

Swami Vivekananda Vidyalaya

Lodhar Village, Near IIT Kanpur
Uttar Pradesh



Project Proposal
April 2019-March 2020

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of the parent organization	Jagriti Bal Vikas Samiti (JBVS)
Contact	Mahendra Verma (mkv@iitk.ac.in): School Coordinator
Other contacts	Madhav Ranganathan (madhavr@iitk.ac.in): Secretary, JBVS Prabal K Maiti (prabalmaiti@gmail.com): President, JBVS Annpurna Dixit (annapurna4201@gmail.com): Principal, Swami Vivekananda Vidyalaya
Address	Jagriti Bal Vikas Samiti Village: Lodhar, Po. Mandhana Distt: Kanpur U.P. INDIA
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Part I: Information about your group/organization and school

1. **Name of the group/organization requesting funds.**

Jagriti Bal Vikas Samiti, Kanpur.

Organization website - <https://sites.google.com/site/jbvsamiti/>

School website - <https://sites.google.com/view/svvlodhar/>

School blog – <http://svvlodhar.blogspot.in/>

School Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/svvlodhar/>

Tablet website - <https://sites.google.com/site/svvtab/home>

2. **The group established** (Registered) in 1997 under The Societies Registration Act.

3. **Non-education related community development activities.**

The group is involved in several community development activities benefiting the society at large:

- Health related activities: health awareness programs, health camps, immunization programs, health-related video shows, family planning, first aid and free medicines.
- Counselling and computer training program in village school at Lodhar for older students.
- Vocational training in painting, book binding, handicrafts.

- Evening after-school library for village community.
4. **FCRA clearance from the Indian government and requirements for us to receive foreign funds**
 Details: FCRA Registration No. 136530060, dated: 29 November 2001, through letter No. II/21022/73(146)/2001-FCRA.III
 On 20.05.2016 we have received the renewed certificate, valid for a period of five years with effect from 01-11-2016.
 5. **The School run by our group and its location.**
 - Swami Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Lodhar, Kanpur. **We are requesting funding for this school in the present proposal.**
 6. **Location of school/s:**
 Rural (Close to an urban area but still quite remote).
 7. **About our teaching techniques (conventional vs. alternative).**

We use innovative teaching techniques to impart effective education. It is hands-on and interactive where the emphasis is on learning by doing. For instance, children conduct science experiments, make maps of their school and village, visit nearby farms and fields to collect samples of soil, seeds, flowers, roots, insects etc. We hold science workshops (on human body, digestive system, skeleton system) where children make models with the help of junk strewn around in the surrounding like broken bottles, electric bulbs, pvc pipes, wires etc. and learn various concepts. As part of our annual Social Science event children make very interesting charts depicting various aspects of India and the Indian culture, different states of India and their salient features. We have ten computers with internet connectivity that are used by children. Children are using apps for many topics on tablets. Our prime focus is on the all-round development of the students. Apart from regular studies, they are encouraged to make wall magazine, write stories and poetry. There is a regular drawing class in our school for all children. Occasionally, cultural events are organized in which children present skits, songs, etc. Besides, there is no corporal punishment in the school and the teaching philosophy is one of compassion for the students.



8. The literacy rate in our local community.

The village Lodhar has close to 100% literacy (excluding very old people). The main reason for this accomplishment is our school.

9. The socio-economic background of the children and their parents (e.g. education, occupational).

The adults in the villages work either in agriculture (50%), or work in and around the city as labourers. There are only a couple of well-to-do families of land owners and rich farmers. Most villagers are generally poor. Many young men and boys have at least elementary education.

The caste divide in the rural India is very sharp. In Lodhar and neighbouring villages we have people predominantly from OBC, Brahmins, Muslims, and schedule castes. However, the school is above any caste or religious bias and strictly adheres to secular and humanist perspective.

Usually boys of age 13 and above go to work in the fields of their parents or other land owning farmers. Most of the girls of age 10 and above help in the household chores like cooking, fetching water, washing, looking after younger siblings etc. Many are forced to quit school after class V under family and societal pressure. Our school has improved literacy level tremendously among children, especially the girl children of the village and neighbouring areas. It is worth mentioning that our school provides free education to girls. Over the last several years parents interest in educating their children has increased; we receive overwhelming number of requests for joining our school.

10. The admission criterion for the students to join our school.

The children of village Lodhar are given admission on a priority basis. The remaining seats are allotted on a first come first serve to the children from neighbouring villages. Due to lack of space in school more than 100 students are deprived of taking admission every year.

Children's strength : 325

Boy: Girl ratio : 2:3

Teacher: Student ratio: 1:32

11. In addition to education our group provides other services also to the children in our schools (e.g. food, health care, clothing, etc.)

- Nutrition every other day (chana, puffed rice, fruits, groundnut, jaggery etc.).
- A rich library with approximately 11,000 books.
- A well-maintained science laboratory.
- A well equipped computer laboratory with internet connectivity.
- Health camps, immunization program, visits by health workers and doctors.
- Sweaters, books, stationery to many needy children.
- Education tours (Last year senior children were taken to Mathura & Agra on a two-day trip and junior classes visited the JK Temple & Zoo Kanpur).



- **Science Club activities** - The annual Science fair is well attended. This year, close to 650 people from neighbouring areas attended it.





12. Our aim is to improve the lives of the children by education.

We aim to provide our children with a holistic education where they acquire literacy, learn formal subjects, as well as inculcate the cherished values of dignity, equality, cooperation, self expression, sense of freedom, self learning and scientific approach. Our children are aware of health-care, hygiene, nutrition, and computers. The school provides a strong foundation to children so that they can handle their future confidently. We have a team of dedicated teachers, who are constantly exposed to trainings and lectures by students and faculty from IIT Kanpur, Eklavya, and other groups. The idea is to equip the teachers with new pedagogical methods and conceptual foundations in various subjects. The teachers provide a free and friendly environment to the children to learn without fear.

We believe that education will transform the attitude of the children. We have already seen them become more self-confident and aware. This effort will eventually make them more responsible individuals and lead them to transform the society around them. Many of our alumni have done very well in their future studies.

(Also see item 17.)

13. Our school has its own building(s)

14. Number and type of classrooms (e.g. Pukka): 9 classrooms (all pukka), 1 science lab, 1 computer lab, 1 library, and 1 office.

Infrastructure	Yes/No
Toilets	Yes
Playground	Yes
Toys	Yes
Chairs & Tables	Yes
Blackboards/Greenboards	Yes
Library	Yes
Drinking water	Yes
Electricity	Yes
Laboratory	Yes

Teaching aids (e.g. books/slides)	Yes
Computers,laptops and tablets	Yes

15. The age group of the children currently enrolled in our school-
5 years to 15 years.

16. Our staff -

Teachers 11; Minimum Qualifications: Graduate with B. Ed.

Other staff: 1 Caretaker.

17. Average distance the children travel to attend our school:

Seven kilometres.

18. Our Alumni and their future employment possibilities

Our school has been running since 1996. So far 287 students (156 girls and 131 boys) have passed class 8th from our school. The number could have been higher if the school was in an urban area. Some of these students are very bright and are keen to study further. Some of our alumni are pursuing higher studies - B.E, BBA, BTech, BSc, etc. With constant encouragement and child friendly approach we have been trying to persuade children, especially the girls, to continue their education at least up to 12th standard and possibly even further. We are giving scholarship to three girls for their studies after they graduated from our school.

19. We help our students with their future education efforts after they have passed out of our school -

We are providing scholarships to some of the needy graduating students. We are in constant touch with them. We invite them to our Science and Social Science mela and cultural activities, educational tours etc. as volunteers so that they can also participate and display their models. This enhances their self esteem and gives them a sense of achievement in their otherwise strife ridden lives. We are planning to provide vocational training and English tutoring to these children. Some of the IIT students have offered to volunteer in this effort. Lack of motivation on part of the parents and the obvious economic bottleneck plays vital role in the high drop-out rate once children have studied till eighth standard. Parents, when confronted come out with very difficult requests like more funds, a vehicle to take their children to the nearby (6km) higher secondary school etc. We are trying to work out if transportation could be arranged for some of the girls, so that they could continue their studies.

20. Other schools in our area-

There is a government primary school in the village, where education standard is very poor. There are several private schools (up to intermediate level) in the neighbouring village, Nankari (located 2kms away).

21. We are different from other School because – Our program is fundamentally different than the existing education system, which is unfriendly, rote & information based. Also the student-teacher relationship is a distant one in generic schools. In our school, learning is participation, dialog and

activity based. The teacher-student relationship is like friends and guides. Our children get to do science experiments, make charts, models etc, something which is unheard of in many private and government schools, where most of the teaching material is either missing or is nicely locked up in almirahs and cupboards. There is a lot of emphasis on free communication. As a result, they are quite good in creative writing, expression, drawing, skits and making models. In our school, students are not beaten up the way most government and private schools freely do. In our school education is free for girls and we charge minimal fee for the boys and this itself makes our school unique compared to other schools. We give adequate space to outdoor and indoor games which nowadays is non-existent in most of the government and public schools being run in two room houses.

22. Huge demand for enrolment in our school because -

Ours is the best school in the neighbourhood in terms of complete education. There is a huge demand for enrolment in our school. Besides, our school fee is the lowest in the neighbourhood. Most parents with very low income send their children to our school. In addition, our school is situated right in the village. Both the factors act as a boon so far as girls from poor families are concerned. Their parents have no excuse to stop their daughters from attending the school. This is a great help to many parents as they can send their girl children to school without any worry.

23. Parent-Teachers Association. (PTA)

We meet the parents regularly, on an average every three months. We consult them on all major logistic issues, like fees, starting new class or a new activity, building extension, school functions, children's performance etc. The parents are informed about the progress of their children. They are quite cooperative. For several years, many of the parents have been requesting us to upgrade the school to the higher secondary level. We have asked them to help us in improving the standard of our school on three grounds: (i) ensure that children punctually attend the school every day; (ii) they get some time to do school work at home; and (iii) children are given basic hygiene facility and sanitation.

24. Our future plans and impact of our school- Currently, we have 13 rooms altogether with nine classes (from KG to VIII) and separate rooms for office, science lab, library and computer education. Many parents ask for facilities up to class X so that their children can continue their education in the village itself. This will require more land. We explored the possibilities of getting more land from the village Pradhan and are hopeful that something will happen soon in this regard. However, extending the school for higher classes will require more infrastructure and more resources for teacher's salary etc. We are open to ideas on this front.

The school is poised to impact the village significantly in the next five years. It is already the nucleus of several activities for the village (health-camps, library, internet, etc.). The school is trying to ensure that every child, especially girls, from the village is exposed to a clean and honest environment for working towards a meaningful future.

25. We need your support-

Financial donation for running the school / budget attached.

In addition,

- Lodhar school has a computer lab, a science lab and a library. We are looking for donated equipments and ideas on developing these labs.
- Sharing of ideas on using computer as a tool in education, donation of old laptops and tablets, software, web material, e-books, animations etc.
- Donations of interesting films, educational toys and books.
- Maintain website and make brochures.
- Help us upgrade sport activities for the school children.
- Vocational training for older children.
- Give ideas on retaining manpower and strengthening the organization.
- Give ideas on making it a sustainable school. In order to achieve this self-sustenance, we would have to charge Rs. 350 per child per month. The village children cannot afford this amount. We are collecting Rs. 100 to 150 per month from each boy child depending on his class and there is a fee waiver for all the girls. For long term sustainability, we are planning on building a one crore rupees corpus whose annual profit can be used to (largely) take care of salaries.

Part II – Financial Details

26. **Our Donors** - We are currently being funded by Asha for education, Benevity, I.I.T. Kanpur and several individual donors.

27. Salary expenditure details:

	Numbers	Salary Range	
Principal	1	16000/- per month	1,92,000/-
Teachers	10	13000/- per month	15,60,000/-
Supporting Staff	1	6000/- per month	72,000/-
Total			18,24,000/-

28. School fees-

There is a fee waiver for all the girls. All boys pay the fees right now of about Rs. 100- Rs. 150 depending on their class.

29. The details of present budget (April 2019 - March 2020) are as follows.

S No.	Particulars	Description	Amount in Rs.
1	Salary of Teachers, Principal, and the supporting staff	1,52,000/-p.m.	18,24,000/-
2	Medicine & Health	12 months @ Rs. 1000 p.m.	12000
3	Nutrition	11 months @ Rs. 15000 p.m.	165000
4	Stationery	12 months @ Rs. 1100 p.m.	13200
5	School Functions		
	Annual Function		25000
	Science Exhibition		25000
6	Study Tours		
	Upto class 5		25000
	Class 6 to 8		70000
7	Maintenance of Building	Repair of roofs, regular maintenance	100000
8	Library		
	Text Books (2 sets for each class)	Books until class 12	10000
	Books, Magazines, etc. for Children		20000
	Books, Periodicals, etc. for teachers and adults		5000
9	Laboratory Expenses		
	Non-recurring (Science Instruments etc.)		20000
	Recurring (Purchase of Small items, chemicals, cost of running Lab, etc.)		20000
10	Games & Sports		10000
11	Teacher's Training Program		25000
12	Printing of Khilkhil magazine	6 issues Rs. 1400 each	8400
13	Scholarship for graduated students (Class IX-XII)	10 scholarship @2500 p.a.	25000
14	Scholarships for current students	20 scholarships @ 1000 p.a.	20000
15	Transportation		5000
16	Electricity Charges	11 months @ 5000/- p.m.	55000
Total		24,82,600/-	
Office overhead 5% of the total		1,24,130/-	
Grand Total		26,06,730/-	