for Quality & Value Education in Schools

Ideally, school infrastructure consists of ambient buildings, furnished classrooms with benches and teaching aids, equipped laboratories, good playgrounds, gardens with flora and landscaping, permanent access roads, colorful boundary walls, well-maintained toilets, potable water, digital libraries, electricity and internet, auditorium, kitchens with drains and canteen, art, musical, first aid rooms, waste management facilities, etc.

Carefully planned school infrastructure is an out-and-out key factor for delivering quality & value-based education. School infrastructure facilities can profoundly impact teacher and student outcomes and affect students' health, behavior, engagement, learning, and growth. Strong evidence shows that quality infrastructure and value-based education improve student outcomes and reduce dropout rates.

A school needs to have proper premises to welcome children. When we compare primary schools that are corporate and government-owned, there is a significant difference between the infrastructure created among these schools. We see beautiful walls and posters, especially in the corporate schools' kindergarten and primary schools. For a child who does not get proper infrastructure at the primary education stage, the future of a child is affected negatively due to low morale from the beginning of school; this is where inequality in the upbringing of children exists in our society.



Although education policymakers are increasingly focusing on the quality of education, most primary and high schools in rural areas, even today, have no benches for children to sit and learn compared to the private & corporate schools where children use colorful bars.

There is a need for everyone to protect the rights of children and help them to realize their dreams. Collectively, we need to gather support from the government, corporate partners, and local communities to create necessary quality infrastructure in government-run schools in villages at par with corporate schools to improve competitiveness and education at the beginning of schooling.

In addressing the above issues, PARD INDIA has been undertaking a “Quality & Value Education Program” addressing the basic infrastructure needs of the children and, at the same time, promoting value education through various interactive sessions and specially designed initiatives in schools in rural areas through “**Inspiring Young Minds**” campaigns.

## 7. PARD INDIA Initiatives for Quality & Value Education at Grassroots

Over the years, PARD INDIA has been voicing for the creation of adequate school infrastructure in rural areas through the collective participation of local communities, youth, donors, elected representatives, government agencies, like-minded NGOs, and corporations through CSR collaboration. We have been working to transform the existing

school into “Swachh Vidyalaya” as part of the national campaign drive for 'Clean India: Clean Schools' through “Inspiring Young Minds” programs.



## 7.1 Initiatives under Quality Education

PARD INDIA has been supporting “**educational infrastructure**” and **WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene)** initiatives for improving quality education covering the following provisions in rural areas:

- 1) A well-built blackboard enables teachers to teach lessons that draw students' attention.
- 2) Benches and desks for all children in primary and high schools provide a conducive learning environment.
- 3) Good Access Roads inside the school connecting with the main gate to be free from walking on dirty mud, especially during the rainy season.
- 4) A well-painted boundary wall with colorful pictures and inspirational quotes.
- 5) Separate store rooms and kitchens for serving mid-day meals to children; all such activities should not interfere with classroom teaching.
- 6) Potable water for drinking and cooking; water quality to be tested periodically.
- 7) Separate canteen or shelter for serving the meals to the students.
- 8) Service water for hand washing, toilets, and gardening purposes.
- 9) Adequate, separate toilets and separate sanitary facilities for boys, girls, and teaching staff.
- 10) Toilets are to be provided with overhead water tanks for drawing running water and proper sanitation to keep facilities clean.
- 11) Drain the network with necessary sanitation to drain kitchen waste and sewage water significantly.
- 12) Garbage bins inside the schools for waste management, including creating compost pits for generating manure from vegetable and plant waste.
- 13) Provide electrification, lights, and fans in every school room.





## 7.2 Initiatives under Value Education

A school is a place where children spend most of their time, and they get to learn many positive values in life. The school is a model of the world, so value-based education aims to nourish the learners with moral values and virtues based on which their actions will reflect their behavior. So, by educating the children with value education, we are creating a better world for tomorrow to live in.



PARD INDIA undertakes the following major initiatives in schools promoting value-based education:

- ✓ **Inspiring Young Minds**
- ✓ Celebrating Significant National & International Days
- ✓ Sports & Games
- ✓ Cultural Programs
- ✓ Drawing & Painting
- ✓ Essay Writing & Elocution
- ✓ Character Building.
- ✓ Personality Development.
- ✓ Making Global Citizens

## 8. Support Us & Stay as “An Agent of Change”

- ✚ Support our Campaign “**Inspiring Young Minds**”
- ✚ Join our Campaign “**Build a Temple of School**”
- ✚ Donate to our “**V-kid Educational Fund**”
- ✚ Contribute to our “**Corpus Fund**”

## 9. Further Reading

- UNICEF School Design and Construction: [A web-based compendium of resource materials](#)
- UNICEF 2013: [WASH in Schools Empowers Girls' Education](#)
- UNICEF: [Clean-India-Clean-Schools](#)
- Ministry of HRD: [Swachh-Vidyalaya](#)
- UNESCO: [Value Education](#)
- UN: [SDG Goal 4: Quality Education](#)

*"It is the role of policymakers, government representatives, citizens, local communities, and parents to make sure that every child attends a school that has access to quality & value education; this is every child's right."*



*"There is a difference between city and village student not in terms of brain or development but their initial environment, skills, learning ability, availability of infrastructure and access to quality education."*

*"Education without values is like a flower without fragrance."*