

Let's have a conversation!

Monthly dialogue with parents of Bal Bharatians on student-centric issues



Bal Bharati
PUBLIC SCHOOL

Dear Parent,

Every month, we seek views, ideas and suggestions from you, on various topics that are important for the progress and well-being of your child. Parents' inputs are invaluable in helping us shape the school's policies and practices to better serve the needs of our students.

Here we are featuring some of the thought-provoking responses to the topic of the month.



TOPIC

How can we help our students prepare for their future careers, and what resources or guidance would help parents in this effort?

To help students prepare for their future careers, I believe orientation sessions should be conducted for self-assessment where students can explore their strengths and weaknesses. Accordingly, mentorship programmes can be organised to connect them to experts, and help them build a network to gain awareness and seek guidance.

- **Manpreet Kaur**, Mother of Shanaya, Class VI, BBPS GRH Marg

Parents and educators play a crucial role in helping students build the capabilities necessary to succeed in a rapidly changing world. Here are a few ways we can support our children:

1. **Identifying aptitude:** Encourage them to explore different career paths by shadowing professionals, doing internships, or even talking to people working in careers they are interested in. Personality tests can help them better understand their strengths and interests.
2. **Skill development:** It's important for kids to learn both technical skills (like coding or graphic design) and soft skills (such as communication and teamwork). Look for workshops or online courses that teach skills like public speaking, resume writing etc.
3. **Educational pathways:** Help them choose the right courses or cocurricular activities that match their career goals. It's also a good idea to talk about different education options.
4. **Networking opportunities:** Encourage them to join clubs, attend events, or get involved in activities where they can meet people in their field of interest. Connecting with peers and professionals can open doors to new opportunities.

- **Hemant Patel**, Father of Nishant, Class VII, BBPS Jhanor

In helping students prepare for their future careers, schools, parents, and professionals must work together. Schools can offer internships, mentorship programmes, and hands-on experiences. Students need to develop critical skills like problem solving, communication, and adaptability. Parents play a big role by encouraging curiosity and exposing students to real-world experiences. Online platforms like LinkedIn Learning and Coursera offer valuable courses. Career counseling, job shadowing, and resume-building workshops also help. Collaboration is key. When educators, parents, and professionals work together, students receive comprehensive guidance, helping them pursue fulfilling careers.

- **Dr Jaya Barve**, Mother of Jaiteshvar, Class V, BBPS Khargone

Schools should prepare students for future careers through a comprehensive and collaborative approach that includes career education, skill development, and experiential learning. Teachers should be the first to be trained on new developments in various fields to motivate and engage students. Schools should integrate career exploration into the curriculum, offer internships, and organise events like career fairs to foster robust awareness of diverse career pathways. Emphasis should be placed on cultivating critical thinking, technical proficiency, and essential soft skills. Guidance counsellors should support both students and parents by offering valuable career planning resources, including guidance on university and professional college options.

- **Dr Sachin Sethi**, Father of Akul, Class X, BBPS Manesar

आज के प्रतिस्पर्धी दौर में छात्रों के करियर निर्माण में माता-पिता की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण है। सबसे पहले, वे बच्चों की रुचि और क्षमता को पहचानें और पारंपरिक करियर के अलावा नए विकल्पों जैसे आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस, डेटा साइंस, डिजिटल मार्केटिंग और एंटरप्रेन्योरशिप पर भी विचार करें। बच्चों को प्रेरित करें, आत्मविश्वास बढ़ाएं और असफलताओं को सीखने का अवसर मानने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करें। समय प्रबंधन, संचार कौशल, निर्णय लेने और टीम वर्क जैसी जीवन कौशल विकसित करने में सहायता करें। ऑनलाइन कोर्सेज, करियर काउंसलिंग, वेबिनार और इंटरनेशिप जैसे संसाधनों का उपयोग करें। स्कूलों में करियर गाइडेंस कार्यक्रमों में भाग लें और विशेषज्ञों से परामर्श लें। सबसे महत्वपूर्ण यह कि बच्चों के साथ संवाद बनाए रखें, उनकी चिंताओं को समझें और उन्हें असफलता से सीखकर आगे बढ़ने के लिए प्रेरित करें। सही मार्गदर्शन और समर्थन से हम अपने बच्चों को एक सफल और संतोषजनक करियर की ओर ले जा सकते हैं।

- **Binita Dubey**, Mother of Varsha, Class IX, BBPS Nabinagar

To help students prepare for their future careers, and provide parents with the necessary resources and guidance to support their children's career endeavours, the following strategies could be considered:

FOR STUDENTS:

1. **Career assessments:** Offer career assessments to identify students' interests, skills, and values.
2. **Career exploration:** Provide opportunities for students to explore various career options.
3. **Mentorship:** Pair students with mentors from industries they're interested in.

FOR PARENTS:

1. **Career resources:** Share career resources like online platforms, books, and articles to help parents guide their children.
2. **Career counseling:** Offer career counseling services for parents to help them support their children's career decisions.
3. **Parent-Teacher conferences:** Use PTM to discuss students' career aspirations and create a plan to support them.
4. **Career workshops:** Host career workshops for parents to educate them on various career paths and the skills required.

- **Neha Rathore**, Mother of Itisha, Class I, BBPS Neelbad

How many parents think beyond JEE or NEET exams to secure the future of their child? In a marks-obsessed country like ours, with very tough competition to get into the prestigious institutes, the stakes are quite high and the pressure is immense. To look beyond the conventional careers, it is important to do proper research and explore the prospects of various career options, both by parents and children. We should remember that each child is unique, with their own set of aspirations and strengths. Parents cannot live out their aspirations and dreams through their children. On their part, the school could conduct joint career counselling sessions with parents and students, with professionals from different industries being invited to share their experiences with the children. The school could also develop a platform where students can interact with the alumni, helping them to learn about the career paths taken by their seniors, and the ways in which they handled their various challenges.

- **Shalini Gautam**, Mother of Ishani, Class X, BBPS Noida

The job market is constantly evolving, requiring students to be agile thinkers and problem solvers. One of the best ways to prepare them is through project-based learning. By engaging students in real-world tasks - such as video creation, website development, or managing a school social media page under teacher supervision - they learn how to apply academic concepts practically. Such experiences enhance teamwork, communication, and leadership skills, which are valuable across industries. Additionally, incorporating experiential learning - such as coding projects, science fairs, and design challenges - fosters creativity and adaptability. By combining classroom learning with real-world applications, students will gain the confidence to navigate future career challenges successfully. Schools and parents can collaborate by encouraging exploration, self-learning, and participation in hands-on projects, ensuring students are well-prepared for the future.

- **Anjali Gupta**, Mother of Ananya, Class VII, BBPS Pitampura

For proper career planning, students need to begin by evaluating their interests, values, skills, and personality traits with the help of career and personality assessment tools. A thorough self-appraisal helps students understand their strengths and areas of improvement, which is critical for making well-informed career choices. Evaluating different career options and deciding which one aligns best with the student's personal goals and interests is a collective responsibility of the parent and the school. From secondary classes onwards, the school should organise sessions for students with experts from various fields, along with customised counselling to enable both students and parents to explore and gather various career prospects.

- **Sanjay Vikramraj Rajmane**, Father of Tejasvi, Class IX, BBPS Ratnagiri

As a mother, I understand that preparing children for their future careers involves more than just academic success. The world today is competitive, and it is essential for children to be exposed to a variety of career options from an early age. Parents have a crucial role to play by engaging in meaningful conversations, encouraging involvement in skill-building activities, internships and online courses. Emotional well-being is just as important - children need to learn resilience, stress management, and effective communication. By utilising both traditional and digital resources, parents and educators can work together to empower children to make informed career choices and reach their full potential.

- **Nisha Thakur**, Mother of Ojasvi, Class IX, BBPS Solan

TOPIC
FOR THE
NEXT MONTH

How can we teach children to cope with stress and challenges, and develop resilience to handle difficult situations?

Share with us your frank views about the topic. There is no correct or incorrect answer. All responses will help us in making the journey of our students more productive and joyful.