

CLE Trust: Fundraising Story

About CLE Trust and our Vision

We, Centre for Learning & Empowerment (CLE Trust), conduct free learning programs for underprivileged children. We started in early 2020 with 2 physical classes in Bangalore. After the onset of pandemic, we began reaching out to children in various parts of India by collaborating with local NGOs offering free online courses. From 2 courses and 30 children in April-May 2020, we have slowly but steadily increased to 17 courses and over 200 children in July 2021.

In this experience of the past one year, we have put in place essential processes to assure selection of good quality teachers, smooth conduct of courses, and high student engagement during sessions. Effectiveness of our approach is evident in the positive feedback we receive from the children and local NGO coordinators. Although our present scale is small, we are confident to scale up and provide free learning programs to many more children from weak socio-economic background.

Our vision is to reach out to as many underprivileged children as possible in all parts of India, and provide them good quality and creative learning programs that cover a wide set of subjects and productive skills. With these programs, we would like the children to develop interest for the subjects/skills and access better educational and economic opportunities.

The next section provides details of our current programs. The last section outlines the goals we have set for the next one year and the funds we wish to raise to achieve the same.

Our Present Programs

At present, we are conducting 17 courses (16 online and 1 physical), taught by 17 teachers to over 200 children, at 9 different locations in 5 states of India. We run these courses in collaboration with local NGOs that work with disadvantaged communities and their children in different parts of India. The local NGO takes responsibility for getting a group of children in a classroom and arranging for internet and projection system. We (CLE) select teachers and conduct courses in subjects/skills that the children need the most. We assure good quality learning for children by the following means:

- Selecting teachers who have both talent and passion to teach children, know the native language of children, and adopt creative teaching methods. In the past one year we have pleasantly discovered that, since teachers' location is no longer a constraint, it is relatively easy to find high quality and passionate teachers. This is probably the biggest advantage of online learning for underprivileged children, who otherwise do not often get good teachers locally.
- Organising regular exchange of feedback between teachers, local NGO coordinators and children.
- Working with local NGOs to ensure that a basic infrastructure of internet, laptops and projection system is in place and there is a local coordinator to assist during the sessions. This ensures that the online sessions on Zoom run smoothly, and the teachers and children see each other and interact actively.

The following table lists the courses we conduct, children's backgrounds, locations and local NGOs with whom we collaborate today.

Location & State	Children's Age Group and Background	Batch Size	Subjects/Skills Taught by CLE	Local Coordinating NGO
Nagapattinam (rural), Tamil Nadu	14-17 years Children of nomadic tribal communities	15	Mathematics English language	Vanavil
Nagapattinam (rural), Tamil Nadu	10-13 years Children of nomadic tribal communities	25	Mathematics and mathematical thinking	Vanavil
Alleppey (rural), Kerala	16-19 years Children of tribal and small farmer communities	15	Mathematics English language and communication	Lokuttara
Bengaluru (urban), Karnataka	10-13 years Children of slum dwelling families	12	Mathematics Science	Sparsha
Gadag (rural), Karnataka	10-13 years Children of small farmer and landless labourer families	15	Mathematics and mathematical thinking English language and communication	Sankalpa Rural Development Society
Khurai (semi-urban), Imphal, Manipur	8-12 years Children of slum dwelling families	8	Mathematics and mathematical thinking English language and communication	Individual social workers
Guwahati, Assam	13-16 years Children of tribal and farmer families	10	Mathematics English language and communication	Parijat Academy
Kanpur (semi-urban), Uttar Pradesh	10-14 years Children of migrant landless labourers from Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand	19	Mathematics English language and communication	Apna Ghar, Asha Trust
Kanpur (semi-urban), Uttar Pradesh	15-18 years Children of migrant landless labourers from Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand	14	Mathematics English language and communication	Apna Ghar, Asha Trust
Raja Talab, Varanasi (rural), Uttar Pradesh	10-11 years Children of saree weaving communities	19	English language and communication	Asha Samajik School, Lok Samiti
Raja Talab, Varanasi (rural), Uttar Pradesh	11-13 years Children of saree weaving communities	26	English language and communication	Asha Samajik School, Lok Samiti
Raja Talab, Varanasi (rural), Uttar Pradesh	13-14 years Children of saree weaving communities	20	English language and communication	Asha Samajik School, Lok Samiti
Lucknow (urban), Uttar Pradesh	9-15 years Children of families living in EWS (economically weak sections) colony	21	English language and communication	Individual social workers
Lucknow (semi-urban), Uttar Pradesh	14-16 years Children of landless labourer and small farmer families	38	Mathematics and mathematical thinking English language and communication	Astha Kiran

Centre for Learning & Empowerment (CLE Trust)

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CLE team:

Present Teachers: Aruna, Bhama, Bhaskar, Bhooma, Gaurav, Karman, Ketan, Latha, Leela, Manohar, Nandita, Nuzha, Priyanaaz, Rashmi, Sanjivni, Seerat, Thenmozhi, Vidya, Yafrin

Mentor for physical classes in North Bangalore: Rajesh

Coordinators: Imtiaz & Rasheeda (admin and operations), Leela (academics)

Trustees: Rahul, Pushpa, Adithya

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Social media handles:

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/cletrust?igshid=va19ech1yfpw>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/cletrust?s=21>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CLETrust/>

Website: www.cletrust.org

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