



NOTIFICATION

CBSE/ACAD/EO/PR/2014

Notification No. 20
Dated: 1st April 2014

All the Heads of Schools
Affiliated to CBSE

WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY 2014

WEDNESDAY 02nd April 2014



The Autism Awareness Ribbon

The puzzle pattern of this ribbon reflects the mystery and complexity of autism.
The different colors and shapes represents the diversity of people and families living with this disorder.
The brightness of this ribbon signals hope - hope through research and increasing awareness in people like you.

The CBSE, in its vision of an inclusive Education, the definition of a good educational programme depends upon the needs of the individual child. Thus, while there are certain elements that are likely to be positive for any child with or without autism, it is essential for mainstream and special-needs schools to build their students' skills based on the his or her individual strengths and challenges.

DO YOU KNOW...

- Some autistic children may never learn to speak while others may use speech inappropriately and not understand the social conventions of language. Some autistic children also show heightened sensitivity to many things, including light, texture and certain foods. Furthermore, individuals with autism often have difficulty in social attachments, even with family members. They may not show emotion, make eye contact, respond to their name or engage in normal social play with others. As a result, people often perceive autistic children to be ***"in their own world"***.
- The majority of autistic children generally have higher non-verbal than verbal IQs. However, these scores have to be interpreted with caution because these children are often hard to test (*Schreibmann, 1988*). Furthermore a well-known study showed that 9.8% of their autistic sample displayed extraordinary abilities known as ***"savants"*** (*Rimland in Comer, 1992*). This group possesses a specific brilliance which is out of proportion to the individual's general level of functioning and has been documented in all areas, including unusual musical, mechanical, artistic or mathematical skills. Often family members are not aware of where or how their autistic children may have picked up this skill.

Therefore, all School Heads are directed to conduct literary/cultural programmes/workshops / lectures in their schools to observe **AUTISM AWARENESS WEEK 2014**, starting 2nd April 2014, to raise awareness about the disorder among their staff and students. Photographs and reports of these events may be submitted for possible inclusion in the board's Quarterly / Bi-annual Bulletins.

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