



A unit of Sringeri Sri Sharada Peetham Charitable Trust



*V-Excel Educational Trust*

An NGO providing lifespan services to individuals with special needs

*Embracing Differences*

## About Us

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V-Excel Educational Trust came into being because of a dream of Dr.Vasudha Prakash, a social entrepreneur with a doctorate in Special Education. She is also a veteran educator and a professional counsellor. Her dream was to bring about a positive change in the field of special education and teacher training. She aspired to create a space for individuals with special needs where they could grow and spread their wings, a space where they could soar high, knowing always that the ground beneath them was warm and welcoming.

Incepted in 2001, V-Excel today stands as a humane, child-focused, quality-conscious, non-profit, non-religious, non-discriminatory organisation headquartered in Chennai, India. We provide lifespan services, from early intervention to vocational programs, to individuals with special needs.

At V-Excel, we believe that every individual with special needs has come to this world for a special purpose; it is our responsibility to serve and care for him and see that his purpose is discovered in our journey together. We believe that in building communities of trust with children, parents, educators, doctors, therapists, friends, neighbours and counsellors, we can create ripples of awareness in society. We have a team of dedicated motivated and committed people, who have a child-centric approach and serve in the best interests of the child. Our goal is to empower individuals and their families in our care to engage meaningfully with life and community.

***The cover art work and quotations within the brochure have been created and written by our students and trainees in the Autism Spectrum.***

## Our Programs and Services

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- **Academy of Teacher Excellence (ATE)** offers a year-long Diploma program in Special Education and short-term courses on various topics in special education and disabilities. We also provide teacher development workshops to various schools.
  - **Early Intervention Program** is focused on children aged 0 to 7 years with an aim of understanding their early developmental challenges and providing them timely and appropriate intervention.
  - **Kaleidoscope Learning Centre** is a special school dedicated to serving the varied needs of the growing number of children with developmental disabilities. The Curative Education curriculum followed in the school is based on Rudolf Steiner's indications on child development and education.
  - **V-Excel Assessment and Counseling Center** conducts various types of assessments and provides counseling services to children, parents, teachers, adults and the community at large.
  - **V-Excel Remedial Center (VRC)** provides remedial services to children who find it difficult to cope with the mainstream school syllabus. Students are provided one-on-one training to enhance their study skills and to address their lags and difficulties.
  - **Vocational Training Unit** is a jointly run unit by V-Excel and ESVI Sarada Foundation, focusing on life skills, vocational skill development and inclusive employment for empowering adolescents and young adults with special needs.
  - **Youth Empowerment Services (YES)**, a collaborative endeavour between V-Excel and Dr. Sudhir Krishnamurthi, is a focussed vocational training and placement unit catering to young adults with special needs.
  - **Satellite Centers:** are the outreach programs of V-Excel. These centres are located in Tier II towns and rural areas with an aim to increase accessibility of special education services to children and young adults with disabilities.
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## Academy of Teacher Excellence (ATE)

To be in service of this very challenging group of individuals, requires very special human qualities, disposition and skills. To create, develop and refresh these specialised teachers with ongoing training and inspiration the ATE runs training programs and offers training solutions for teachers, therapists, counsellors, parents, caregivers. ATE also is committed to facilitating mainstream school teachers with inclusion of special children in their classrooms.

ATE receives much of its inspiration from the works of Rudolf Steiner and Waldorf Education.

### The courses are divided into:

1. Waldorf based courses - modular; spiralling levels, scheduled for a year .
2. Affiliations with other organisations - providing training to different schools, content for different courses in colleges, programs for communities dealing with care of children.
3. Short term courses - orientation and introductory courses for parents, volunteers, non teaching staff, care givers, activities for siblings serving to sensitise people who serve special needs.
4. Mainstream courses - long term and short term courses with affiliations to different universities, RCI, on different aspects of special education.



*“The best teachers I have seen are the ones who are willing to learn and unlearn, never reaching perfection for then they remain truly striving.”*

*–Sabari*

## Early Intervention

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V-Excel's Early Intervention Center provides services to children in the age group of 0-7 years who have developmental delays. The programs are dynamic and are designed to address each child's developmental needs. Children who have significant delays in sensory, neuro-muscular (gross- and fine- motor) skills, speech, language, and cognitive development benefit from these programs. The focus is mainly on working with the physical development aspects represented by touch, well-being, movement and balance.

### Services Offered:

- Assessment/Screening
- Intervention program
- School readiness
- Inclusion into mainstream schools
- Parent counselling
- Parent training
- Home programs



*"To little children, myself I know-  
Home is where the heart is...  
They belong to movement and play  
And freedom within boundaries..."*  
-Keshav

# Kaleidoscope Learning Center

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Kaleidoscope Learning Center (KLC) is a special school where a child is celebrated, for who he is and what he brings. Curative Education believes that individuality is integral to every human being. It may be at times housed in a body which offers resistance and has weak health-giving forces. This child may not be able to express himself through his thoughts words and actions in the same way as neurotypical children do. With a curriculum based on Rudolf Steiner's indications, KLC is a place where children are deeply observed and given space to unfurl as individuals beyond their symptoms and with their own unique destinies.

## Program offered:

- A multi-disciplinary program through a collaboration of educators, therapists, counsellors and a school doctor.
- Education based on the Waldorf Pedagogy which supports the child's physical and socio-emotional development.
- A Kindergarten which nurtures the senses and lays a foundation for learning, social, communication and practical life skills.
- A Grade School which integrates movement, arts, music and practical work with rich age-appropriate stories, subjects and skills.
- A vocational program which focuses on independence, life skills, vocational and practical activities while inculcating self-awareness, expression and interest.
- Health-giving education that involves working with diet, rhythm and family support.
- Education founded on love and a deep, trusting relationship between children and teachers.



*"Our music speaks of brotherhood  
Life breathes joy  
I feel love around me,  
In the hearts of every girl and boy"  
-Sreya*

# Counseling and Assessment Services

This service is integral to all V-Excel programs. The Counseling department offers verbal counseling along with eclectic therapeutic activities like art, music, movement and play. Such services are provided to our children based on their individual needs and are also extended to parents, siblings and grandparents. Behavioral modification guidance is provided for parents to address issues faced at home.

## Services offered:

### Inter-organizational:

- Consultations
- Individual and group play, music and art therapy
- Individual counseling
- Life skills training
- Preparing for transition to work placement
- Parent counseling
- Teacher mentorship

### Extra-organizational:

For children:

- Consultations to assess developmental and learning issues
- Assessments in academic and learning areas
- Play, art and music therapy
- Counseling for behavioural and emotional issues
- Life skills and study skills training

For adults:

- Family, pre-marital and marriage counseling
- Psychotherapy and counseling for emotional and behavioural issues
- Counseling for building self-confidence and life skills
- Corporate counseling desks
- Teacher training



*"No words may speak, what true hearts tell  
I know you trust that  
When in silence I smile  
As you call my name."  
-Aravind Karthik*

## V-Excel Remedial Center

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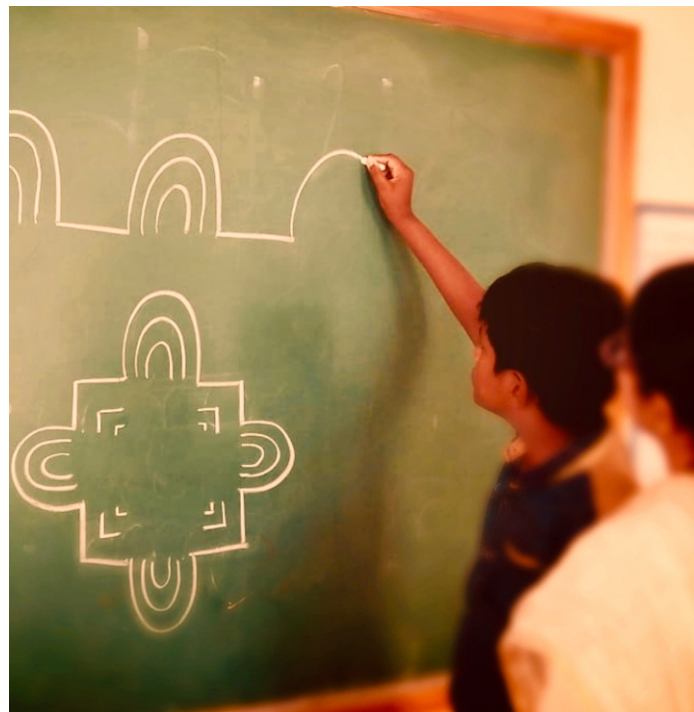
V-Excel's Remedial Centre caters to children aged 7-18 who find it difficult to cope with academic and performance pressures due to learning problems.

The programs focus on optimizing every student's potential. These skill-based programs are individualized and are provided on a one-on-one basis to every child.

V-Excel sets up resource rooms at different educational institutions where identified students can get customized remedial intervention at their own school premises. V-Excel also associates with schools catering to children from low income backgrounds to offers them ongoing support.

### Services offered:

- Formal and informal diagnostic assessment
- Remedial tutoring
- Intensive instruction on language and math skills
- Intensive remediation for children and young adults with special needs as part of readiness programs
- Specialized instruction for students with learning difficulties.
- Integrated counselling, play therapy and occupational therapy



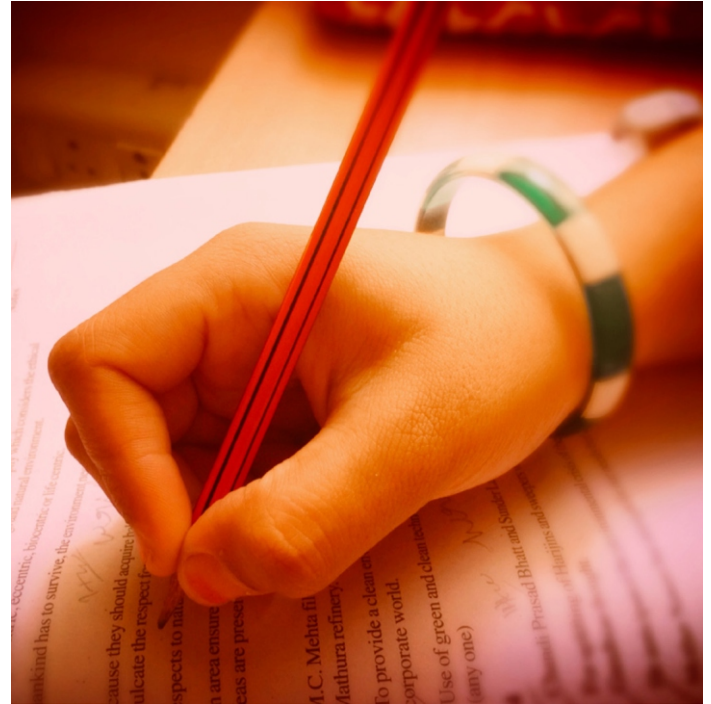
*" A kind heart, a watchful eye  
You understand me well,  
And myself I find..."  
-Vafir*

## Bridges Learning Academy (BLA)

Bridges Learning Academy was started with an objective of helping children who aspire to attain academic qualifications through non-traditional sources. These programs also address the need for basic functional academics to facilitate development of children who choose to pursue a vocational career path. BLA offers individualized school programs to its students and appropriate interventions, after their formal assessment and IQ testing are done. These full-time classroom programs are facilitated by qualified/trained teachers in NIOS and Samcheer Kalvi (Tamil Nadu State Board Curriculum)

### Target group:

- Children with Specific Learning Difficulties (SLD)
- School dropouts (any grade)
- Out-of-school children
- Students planning to pursue NIOS
- Students struggling to cope



# Vocational Training Unit

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The Vocational Training Unit, run in partnership with ESVI Sarada Foundation, educates and empowers young adults with special needs towards inclusive employment and to lead dignified, successful lives in mainstream society. We enroll young persons with special needs, typically in age group of 16- 24 years. While independence in basic personal hygiene is desired, prior formal education is not mandatory.

The training comprises of two components:

- a) Foundation program which focuses on functional academics as well as skill development towards different vocations.
- b) Vocational program which emphasizes intensive development in identified vocational areas.

## Program Offered:

- A holistic curriculum comprising of
  - Life skills
  - Soft skills
  - Occupational therapy
  - Counselling
  - Movement, music, games
  - Yoga
- Vocational training offered in
  - Tailoring
  - Production of low-cost sanitary napkins
  - Papier-mâché products
  - Jute weaving
  - Table-top looms
  - Block printing
  - Paper bag making
  - Other assembly line work
- Basic foundational training in hospitality and front-office skills



*“When my hand learn,  
that tearing could be constructive,  
When my fingers deftly move,  
I feel a little less destructive...”  
– Chinmay*

# Youth Empowerment Services

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Youth Empowerment Services (YES), a collaborative endeavour between V-Excel and Dr. Sudhir Krishnamurthi, is a vocational development training and placement unit. It caters to young adults with special needs, aged 17+, where the primary focus is on training and empowering them in different vocational activities, life skills, social skills, placements and independent living. The vocations are pragmatic and structured to foster mainstream placements, social inclusion and financial independence.

## Programs offered:

- Training in different vocations such as
  - Printing and documentation
  - Corporate gifting
  - Baking and culinary skills
  - Hospitality and housekeeping
  - Laundry
  - Weaving, arts and crafts
  - Front- and back-office skills
  - Computer skills
- Internships and placements
- On-the-job training
- Assessments
- Counselling
- Therapies
- Yoga and physical fitness training



*"I learnt that, beyond it all-  
When my hands created food of love, there  
was no longer incapability in me."  
-Shiva Sachien*

## Satellite Centers

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### Nashik

The Center at Nashik is the first satellite wing of V-Excel Educational Trust and was set up in April 2011 to provide inter-disciplinary care to children and young adults with disabilities. It caters to a wide range of intellectual and developmental disabilities. The programs range from early intervention, a special school for autism, intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, a skill development center for slow-learners, a remedial and therapy center, and a pre-voc and vocational training center.

The vision of the Nashik center is to develop a model multi-dimensional center for all categories of children and young adults with disabilities.

### Erode

The center in Erode opened in September 2012 thanks, largely, to the initiative taken by one of the parents from the Early Intervention unit. The center offers early Intervention and remedial services to children with developmental delays and special learning needs. A pre-vocational program leading to vocational program is also offered. The center is professionally staffed and has all the necessary equipment for occupational therapy and sensory integration.

### Solapur

Associated with Janiv Jagruti Parent Association, the programs in Solapur cover Early Intervention and Vocational Training of special children. Training is provided in all basic skill areas with an objective of getting children ready for inclusive schools. The growth plan of the center is to enhance its vocational training activities, focus on household industries and to set up a group home for children and parents.



*"Its so good to know that even  
through distance and space  
Our brotherhood stands strong,  
in love, in joy, in faith."  
-Amruth*

## Satellite Centers

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### Pollachi

Outreach Remedial Center, a joint undertaking of V-Excel and Outreach Educational and Charitable Trust, Pollachi, was started with a vision to reach out to the community and to be a service provider for children with special needs. Operations began in September 2017 with a free medical camp to assess children with learning disabilities. Now, the center's remedial intervention programs focus on children who have learning difficulty or disability and associated disorders like ADD/ADHD. The center also works on various behavioral problems among children and strives to develop in each child, self-esteem and respect for others, and an appreciation for his/her own unique gifts and talents.

### Tirunelveli

Our center in Tirunelveli opened in April 2011 under the aegis of the Sri Sringeri Sri Sharada Peetham. It serves students with learning difficulties and developmental disabilities.

The center aims to provide lifespan services from Early Intervention to Vocational Training through which the individuals as well as their families can be supported. The center is also actively involved in creating awareness in rural areas about disabilities.

### Srirangam

Abhyasa Kendra is a joint undertaking of V-Excel Educational Trust and Kinchitkaram Trust. Incepted in 2015, the Vocational Training unit has today made a mark as one of the reputed centers of its kind in Srirangam.

The goal of this unit is to lead young adults with special needs to the threshold of dignified living. It also focuses on empowering these young adults by making them employable or employing them to make them independent. The center also offers remedial services for children with special needs aged 5 to 14 years.

### Anandam Learning Center

The center was started as a project by the Trustees of Anandam Old Age Home, under the guidance of V-Excel. Anandam Learning Centre caters to children from underprivileged communities in and around Kallikuppam and Ambattur. Children identified as having learning difficulties are given remedial help and other therapies in the resource center set up in Anandam's premises. Special educators, trained under V-Excel work effectively with these children.

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## Other Locations

Anna Street, Gangai Nagar,  
Kallikuppam,  
Ambattur Chennai - 600 053  
Mob: +91-98418 19889

25/124, Meenakshi Sundaram Street,  
Thirunagar Colony,  
Erode - 638 003  
Tel: +91-424-226 6068

Door No. 110/11, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor,  
Murugappa Complex,  
Pollachi - 642 001  
Mob: +91-94891 71969 / 98422 88644

12, Srinivasa Nagar, 4<sup>th</sup> Cross,  
Tiruvanaikoil,  
Srirangam, Tiruchirapalli - 620 005  
Tel: +91-75500 88111

D-5/1, C Colony,  
Perumalpuram,  
Tirunelveli - 627 007  
Tel: +91-462-400 1668

Kanchan Bungalow, 16 Sheetal Society,  
Opp. Shankar Nagar Bus Stop, Takli Phata Road, Dwarka,  
Nashik - 422 011  
Tel: +91-253-250 5371  
Mob: +91-98222 06337

Plot No: 6, Shan Vijay Society, Near City Care Hospital,  
Nasardi Bridge, Pune Road,  
Nashik - 422 011  
Mob: +91-72185 01516

#7, Kalyani Park No. 2, Near Ryan International School,  
DGP Nagar No. 1, Vadala,  
Nashik - 422 006  
Mob: +91-98222 06337

A-20, Indira Nagar, Vijapur Road,  
Solapur - 413 003  
Tel: +91-217-230 5526  
Mob: +91-99752 62099

A-25 Indira Nagar, Vijapur Road,  
Solapur - 413 003  
Tel: +91-217-230 5526  
Mob: +91-94202 63168

## Other locations outside India

### Academic Concepts, Inc.

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NJ 08816  
USA  
Tel: +1 (732) 619-7944  
info@academicconcepts.org  
www.academicconcepts.org  
501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. Tax ID: 22-3632715



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Philanthropist &  
Former Chief Compliance Officer  
i-flex Solutions Ltd.

**Smt. B. Sundari**  
Co-founder  
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**Dr. Rubina Lal**  
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**Prof. Anand Jagadeesan**  
Partner  
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*The children of the sun we hold as our center  
And learn to hold hands with each other.  
By building communities of true faith,  
We hope to create on earth, a joy filled trusting space*

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#### Centers :

Ambattur | Erode | Nashik | Polachi | Solapur | Srirangam | Tirunelveli