

Access Schemes and Targeted Support for Persons with Disabilities

2024-25



**Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences,
Bajhol, Solan, Himachal Pradesh-173229**

Shoolini University has implemented comprehensive **access schemes and targeted support** for persons with disabilities, providing a range of inclusive services to ensure academic success and overall well-being, such as:

- **Individualized Academic Guidance:** Tailored support to address diverse learning needs.
- **Structured Mentoring Programmes:** Faculty-led mentoring for academic and personal development.
- **Buddy Mentoring:** Peer-assisted learning and support for better social integration.
- **Psychological Counselling Services:** Professional assistance for mental health and emotional well-being.

Facilities Provided by the Shoolini University for Persons with Disabilities

1. **Specialist Equipment:** Provision of assistive technologies such as e-reading devices (Kindle Paperwhite, Kindle Oasis) and computer-based visual-aid tools for students with vision impairments.
2. **Accessibility Features:** Installation of tactile ground surface indicators (dotted flooring) to support safe navigation for visually impaired individuals.
3. **Inclusive Communication Support:** Availability of specialist mentors and sign language assistance for students with hearing or learning needs.
4. **Accessible Infrastructure:** Barrier-free campus with ramps, railings, lifts, and specially designed washrooms in academic and residential buildings.
5. **Mobility Assistance:** Centralized transport facilities (e-carts) to ensure easy movement across campus.
6. **Financial Support:** Assistance for assistive devices such as hearing aids, mobility equipment and provision of need-based scholarships for deserving students.
7. **Accommodation & Facilities:** Priority accommodation, healthcare services, sports facilities, technical support, a 24×7 helpline to ensure overall well-being and on calling support within 5 minutes shall be provided.

Activities supporting Access Schemes & Targeted Support for Persons with Disabilities

Sr. No.	Event Name	Date	Target Support
1	Quality Time with DifferentlyAbled Kids at the Indian Association of Muscular Dystrophy	August 28, 2024	Direct engagement, emotional support, and inclusion of persons with disabilities
2	Sharing Festive Joy: Shoolini’s Heartwarming Visit to the Indian Association of Muscular Dystrophy	October 15, 2024	Emotional well-being, social inclusion, and community bonding
3	Empathy in Action: Visit to Manav Mandir	November 07, 2024	Experiential learning, disability awareness, and empathy building
4	Embracing Inclusion: World Disability Day	December 03, 2024	Awareness, inclusion, and support for persons with disabilities
5	Eco-Friendly Induction for New Students	August 20–23, 2024	Mentoring, student support systems, and inclusive transition
6	Creating a Safe Haven: AntiRagging Awareness Session	August 21, 2024	Safe environment, emotional support, and inclusive campus culture
7	Strengthening Inclusivity: A Vibrant Meet & Greet with Cultural Showcase	August 22–23, 2024	Social inclusion, peer support, and community building
8	Nurturing Young Minds: Shoolini Students Teach Chess and Art & Craft at Community School	September 06, 2024	Mentoring, skill development, and educational support
9	Screening for a Cause: Raising Awareness with Pink October Movie Nights	October 13–24, 2024	Counselling, awareness, and emotional support mechanisms
10	Shoolini University Students Lead Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign in Local Communities During Pink October	October 22, 2024	Health awareness, counselling support, and community mentoring
11	Shoolini University’s Karate & Martial Arts Training for Local School Kids	Weekly	Continuous mentoring, confidence building, and personal development
12	Tiny Hands, Big Impact: Children’s Day Celebration	November 14, 2024	Emotional support, inclusive learning, and social mentoring

13	Celebrating Kindness with a Green Touch	November 13, 2024	Empathy building, inclusivity, and social support
14	Ensuring Well Being of Shoolini Fraternity	September 27, 2024	Health support, counselling, and wellbeing awareness
15	Spreading Awareness through Sustainable Activities	September 28, 2024	Mental well-being, therapy-based engagement, and stress relief
16	Joy in Every Step – Visit to IAMD	6th February 2025	Direct engagement, emotional support, and inclusion of persons with disabilities
17	Teddies of Comfort: Spreading Joy on Teddy Day at IAMD	13th February 2025	Emotional support, companionship, and inclusion for differentlyabled individuals
18	Embracing Empathy: Shoolini's Visit to IAMD	4th April 2025	Sensitization, empathy building, and inclusive engagement
19	Voices of Togetherness – Visit to IAMD	18th April 2025	Social inclusion, bonding, and emotional well-being support
20	Let's Talk: A Safe Space for Voices, Breaking the Silence	4th February 2025	Psychological support, counselling, and safe communication platform
21	Healing with Heart, Creating with Care - EXA Art Therapy Workshop	6th June 2025	Therapy-based emotional support and mental well-being



Mentoring & Support for Differently Abled



SOLAN, HIMACHAL PRADESH, INDIA-173229

Academic Support

Academic guidance plays a crucial role in supporting differently abled students in a university. Here are some key considerations and practices we provide for effective academic guidance of the differently abled students:

- **Individualized Approach:** Our approach deals in recognize that each student has unique abilities, challenges, and learning styles. Teachers take the time to understand their specific needs and preferences. We collaborate with the student to develop an individualized academic plan that aligns with their goals and accommodates their disability.
- **Accessibility and Accommodations:** We ensure that all academic materials, resources, and facilities are accessible to differently abled students. Each department works closely with the university's disability support services to identify and implement appropriate accommodations, such as extended time for exams, accessible formats for course materials, note-taking assistance, or assistive technologies.
- **Course Selection and Scheduling:** Teachers help students navigate the course selection process by providing guidance on suitable courses that align with their interests, strengths, and career aspirations. The workload, course format (e.g., lectures, discussions, labs), and accessibility of course materials are considered when advising them. We assist in creating a balanced schedule that accommodates any necessary accommodations and minimizes potential conflicts.
- **Study Skills and Strategies:** We support differently abled students in developing effective study skills and strategies tailored to their individual needs. We provide guidance on time management, organization, note-taking techniques, and effective study methods. We encourage them to use assistive technologies and explore available resources such as tutoring, study groups, or writing centers.
- **Communication with Faculty:** We help students develop effective communication skills to engage with their professors. We encourage them to establish open lines of communication and advocate for their needs. Assist in crafting emails or meeting scripts to address concerns, request accommodations, or seek clarifications. We encourage students to attend office hours and build relationships with their instructors.
- **Adaptive Technology and Tools:** We familiarize our staff with assistive technologies and tools available to support differently abled students in their academic endeavours. We stay updated on the latest developments and recommend appropriate tools or software that can enhance their learning experience. We provide guidance on how to access and effectively use these technologies.
- **Time Management and Organization:** We assist students in developing effective time management and organizational skills. We help them prioritize tasks, create schedules, and set realistic goals. We encourage the use of calendars, to-do lists, and reminders to stay organized. We work together to identify strategies that optimize their productivity and reduce stress.
- **Peer Mentoring and Support:** We facilitate connections between differently abled students and peers who can provide additional academic support. We encourage the formation of study groups or pair students with mentors who have successfully navigated similar academic challenges. Peer support can provide a sense of community, motivation, and shared learning experiences.
- **Progress Monitoring and Adjustments:** We regularly assess the student's progress and academic performance. We review their goals, identify areas for improvement, and make

necessary adjustments to the academic plan or accommodations. We encourage ongoing communication to address any emerging challenges and celebrate their achievements.

We ensure that our academic guidance to differently abled students is be tailored to their specific needs and focused on promoting their academic success and independence. By providing

comprehensive support, we empower these students to overcome barriers and achieve their educational goals.

Buddy Mentoring

Buddy mentoring, also known as peer mentoring or buddy system, is a valuable support system for differently abled students in Shoolini University. It involves pairing them with a peer mentor who provides guidance, support, and friendship. Here are some key considerations we implement for a successful buddy mentoring program for differently abled students:

- **Identify students who would benefit from buddy mentoring:** This is done through a variety of methods, such as screening students who have Individualized Education Plans, talking to teachers and other school staff, or asking students themselves if they would be interested in buddy mentoring.
- **Match students with buddies:** When matching students with buddies, it is important to consider the student's social and emotional needs and interests. For example, a student who is shy might be paired with a buddy who is outgoing and friendly.
- **Provide training for buddies:** Buddies receive training on how to work with differently abled students in a social setting. This training covers topics such as the student's disability, the student's social goals, and how to provide effective social support.
- **Set up regular meetings between buddies and students:** The frequency of meetings varies depending on the needs of the student. However, it is important to have regular check-ins to ensure that the mentoring relationship is effective.
- **Provide ongoing support for buddies and students:** Buddies and students have access to ongoing support throughout the mentoring relationship. This support can come from the school, a mentoring organization, or other professionals.
- **Evaluate the mentoring program:** It is important to evaluate the mentoring program on a regular basis to ensure that it is meeting the needs of students. This evaluation is done through surveys, interviews, or other methods.

Psychological Counselling

Psychological counselling is an important support service for differently abled students in Shoolini University. It helps them navigate the unique psychological challenges they may face due to their disabilities and create a positive and inclusive campus environment. Here are some key considerations we provide for psychological counselling to differently abled students:

- **Identify students who would benefit from psychological counselling:** This is done through a variety of methods, such as screening students who have Individualized Education Plans, talking to teachers and other school staff, or asking students themselves if they would be interested in psychological counselling.
- **Refer students to a qualified counsellor:** We have a dedicated counsellor who is experienced in working with differently abled students.
- **Provide support for students and their families:** Students and their families have access to support throughout the counselling process. This support can come from the school, a counselling organization, or other professionals.
- **Evaluate the counselling program:** It is important to evaluate the counselling program on a

regular basis to ensure that it is meeting the needs of students. This evaluation is done through surveys, interviews, or other methods.

**Sample report on supporting people with
disabilities**

AY 2024-25

August 28, 2024

Quality Time with Differently-Abled Kids at the Indian Association of Muscular Dystrophy, Solan

On the occasion of Janmashtami, students from Shoolini University visited the Indian Association of Muscular Dystrophy (IAMMD) in Solan to celebrate and engage with the residents through a heartwarming cultural event.

Shoolini University students skillfully combined empathy, art, and sustainability, creating a celebration both heartfelt and impactful. The highlight of the event was a modern play about Lord Krishna and Radha, reimagined to showcase their timeless teachings in today's world. The visit, organized as part of the university's community program, featured a special performance—a play depicting the incarnation of Lord Krishna and Radha, but with a modern twist reflecting their significance in today's world.

The play centred around love, compassion, and the victory of good over evil, resonated deeply with the audience, especially in the context of the struggles faced by individuals with muscular dystrophy. Through engaging dialogues and vivid enactments, the students portrayed how Krishna and Radha's teachings of resilience, hope, and love remain relevant in overcoming modern-day challenges, including health struggles and societal issues.

Beyond the play, the students engaged with the residents in heartfelt conversations and activities, creating a sense of community and understanding. The interaction between the students and the residents of IAMMD fostered a sense of unity and empathy. The event underscored the power of culture, compassion, and sustainable practices in building inclusive, resilient communities, leaving a lasting impact on everyone involved.



Dance Performance being presenting by the students



Volunteer Aditi spending time with a muscular dystrophy warrior



A group photograph of all the participants

October 15, 2024

"Sharing Festive Joy: Shoolini's Heartwarming Visit to the Indian Association of Muscular Dystrophy"

On October 15, 2024, Shoolini University students visited the Indian Association of Muscular Dystrophy (IAMD) in Solan to present a heartfelt program based on the 'Ramayana,' focusing on engaging smiles and spreading happiness among the participants. This initiative aimed to foster connections and provide joy to individuals affected by muscular dystrophy, highlighting the university's commitment to social responsibility and community engagement.

The presentation included storytelling, performances, and interactive activities designed to entertain and uplift the spirits of the attendees. By sharing the rich cultural narrative of the 'Ramayana,' the students created an inclusive environment that encouraged participation and engagement, promoting emotional well-being and community bonding.

In line with sustainability practices, the event was organized with eco-friendly considerations. Digital materials were used for program announcements, minimizing paper waste, and decorations were kept to a minimum to reduce environmental impact. Furthermore, students utilized reusable items for refreshments, promoting waste reduction during the visit.

This initiative not only aimed to bring joy and positivity to the lives of individuals at IAMD but also fostered a sense of empathy and awareness among the participating students. Through such outreach programs, Shoolini University continues to demonstrate its dedication to sustainability, social responsibility, and community engagement, ultimately contributing to a more compassionate and connected society.



A volunteer presenting a dance performance



These volunteers presented a play on Lord Rama



A photograph of all the participants

December 03, 2024

Embracing Inclusion: World Disability Day

On World Disability Day, Shoolini University volunteers dedicated their time to a special event at Manav Mandir, focusing on connecting with differently-abled children and their families. Unlike traditional celebrations featuring singing and dancing, the volunteers chose to engage more personally with the children, spending time with them and their families. This thoughtful approach created meaningful interactions, highlighting the power of empathy and sensitivity in fostering inclusion and joy.

The volunteers participated in various activities, from helping the children with crafts to simply sharing conversations, all designed to bring happiness and brighten their day. The focus was not just on the event itself, but also on creating lasting bonds of support and understanding, enriching the lives of both the children and their families.

Shoolini University's commitment to sustainability extends beyond environmental initiatives to embrace social responsibility and inclusivity. This event demonstrated the university's dedication to fostering empathy, respect, and equal opportunities for all, regardless of ability. The impact of these moments of joy is far-reaching, reinforcing the importance of community-building and creating inclusive environments for everyone. By engaging in such initiatives, Shoolini University continues to demonstrate how small, thoughtful actions can contribute to a more sustainable, compassionate world.



Volunteers socializing with Muscular dystrophy warriors



Volunteers making paintings with muscular dystrophy warriors



Volunteers spending quality time with muscular dystrophy warriors

Shoolini University's Karate & Martial Arts Training for Local School Kids

Event Frequency: Every Wednesday

Shoolini University organizes weekly karate classes for local school students, facilitated by university students. This initiative aims to promote physical fitness, self-defense skills, and personal development among younger participants while providing valuable teaching experience for university students.

The classes are designed to be inclusive, encouraging students from diverse backgrounds to participate. Instructors emphasize important values such as respect, discipline, and teamwork, contributing to the holistic development of the students.

To promote sustainability, the program utilizes eco-friendly practices. Classes are held in university facilities that are maintained with minimal environmental impact. Promotional materials are created using recycled paper, and digital platforms are used for communication to reduce paper waste. Additionally, outdoor training sessions encourage a connection with nature.

Through this initiative, Shoolini University fosters a supportive learning environment that empowers school students and enhances community engagement while promoting a sustainable future.



School children during a Karate Class



A volunteer conducting Martial Arts Class

Voices of Togetherness – Visit to IAMD

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being & SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Date: 18th April 2025

On April 18, 2025, a lively team of Shoolini University students visited the Indian Association of Muscular Dystrophy (IAMD) in Solan, creating a beautiful afternoon full of music, games, and laughter. The event was driven by the simple goal of spreading happiness and human connection through shared experiences.

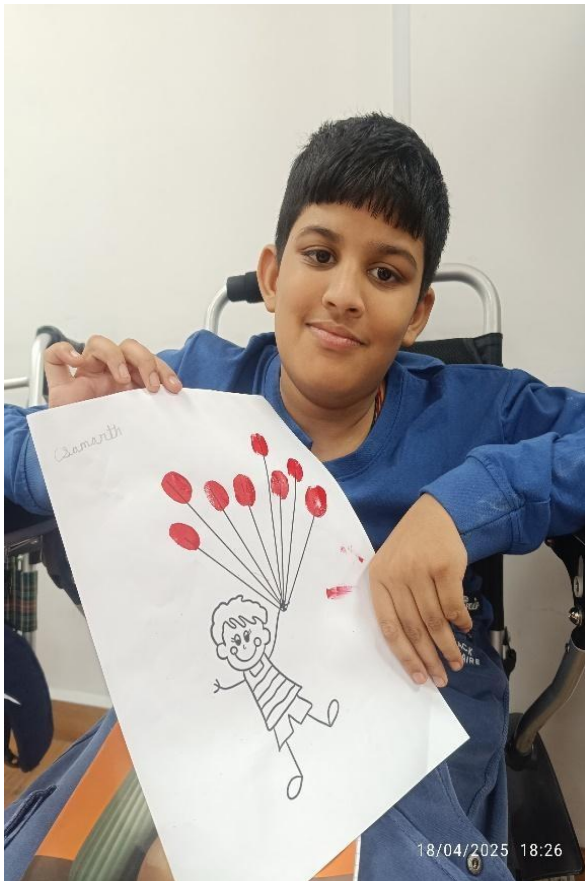
The visit kicked off with an energetic singing session, where students and residents sang familiar songs and requested old favourites. Smiles lit up the room as a few residents even joined in with spontaneous solos. The students then organised inclusive group games, including pass-the-parcel, a balloon challenge, and a “thumb painting” game for students that had everyone clapping and laughing.

The most touching moment came during a group dance where volunteers held hands with the residents and swayed gently to soothing music, proving that joy transcends physical limitations. The informal performances created an atmosphere of acceptance, celebration, and heartfelt togetherness.

This visit reflected the values Shoolini University holds close—compassionate engagement, emotional well-being, and community building. The students didn’t just entertain—they listened, connected, and created memories alongside the IAMD residents. This experience reminded everyone that inclusion begins with empathy, and small acts of kindness can create a lasting impact.







Volunteers with students in IAMD