

Report of The Board of Trustees of the Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind 2022

A Legacy of Empowerment

The Board of Trustees of the Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind oversees three remarkable institutions that have been instrumental in providing education, support, and empowerment to the visually and hearing impaired community. Each school has a unique history and purpose, working together to create a positive impact.

The School for the Deaf and Blind in Ratmalana

Established in 1912 by Miss. Mary Chapman of the Church of England Zenana Missionary Society, the School for the Deaf and Blind in Ratmalana emerged at a time when the hearing and sight-impaired individuals were often overlooked by society. Miss Chapman's visionary commitment led to the establishment of the school with only three teachers initially. Today, the school has expanded its scope to provide comprehensive education, vocational training, sports, and hostel facilities to around 225 students. Approximately 80% of these students are full-term boarders. The institution, which began with humble origins, now boasts a dedicated academic, administrative, and support staff of over 100 individuals.

The Nuffield School for the Deaf and Blind in Kaithady

Founded in 1956, the Nuffield School for the Deaf and Blind is situated in the Jaffna District and was established to address the educational needs of the differently-abled children in the North. The school commenced its journey with just 18 students and 4 staff members. Over the years, it has grown significantly and currently caters to 130 students with a staff team of 57 members. The establishment of this school has provided an essential educational opportunity to the children of the North, fostering a sense of inclusivity and empowerment.

The Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind is recognized as an approved charity, and it stands firm in its commitment to providing education, support, and extracurricular activities free of charge to all students across the three schools. Regardless of academic or hostel requirements, the schools do not levy any fees. This principle embodies the organization's dedication to creating equal opportunities and breaking down barriers for the visually and hearing impaired students.

The Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind's journey is a testament to the power of education, compassion, and community. From its humble beginnings to its current impactful presence,

the three schools under its purview continue to shape the lives of countless visually and hearing impaired children. Through free education, vocational training, and unwavering dedication, these institutions stand as beacons of empowerment, fostering a more inclusive and supportive society.



Schools Statistics

The year 2022 emerged as a beacon of hope and progress, representing a marked improvement from the challenges posed by the previous two years. Despite the lingering effects of the pandemic, the schools persevered and achieved a remarkable sense of normalcy, allowing students to thrive and forge ahead in their educational journey.

The past few years presented unprecedented challenges, but the determination of the schools' administration, staff, and students enabled them to overcome hurdles and create a stable learning environment. The Post-Covid period witnessed a collective effort to transition back to familiar routines and ensure the continuation of education and vocational training.

The traditional structure of the academic year underwent adaptations, with the three terms now diverging from their former pattern. Despite these changes, the schools embraced flexibility and innovation, allowing students to adapt to the revised schedules and engage wholeheartedly in their studies.

Examinations, a cornerstone of academic evaluation, experienced a shift in their timing due to the evolving circumstances. However, the students and educators at the three schools, displayed remarkable adaptability, showcasing their ability to excel even in the face of unpredictability.

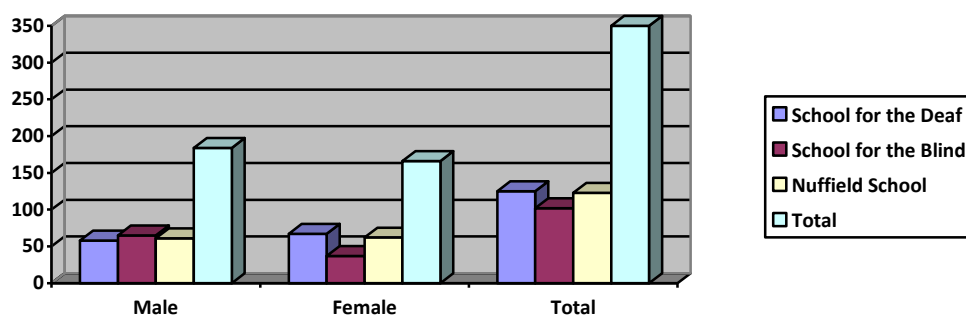
Championing Education and Vocational Training amidst the challenges, the schools maintained their focus on education and vocational training, ensuring that students continued to acquire essential skills and knowledge. The commitment of the staff to nurture the talents and abilities of visually and audibly impaired children remained unwavering.

While the three terms of the school year may have taken on a new structure, the schools' dedication to their mission remained steadfast. By conquering one hurdle after another, they paved the way for students to progress confidently towards their goals, equipped with the tools they need to succeed. The year 2022 symbolizes a triumph of resilience and adaptability.



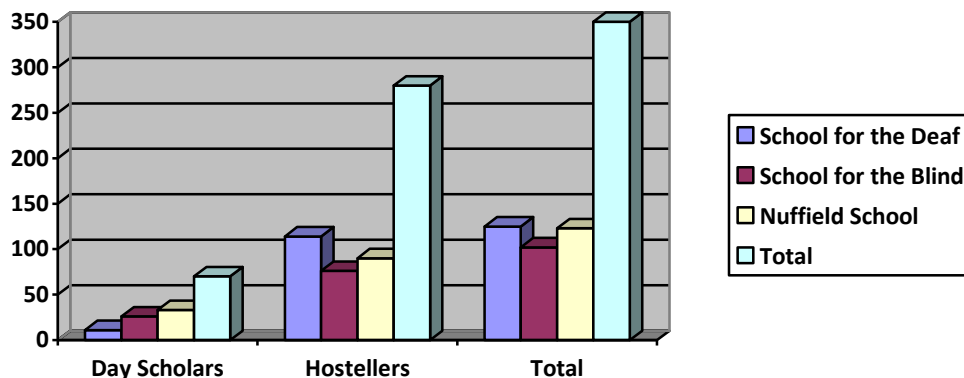
Student Numbers as at December 31st 2022

School	Male	Female	Total
School for the Deaf	58	67	125
School for the Blind	65	37	102
Nuffield School	61	62	123
Total	184	166	350



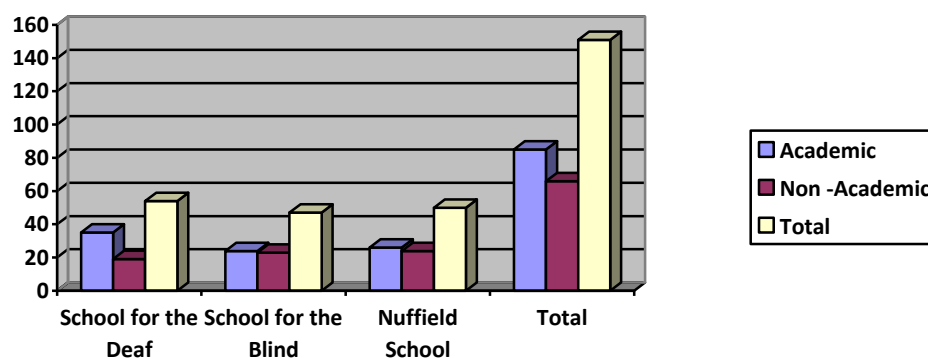
Number of Day Scholar Students and Hostellers

School	Day Scholars	Hostellers	Total
School for the Deaf	11	114	125
School for the Blind	26	76	102
Nuffield School	33	90	123
Total	70	280	350



Academic & Non-Academic Staff as at December 31st 2022

Category	School for the Deaf	School for the Blind	Nuffield School	Total
Academic	35	24	26	85
Non - Academic	19	23	24	66
Total	54	47	50	151



The schools receives a Government grant that primarily covers the salaries of the teaching staff and generous donations from compassionate individuals and organizations. This combination ensures that the school can sustain its vital operations, providing holistic care to its students.

While the Government grant extends support to the teaching staff, the non-academic staff members such as Cooks, Hostel Matrons and Masters, Caregivers, Drivers, Gardeners, Sanitary laborers, and Office Staff are equally indispensable to the schools' smooth operation. These dedicated individuals play a pivotal role in creating a nurturing environment for the students. However, their salaries are not covered by the Government Grant, making donations a lifeline for these essential roles.

To fill the financial gap the Board of Trustees, driven by a deep commitment to the students' welfare, rely on generous donations from compassionate hearts. These donations serve as the bedrock for compensating non-academic staff members, ensuring their dedication is duly acknowledged and appreciated.

The holistic care provided by the non-academic staff members is invaluable to the students' overall growth and well-being. From ensuring nourishing meals to maintaining the premises and facilitating daily routines, these staff members contribute to a positive and nurturing atmosphere that fosters both academic and personal development.

Activities and Events of the Schools

Education

The Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind is committed to providing quality education that aligns with all other schools. The schools follow the same comprehensive curriculum as their peers in mainstream schools, catering to students' educational needs while preparing them for a brighter future. This approach ensures that they receive an education that is on par with the general education system. The schools remain dedicated to offering education up to the G.C.E. Ordinary Level examination, in line with the requirements of the Department of Education.

Upon successfully completing the G.C.E. Ordinary Level examination, students who qualify have the opportunity to gain admission to various other Private and Government schools for their G.C.E. Advanced Level education. For those who do not qualify, the schools provide options. They can choose to remain for an additional year to repeat the GCE O-Level examination or continue with vocational training. The latter also involves applying for job placements whenever feasible, guided by the schools' commitment to facilitating meaningful opportunities for students.

The Grade 5 Scholarship Examination – This exam is a significant milestone in school life, was held on December 18th for students across the country.

At the School for the Blind, eight students undertook the examination. To prepare for this, teachers conducted extra classes, enhancing both the learning and teaching environment. This endeavor underscores the schools' dedication to academic excellence.

At the Nuffield School, eight students sat for the Scholarship examination. Impressively, six students, all hearing impaired, received scores exceeding 100 marks, while the other two achieved above 80 marks. The success of these students stands as a testament to the school's commitment to fostering a conducive learning environment.

G.C.E. Ordinary Level - School for the Blind had Eighteen students sit for the examination, with R. Jonathan standing out by obtaining 5 A's. Notably, 10 students secured admission to other schools for their G.C.E. Advanced Level education. This achievement includes acceptance by esteemed institutions such as St. Peters College, S. Thomas' College, and others. The school extends congratulations to all students and expresses gratitude to the Principals of these schools for their welcoming support.

V-shesh English Program - The Nuffield School achieved another milestone by successfully completing the v-shesh English program for students in June 2022. This program highlights the school's dedication to enhancing students' language skills, equipping them for effective communication.

The Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind's educational approach mirrors its commitment to empowerment and inclusivity. By providing a comprehensive curriculum, fostering academic excellence, and facilitating pathways to higher education, the schools are creating opportunities for students to overcome challenges and reach their fullest potential.

Ratmalana Audiology Centre (RAC)



Established in 2007 as a generous gift from Dialog Axiata PLC to the Ceylon School for the Deaf and

Blind in Ratmalana, the Ratmalana Audiology Centre stands as a beacon of hope and empowerment for individuals facing hearing loss, speech and language challenges, and learning difficulties. Strategically nestled within the grounds of the School for the Deaf in Ratmalana, the Centre extends its reach to the school's students and beyond. This non-profit organization is dedicated to facilitating personalized interventions that enable individuals to achieve their utmost potential.

RAC envisions a world where individuals with hearing impairments and communication obstacles are not limited by their challenges but empowered to reach their maximum potential. With this guiding vision, the Centre is committed to providing top-notch, tailor-made interventions that address the unique needs of each individual.

Dialog Axiata PLC's benevolent gesture in establishing the Ratmalana Audiology Centre reflects their commitment to making a lasting impact on the lives of those in need. This gift exemplifies corporate social responsibility at its finest, creating a positive ripple effect within the community.

Services offered are meticulously tailored to meet the diverse needs of its beneficiaries.



These services include, Hearing Tests, Hearing Aid Support, Speech and Language Therapy, Special Education Sessions, Parent and Teacher Workshops.

The Ceylon School for the Deaf and Blind is deeply grateful for the Ratmalana Audiology Centre's invaluable contributions. The Centre's unwavering dedication to its mission enhances the educational journey of the school's students and extends a helping hand to individuals beyond its campus, fostering a society where everyone's voice is heard and valued.

Speech and Language Therapy Centre, Kaithady, Jaffna

Located at the Nuffield School, stands as a testament to the transformational power of effective communication. Funded by Dialog Axiata PLC, this Center is dedicated to supporting children with speech therapy needs, empowering them to overcome communication challenges and thrive in their educational journey. The Speech and Language Therapy Centre envisions a world where every child has the opportunity to express themselves, connect with others, and unlock their full potential through effective communication. With this vision in mind, the Center strives to provide specialized interventions that cater to the unique needs of each child. The Speech and Language Therapy Centre has made significant strides in its mission to empower children with speech therapy needs. The center's success is evident not only in the services it provides but also in

its dedication to raising awareness about speech and language challenges within the district.

One of the cornerstones of the center's approach is its commitment to awareness programs. The team actively engages with the community through workshops, seminars, and outreach initiatives. These efforts have yielded remarkable results, as evidenced by the increasing number of new clients referred to the center by hospitals and doctors across the Northern Region.

Staff Training and Development

Empowering Staff Through Training and Development reflects the institution's commitment to enhancing its educational services. The schools recognize the significance of equipping their staff with the necessary skills and knowledge to provide the best possible support to their students.

The School for the Deaf invested in several training programs to uplift its staff's expertise. These initiatives included training sessions by the Zonal Education Office, Ratmalana Audiology Centre, and internal programs. Topics covered ranged from Creating Individual Education Plans for weak students to seminars on Art, Special Education circulars, and the Special Education Program "Nenasa." Workshops on Hearing Aid protection and familiarizing staff with the New Syllabus for the Primary section were also conducted.

At the School for the Blind, Ms. Niluka Jayaratne's return to the School for the Blind from the Teacher Training College and Mr. Nadun Sirisena's continued presence at the Training College underscore the school's commitment to nurturing its teaching staff's growth and skills.

Teachers in the primary section of the School for the Blind actively participated in workshops organized by the Zonal Education Office, focusing on the New Syllabus and Special Education. The school's dedication to enhancing teaching methodologies contributes to the holistic development of their students.

Nuffield School had three students and two Staff Members participating in the 'Inclusive Vocational Training Seminar' held at the Taj Samudra Hotel in Colombo. This initiative, supported by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), highlights the school's commitment to providing students with all-inclusive educational experiences.

The Nuffield School actively participated in projects promoting independent living for individuals with disabilities. The completion of the 'Developing ICT Based Assistive Technologies for People with Disability' project by LIRNEasia and Yarl IT Hub signifies the school's commitment to technological advancement.

Diploma in Sign Language conducted by National Institute of Education (NIE) is an ongoing course at the Nuffield School. Participants from Nuffield School went to Kurunegala Sandagala Special School for teaching practice and Sign Language Diploma students from the Maharagama National Institute of Education (NIE) visited Nuffield School for teaching practice for a few days. This showcased a collaborative effort to enhance the quality of education provided to students with disabilities.

Staff Training and development initiatives at the Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind reflect the institutions' commitment to complete education. By providing opportunities for staff to enhance their skills, stay updated on methodologies, and collaborate with external organizations, the schools are ensuring that their students receive the best possible support and guidance.

Vocational Training

Vocational training plays a pivotal role in empowering students at the three school under the Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind, fostering their independence and skill development. The schools recognize the unique needs of their students and tailor Vocational Training to provide them with practical skills that can lead to meaningful careers.

The School for the Deaf and the Nuffield School for the Deaf & Blind place special emphasis on Vocational Training. These schools recognize that hearing impaired students may find traditional education challenging due to language barriers. Vocational Training, guided by the National Vocational Training Institute and the German Institute GIZ, has proven to be a remarkable avenue for these students to excel and acquire valuable skills.

The School for the Deaf offers an array of Vocational Training programs for students from Grades 6 to 9, including Graphic Designing, Beauty Culture & Hairdressing, Sewing, and Agriculture. A successful Bakery and Pastry program caters to post Ordinary Level (O/L) students, granting them a National Vocational Training Certificate (NVQ) from the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission (TVEC). Additionally, an Advanced Graphic Designing Course is conducted for post O/L students.



At the School for the Blind, students from the primary school and the special needs unit underwent training in Clay Work, facilitated by a teacher from the Social Services Department. This initiative not only enhances their artistic expression but also contributes to their motor skills development.

The Nuffield School for the Deaf and Blind provides Vocational Training in subjects such as Tailoring, IT, Candle making, Carpentry and Cookery. The addition of agricultural and farming projects further enriches students' practical experiences.

Giving opportunities for open School Projects and Practical Experience, Thenmaratchi Zonal Education Center conducted Graphic Design and Art classes for students above the age of 15. These certificate courses, endorsed by the National Institute of Education, provide students with practical skills and recognition in their chosen fields.

At Nuffield School, four Vocational Training Authority (VTA) trainees successfully completed a six-month practicum for NVQ (Level 3) Child Care Course. This initiative not only enhances the trainees' skills but also contributes to the students' development by exposing them to diverse caregivers.

Vocational Training at the Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind empowers students with practical skills and fosters their independence. By offering a wide range of vocational programs and collaborating with educational institutions and organizations, the schools are creating pathways for their students to succeed in various careers.

Sports

Inclusivity and active participation are fundamental principles at the Schools governed by the Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind, where visually and audibly impaired children engage in a range of events alongside their peers. Despite challenges, the schools strive to provide diverse opportunities for their students to showcase their talents and compete in various activities. We prioritize an inclusive environment, enabling visually and audibly impaired children to participate in events alongside their typically developing peers. This approach nurtures a sense of belonging and encourages students to explore their interests and talents.

This year, due to prevailing circumstances, the Ratmalana schools were unable to host their anticipated Inter House Sports Meet. Nevertheless, the commitment to inclusion remained unwavering.

Both the School for the Deaf and the School for the Blind offer opportunities for students to engage in Swimming and Cricket. These activities not only promote physical well-being but also foster teamwork, discipline, and personal growth.



Students from the School for the Deaf and the School for the Blind showcased exceptional talent at the Athletics Meet for Differently Abled Children organized by the Divisional Secretariat in Ratmalana. Notably, they achieved champion status in various track and field events, and their prowess was evident in the Discus Throw competition.

Nuffield School's Annual Sports Meet was held with stringent safety measures in place. This event provided a platform for students to demonstrate their athletic abilities and camaraderie.

Students from the Nuffield School actively participated in the DisAbility Sports Meet held in Jaffna. Their involvement not only showcased their determination but also strengthened the spirit of unity within the differently abled community.

The Deaf Alumni of the Nuffield School organized their Annual General Meeting (AGM) and a Sports Meet on the school grounds. This initiative encourages continued engagement with the school and fosters a sense of belonging among past students.

Additionally, friendly Netball and Cricket matches were organized between present and past students. These friendly matches not only promote sportsmanship but also create opportunities for social interaction and networking.

Extra-Curricular and Other Activities

School for the Deaf

The Bakery and O' Level students of the School for the Deaf were taken on a field trip to Hilton Colombo Residencies. During the trip, one of the school's past pupils provided a Cookery demonstration, which proved to be a highly inspiring and educational experience for the students.

'Sahothrathwe Manudama' team, composed of past students from the University of Moratuwa, organized a trip to Kandy on the 1st of October to celebrate Children's Day. The trip was attended by School for the Deaf children from Grade 9 and above, and they were accompanied by Staff Members. During the trip, the children had the opportunity to visit Dalada Maligawa, also known as the Temple of the Tooth, which is a significant religious site in Kandy. Additionally, they went on a boat ride around Kandy Lake, a picturesque and iconic location in the city. It's great to hear that the children enjoyed the trip and had a memorable experience.

The School for the Deaf had the honor of being part of the 16th Official Queen's Baton itinerary. The Vice President of the Commonwealth Games Association of Sri Lanka, Mr. Joseph Kenney, and the baton bearer, Mr. Faazil Hussain, were warmly welcomed by representatives from both the Blind School and the Deaf School. The Baton was then carried to the Blind School Hall by two prefects from each school. During the event, a student from the Deaf School delivered a speech in Sign Language, which was translated into Sinhala by another student. The presence of the Lord Bishop of Colombo and Board Members made the occasion even more memorable for the teachers and students.



The Hon. Prime Minister and his son had previously donated edu-mics to the Deaf School. During his recent visit, the Hon. Prime Minister interacted with four students who had hearing aids compatible with the edu-mics. The National Institute of Language, Education and Training team, responsible for training in Sign Language and Braille, was also present during the visit. This initiative by the Hon. Prime Minister aims to train teachers in Sign Language and Braille to support different schools. The visit concluded with the singing of the National Anthem in Sign Language, which the Prime Minister had the privilege of witnessing.

The School Development Society of the Deaf School organized a farewell ceremony for the former Principal, Mrs. Samanthika Jayasuriya. The event was attended by the Manager of the Deaf School, Ms. Shellomi Gunawardena, parents, teachers, and students. Mrs. Jayasuriya, escorted by the School's Western Band, was honored for her dedicated service to the school. The ceremony included tributes from students and teachers, and her photograph was unveiled and displayed on the wall of the School Hall as a token of appreciation.

School for the Blind

The School for the Blind too warmly welcomed Hon. Prime Minister, Mr. Dinesh Gunewardena, and his son who generously donated Computers and Sound Equipment to the school. He toured the Blind School Computer Lab and observed the students using the Computers he donated. The Prime Minister took the time to interact with all the students who were at the computer terminals that day, making the visit a memorable and encouraging experience for everyone.

For the staff of the School for the Blind, Dr. K. Punyadasa, Director of Special Education, conducted a seminar on Circular No. 37/2020, which focused on inclusive education. The seminar emphasized the importance of creating an inclusive environment for differently-abled students, highlighting the need for integrating students with disabilities alongside their peers from Grade 10 onwards.

A workshop on preparing Individual Education Plans (IEP) for the School for the Blind students was conducted by Mrs. Theja Panagoda, Deputy Director of Education, Western Province, Special Education, and Counselling. All teachers actively participated in the workshop, which aimed to enhance the support and education provided to visually impaired students.

The School for the Blind had the privilege of being part of the 16th Official Queen's Baton Relay event. During the occasion, the Vice President of the National Olympic Committee and the baton bearer were honored by the prefects of both the Blind School and the Deaf School. The baton was then carried to the Blind School hall. The event was graced by the Lord Bishop of Colombo and Board Members, and it brought immense joy and excitement to the teachers and students.

Divisional inspections were conducted by the Educational Zonal Office, and the teachers received instructions accordingly. The Blind School achieved an impressive 70% score across all themes, reflecting the dedication and commitment of the school community.

The Girl Guides from the School for the Blind demonstrated their culinary skills by participating in the Master Chef cooking competition. This event was thoughtfully organized by the differently abled branch of the Sri Lanka Girl Guides Association. The competition took place at the Hotel School Colombo. Girl Guides showcased their creativity and teamwork in the kitchen, competing with fervor and enthusiasm.

The Scouting program has been reinvigorated under the capable leadership of Scout Master Mr. Chrishan Pieris. Weekly meetings are now being held, providing students with an opportunity to engage in character-building activities, teamwork exercises, and skill development. Scouting fosters personal growth and instills values that contribute to the development of responsible and capable individuals.

The school actively participated in commemorating the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. In collaboration with the Disability Organizations Joint Front (DOJF), an inspiring dance item was organized. This initiative encouraged our students to celebrate

diversity and promote inclusivity. By participating in this event, students demonstrated their support for individuals with disabilities, fostering empathy and understanding within the school community.

The prefects' induction was held successfully, followed by the regular weekly Chapel Service.



The children showcased their creativity and talent related to Sinhala Literature at the Literature day, with a guest speaker, Mrs. Asha Ralapanawa, an Author.

Inter-House Speech Competition was held in November, and judges from different institutions evaluated the speeches.

The school children participated in an evening of Christmas Carols, celebrating the holy event at the

Embassy of Palestine.

At the beginning of each school term, special Chapel Services were conducted. Staff and students from both the School for the Deaf and School for the Blind attend these services. The services marked the start of a new academic period and provided an opportunity for students and staff to seek inspiration and guidance as they embarked on their educational journey. These occasions also reinforced the importance of spiritual well-being in tandem with academic pursuits.

A significant event within our Chapel Services was the special Holy Communion Service held on February 17th in observance of Ash Wednesday. This occasion marked the beginning of the Lenten season, a period of reflection and preparation leading up to Easter. The Holy Communion service allowed participants from both schools to engage in a meaningful and solemn spiritual practice, reinforcing the importance of faith and devotion.

Nuffield School for the Deaf & Blind

The Nuffield school celebrated Navarathri with a special function in October. The occasion featured cultural performances and festivities, providing students with an opportunity to embrace their cultural heritage.

The children at the Nuffield School participated in the Children's Day event organized by the Sri Lanka Association for Child Development. The event provided an opportunity for students to interact with peers from other schools and engage in fun and educational activities.

The Thenmaradchy Zonal Education Office also conducted a Children's Day program at Nuffield School. The event provided an opportunity for the students to showcase their talents and creativity.

Hostel students at Nuffield School celebrated Diwali embracing the festival of lights with joy and camaraderie.

The Christmas spirit was alive and vibrant with a joyous Christmas Party. The event was filled with laughter, games, and festive cheer.

Nuffield School warmly welcomed disabled students, staff, and parents from CARITAS Home, Mannar. The visit aimed to promote inclusivity and understanding among individuals with diverse abilities. Nuffield School students facilitated activities that allowed the visitors to gain insights into various disabilities and the challenges they face. This initiative not only created a platform for empathy but also fostered a sense of unity within our school community.

An educational tour was organized to Thirukethisvaranm Kovil and Madu Mannar. The objective of this tour was to explore cultural similarities and differences, enriching students' understanding of cultural heritage. The visit to Thirukethisvaranm Kovil provided a glimpse into the rich religious and architectural heritage, while the exploration of Madu Mannar offered insights into the cultural diversity of the region. This tour encouraged students to appreciate the value of cultural exchange and respect for traditions.

Nuffield students embarked on a field trip to Allupitty beach with a focus on building essential life skills. This trip provided a practical learning experience, allowing students to develop skills beyond the classroom setting. Activities at the beach promoted teamwork, problem-solving, communication, and adaptability, all of which are crucial for personal growth and development. The hands-on approach of this field trip aimed to equip students with practical skills that will serve them well in various aspects of their lives.

Important School Events

The Three schools hosted a series of events that brought together students, teachers, parents, and well-wishers to celebrate various occasions. These events showcased the school's commitment to providing a well-rounded education and fostering a sense of community among its members.

School for the Deaf

International Children's Day Celebration was held with enthusiasm. A special assembly was held in the school hall, where teachers presented a variety of entertainment items that delighted the students. The performances by the teachers left the children thrilled and entertained. The highlight of the day was the special mid-morning tea and lunch, creating a festive atmosphere that added to the celebration.

The Annual Christmas Carols programme took place on 1st December at the Chapel of the Holy Child. The event was marked by a unique performance from the Senior Choir of the School for the Deaf, who sang Carols in Sign Language, showcasing inclusivity. The Primary students' Nativity play added to the Christmas spirit. The Lord Bishop of Colombo graced

the event, contributing to its significance. Attendees included Board Members, Teachers, parents, and well-wishers. The event was made even more special by the participation of all students, emphasizing unity and celebration.

The Christmas Party brought joy and merriment to the school community. The children engaged in Games, Dancing, and other enjoyable activities. A highlight of the day was the special lunch provided to the children, adding to the festive atmosphere. The event showcased the school's dedication to creating a joyful and memorable environment for its students.

International Teachers' Day was celebrated organized by the school prefects. The event began with a respectful gesture as students escorted teachers to their seats. Following the traditional Oil Lamp Lighting Ceremony, students presented various entertainment items as a token of their appreciation. The students' tribute and worship of the teachers demonstrated the strong bond between educators and learners, reinforcing the importance of mutual respect.

School for the Blind

The 110th Founders' Day was celebrated on 17th June. A Chapel Service was held, attended by the Lord Bishop of Colombo, past and present teachers, staff and students from the two schools in Ratmalana. A special anniversary program was organized at the school hall, during which the children paid tribute to the school's Founder, Mrs. Mary Chapman.

International Children's Day was celebrated with a special assembly in the School Hall. The teachers presented various entertaining items, and the children enjoyed the performances. A special mid-morning tea and lunch were organized, and the Blind School children had a great time playing in the Bouncing castle.

International Teachers' Day was celebrated where the students organized a heartfelt tribute to the teachers, entertaining them with songs and dances, making the day special for the teachers.

International White Cane Day is also in October. The program that celebrated the day included a Volley Ball match and Mobility Training using the White Cane. Past pupils addressed the present students about the importance of using the White Cane for navigation.



A farewell ceremony was held for former teachers and ex-employees who had dedicated long-term service to the school. The event was organized by the school welfare society to honor their contributions.

The Annual Christmas Carols program took place at the Chapel of the Holy Child on 1st December. The Senior and Junior choirs mesmerized the audience with their singing. The Lord Bishop of Colombo graced the service.

Nuffield School for the Deaf and Blind

The Girl Guides at Nuffield School celebrated Women's Day with a special program. The event aimed to honor and empower women within the school community and provide an opportunity for students to showcase their talents and contributions.

School birthday was commemorated with a prayer service held in the Chapel. The occasion marked another year of providing quality education and care to the students with visual and hearing impairments.

Nuffield School enthusiastically celebrated International Sign Language Day on 23rd September 2022. The event aimed to raise awareness about the importance of Sign Language in fostering communication and inclusivity for the Deaf community.

Children's Day was joyfully celebrated at Nuffield School in October. The school organized various activities and entertainment for the students, making it a day of fun and excitement.

Teachers Day was celebrated to honor the dedication and hard work of the teaching staff at Nuffield School. Students expressed their gratitude and appreciation to their teachers through various activities and presentations.

Nuffield School enthusiastically celebrated International White Cane Day. The event highlighted the importance of the White Cane as a tool for independence and Mobility for visually impaired individuals.

The school community came together to celebrate the spirit of Christmas with a heartfelt Carol Service in December.

These events stand as a testament to the school's commitment to creating a holistic and enriching educational experience. From celebrating Children's Day with engaging activities, hosting an inclusive Christmas Carols programme, organizing a festive Christmas Party, to acknowledging International Teachers' Day with reverence, the school showcased its dedication to nurturing a vibrant and united school community. Through these events, students, teachers, and parents alike were able to come together and celebrate the essence of education, unity, and mutual respect.

Schools Health, Welfare, Infrastructure Development & Maintenance

Health and Welfare

The School for the Deaf has made notable efforts to enhance the living conditions and facilities within its hostels. These improvements aim to provide a safe and comfortable environment for the students.

Several initiatives have been implemented to ensure the good health of the students:

School for the Deaf

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the school took proactive measures to protect its students and staff. Students between the ages of 12 and 15 were vaccinated at the school premises in the presence of their parents/guardians. This vaccination drive was carried out to safeguard the health of the students and create a safer learning environment.



To combat the threat of Dengue, regular visits were conducted by the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) office for inspections. The school diligently followed dengue prevention protocols to eliminate potential breeding sites and minimize the risk of Dngue transmission.

The school collaborated with the Mobile Unit of the Dental Association to promote oral health among the students. The dental team visited the school once a term to clean the teeth of the students, ensuring good dental hygiene and addressing any oral health issues.

A team of Doctors from Kotalawela Defence Hospital regularly visited the school to conduct medical check-ups. These check-ups allow for early detection of health issues and provide students with necessary medical attention and care.

School for the Blind

A team of dentists from Kotalawela Defence University Hospital conducted dental inspections for the students. These regular inspections aimed to promote good oral health and detect any dental issues early on, ensuring that appropriate dental care is provided to the students.

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The school regularly welcomed a team of Doctors from Kotalawela Defence Hospital to conduct health inspections. This initiative facilitated early detection and treatment of any health concerns among the students. Additionally, medical health camps were organized under the supervision of physicians from the Health Ministry, further enhancing the students' access to medical care and check-ups.

Public Health Officials periodically visited the school and conducted health check-ups for the students. These visits served to monitor the overall health and well-being of the students and ensured that any health issues were addressed promptly.

The school organized educational excursions and outings for the students, allowing them to explore new places and broaden their horizons. These excursions not only provided an

opportunity for learning beyond the classroom but also fostered social interaction and personal growth.

Nuffield School for the Deaf and Blind

A team of Dermatologists visited Nuffield School for the Deaf and Blind and conducted a skin testing session for the students. This initiative aimed to identify and address any skin-related issues among the students, ensuring their optimal skin health.

Starting from September 2022, the Hearing-Impaired students at Nuffield School received routine ear tests. The Teaching Hospital of Jaffna appointed a new Audiologist, who is now responsible for conducting these tests. This step enables timely identification and management of any hearing related concerns, ensuring that the students have the necessary support for their hearing needs.

The three Schools are committed to the holistic development and welfare of its students. By implementing health check-ups, dental inspections, and health camps, the school ensures that the students' medical needs are met. Furthermore, organizing excursions and welfare activities contributes to their overall growth and enriches their educational journey.

Infrastructure Development & Maintenance

The Schools undertook significant infrastructure development projects to enhance the facilities and amenities and create a more conducive learning environment for its students.

School for the Blind

Roof Repairs and Renovation of Senior Girls' Washrooms were renovated ensuring the safety and comfort of the students.

Color Washing of Senior Girls' Bathing Rooms was completed by the generous contribution of Maliban Manufacturing Pvt Ltd. This effort not only improved the aesthetics but also provided a clean and pleasant hostel facilities for the students.

The Sri Lanka Air Force demonstrated their support for the school by repainting the library. This initiative gave the library a fresh look.

The Sri Lanka Air Force further extended their assistance by carrying out repairs of Chairs, Desks, and the Ceiling. This refurbishment ensured that the students had comfortable and functional furniture for their educational needs.

The senior boys' toilets were also refurbished by the Sri Lanka Air Force, enhancing the hygiene and facilities available to the students.

Installation of Fans in Senior Girls Hostel: Kind donors generously donated and installed six fans in the Senior Girls Hostel, ensuring a comfortable living environment for the students during hot weather.

Nuffield School for the Deaf & Blind

Foundation of Goodness invested to construct a tube well, ensuring a reliable and safe source of drinking water for the school community. This initiative significantly enhances the availability of clean water, a crucial element for the well-being and health of the students and staff.

As part of the broader infrastructure development plan, the revamping of the school's electrical system is prioritized. This essential upgrade will improve the safety, efficiency, and reliability of the electrical infrastructure, ensuring a conducive learning and living environment for the students and staff.

Societies / Associations

Nurturing a sense of community and camaraderie, the Schools actively engages in various societies and associations that contribute to the school's growth and support the students and staff.

School for the Deaf

Past Pupils' Association (PPA) - The Past Pupils' Association at School for the Deaf has been exceptionally active this year, demonstrating a strong commitment to giving back to the school community and society. They organized a special event and donated meals for an entire day in memory of the former Principal, late Mr. Kingsley Cooray. This act of remembrance not only commemorated the late Principal's contributions but also showcased the PPA's solidarity with the school. They also donated stationery to the students, supporting their academic pursuits and ensuring access to essential learning materials. The PPA extended its charitable endeavors by donating dry rations to deaf and disabled individuals who face financial constraints. This act of kindness and compassion reflects the PPA's dedication to uplifting vulnerable communities. They actively holds regular meetings to foster connections among past pupils, promote engagement with the school, and coordinate various initiatives.

Parent-Teacher Association (School Development Society) - The School Development Society, also known as the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA), plays a pivotal role in the school's development and student well-being. The School Development Society organized a heartfelt farewell ceremony for the former Principal, Mrs. Samanthika Jayasuriya. This event was attended by the School Manager, Parents, Teachers, and students, who expressed their appreciation for Mrs. Jayasuriya's dedicated service. Her photograph was unveiled and now hangs in the School Hall as a tribute to her remarkable contributions.

School for the Blind

While School for the Blind may not have seen significant activities from all the societies/associations during the year 2022, their presence remains important in supporting the school community.

Past Pupils' Association (PPA) - During the year 2022, the Past Pupils' Association did not hold any meetings or organize specific events. However, the PPA continues to be an integral part of the school community, connecting past pupils and contributing to the school's welfare.

Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) - Throughout the year 2022, the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) did not organize any specific programs or events. While no activities were held, the PTA remains an essential link between parents, teachers, and the school administration.

Staff Welfare Association - The Staff Welfare Association actively supported the staff during the year, particularly in times of loss and bereavement. Although no major projects were organized, the association provided vital emotional and social support to the staff members who experienced the loss of their loved ones.

Nuffield School for the Deaf & Blind

Staff Welfare Society (SWS) - SWS caters to staff welfare and fellowship and holds meetings every term. The Society provides an opportunity to discuss staff welfare issues and serves as a forum to give support to any staff member in times of need. It also provides an opportunity for rotational leadership to all staff.

Past Pupils Association of the Deaf (PPAD) - The PPAD committee meet once a month and has an annual get together in July. The annual meeting is a two-day programme with the diaspora community supporting the event not only through funding but also through their presence. The PPAD meetings encourages and increases a sense of fellowship within the community.

Appointments, Retirements & Resignations

The Schools bid farewell to several dedicated individuals who have contributed significantly to the institution over the years. With deep gratitude, we bid farewell to a few of our staff members who have dedicated their time and effort to nurturing the growth and development of the sight and hearing-impaired children in our schools and the communities they serve. Your commitment has been a source of inspiration and positive impact, leaving an indelible mark on the lives of those you've touched. As you embark on new journeys, we extend our warmest wishes for a fulfilling and joyous retirement.

We extend a warm welcome all new recruits to the Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind. Your presence is valued in our school community and we look forward to the contributions you will make in fostering an inclusive and empowering learning environment. May your journey with us be rewarding and filled with meaningful experiences as you embark on a fulfilling career dedicated to serving our students.

Miss Rosana Kulendran resigned from her role as Principal after serving the school for two years, on December 31st. During her tenure, she demonstrated a strong commitment to

the school's development and provided valuable leadership. Her contributions have left a positive impact on the institution. She was also the Competent Authority for the School for the Blind.

Mr. R.M.S. Bandara, the Art Teacher, retired from his position after 29 years of dedicated service to the school. His creativity and passion for teaching art have enriched the educational experience of students throughout his tenure. His commitment to the school's growth is commendable.

Ms. J.B.M. Indrelatha retired from her role as a teacher after a remarkable 35 years of service to the school. Her long and dedicated service exemplifies her commitment to education and the well-being of the students.

Ms. L.A. Weerasingha retired from her position as a teacher after 25 years of devoted service to the school. Her commitment to the students' growth and development, along with her dedication to the school's values, has left a positive legacy.

Mr. S.M.D.A. Lakmal, the Primary Teacher and teacher in charge of Scouting was bid farewell at the School for the Blind. His commitment to fostering both academic and personal growth among students, along with his enthusiastic guidance in Scouting activities, has been commendable. He contributed to the development of students' character and skills.

Ms. Amara Somasundaram assumed the role of Principal at Nuffield School on January 1, 2022. Her appointment brings a new era of leadership to the school and her expertise and vision are expected to contribute positively to the school's growth and development. We look forward to her guidance and leadership in the coming years.

The Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind embraces a cycle of change, as we express gratitude to our retiring staff for their unwavering dedication and welcome new members who will continue to shape the future of our institution. We are committed to maintaining a nurturing and vibrant community where each individual contributes to the growth and well-being of our students and the broader community.

Finance and Funding

Income & Expenditure

The following report provides a comprehensive overview of the financial performance, fundraising efforts, and meal donations program at the Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind for the year 2022. This report highlights the institution's commitment to its students' well-being and education, even amidst challenging circumstances.

Financial Analysis

The annual statement of accounts for 2022 reveals a detailed analysis of the institution's financial position. The total income and expenditure stood at Rs. 159,908,085/- and Rs.

167,581,429/- respectively. Budgeted income of Rs. 131,510,797/- and expenditure of Rs. 129,100,940/- effectively.

Fundraising Efforts and Meal Donations

Amid the global pandemic and economic downturn, the Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind experienced unwavering support from donors and well-wishers. Despite the absence of large-scale fundraisers, the institution's supporters ensured its forward movement throughout the year. This resilience was a testament to the school's importance in the community.

Resource Development Committee (RDC)

The Resource Development Committee (RDC) plays a pivotal role in fundraising for the school. Committed to aiding the Board of Trustees, the RDC organizes fundraising events annually. Unfortunately, many of these planned events for the year were hindered by the pandemic. The Sponsor a Child Program, a major initiative by the RDC, attracted widespread attention. Generous Donors, including the General Public, Corporations, and Organizations, supported the education of children in need, facilitating their access to education, vocational training, and welfare services. The RDC's efforts generated a total income of Rs. 14,017,502/- from limited fundraising activities conducted during the year.

Meal Donations Program

Recognizing the financial burden of providing meals for the residential students, a Meal Donations program was established. Meal Coordinators for each school location ensured the smooth functioning of this vital program. In 2022, donations for meals amounted to Rs. 14,430,647/- for the two Ratmalana schools and Rs. 13,857,559/- for the Nuffield School in Jaffna.

The year 2022 was marked by resilience, determination, and community support for the Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind. Despite financial constraints and logistical challenges, the institution persevered in its mission to provide quality education and care to its students. As we move forward, we remain committed to our cause, fueled by the generosity and compassion of our supporters.

Acknowledgements

The Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind extends heartfelt appreciation and acknowledgments to all those who have contributed to the meaningful growth and sustenance of the school, enhancing the lives of its students.

We express our deep gratitude to the numerous organizations, donors, and well-wishers who have joined hands to create a more purposeful life for the students. Generous contributions in the form of cash, in-kind donations, meal provisions, grants, and various

forms of support have immensely contributed to the school's ability to continue its operations. Their continued support, even during these trying times, speaks volumes about the strength of our community and their commitment to our mission.

The schools acknowledge and extends its gratitude to the Ministry of Education, Provincial and Zonal Educational Offices, Ministry of Social Services, MOH Officers, PHI Officers, and both Governmental and non-Governmental institutions. Their financial and other forms of assistance have played a crucial role in enabling the school's endeavors.

The Board of Trustees extends its heartfelt gratitude to the entire school community that tirelessly works towards the betterment of the students and the institution. This includes Principals, Teachers, Office Staff, Caregivers, Cooks, Gardeners, Watchers, Drivers, Volunteers, and Head Office staff. Their dedication, hard work, and commitment have been instrumental in fostering a nurturing and empowering environment for the students.

The Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind recognizes that its journey is enriched by the support, collaboration, and dedication of countless individuals, organizations, and institutions. Through this united effort, the school is able to fulfill its mission of providing quality education, care, and empowerment to the visually and hearing impaired children. The gratitude expressed resonates with the school's deep appreciation for the collective impact that each contributor brings.

Please let me know if there are any additional details or specific aspects you would like to include in this report, and I will gladly incorporate them.



Subhashini Meegama
Secretary
Board of Trustees
Project Coordinator CSDB