

**MOUNT TIYI COLLEGE
WOKHA NAGALAND, 797111**

Best Practices

1. Mentoring

Mentoring is an 'open and trust' relationship between persons. It includes a series of activities in which mentees/mentors engage. Mentors work with individual students to bring constructive change- giving an opportunity to explore, discover and help make life more resourceful. The Mentoring cell at Mount Tiyi College is committed to this change and growth in the students.

Objectives of the Practice

- To develop better understanding of the students' background, their calibre, areas of interests and their potentials.
- To help them identify their strengths and weaknesses, build up their confidence with a positive outlook.
- To instill in them sincerity and hard work.
- To minimize dropouts by helping them achieve emotional stability and motivation.
- To encourage increased participation in co-curricular activities and a better understanding of themselves vis-à-vis the society.
- To enable them to cope effectively with life after graduation.

The Context

The majority of the students come from the far flung villages of the district, many of whom board in rented houses without proper supervision exposing them to unwanted elements. This was reflected in their low attendance and ultimately in their end semester results. As such, it becomes pertinent for the teachers to intervene and take up mentorship to guide the students and help them to give importance to their academic performance, ensure responsible behaviour and discipline inside and outside the classroom and broaden their horizon of knowledge through the interaction between the mentor and the mentees.

The Practice

Each member of the faculty acts as a mentor, counsellor and confidante to the students. Mentoring sessions are usually done during free periods on weekdays, on Saturdays, and even outside class hours, if necessary. A unique practice of the college is the major role played by the Principal herself, who mentor students, especially erring students, individually. The bio-data of all the mentees is made available to the mentors who keep track of the overall conduct of their mentees.


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Evidence of Success

- A positive change in the behaviour and attitude of the students has been observed.
- It has helped in establishing good rapport between the teachers and the students and this camaraderie is evident in the various activities of the college where teachers and students share food and work with fun and enthusiasm.
- Improvement is reflected in the academic performance of the students.
- It has brought about a congenial atmosphere within the college campus.
- The good rapport between students and authority, teachers and students and among students helps in the disciplining of students and in the teaching-learning process.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- The teachers are not professionally trained in counselling and as such lack counselling aptitude which is one of the basic problems encountered.
- Poor attendance of the mentees in group sessions and their lackadaisical attitude towards mentoring programme are also hindrances as a positive outcome can be achieved only when both parties co-operate and work together.

2. Discipline for holistic education

Goal

The college recognizes that learning, character and discipline are key to the overall development of the student. Learning involves hard work and discipline to achieve success. Discipline, in itself, is central in moulding the character of an individual. In this connection, the college is focused on strengthening the character of the students by instilling in them the key beliefs of patience, perseverance and persistence to face life's most pressing challenges successfully. Discipline enforcement is oriented towards helping in the development of self confidence, and preserving the self esteem of the students. The goal is to educate the students to become responsible individuals.

The Context

The college caters to students from urban and rural areas with diverse economic and educational background. Considering this, it is only natural that the college has to deal with students having different intellectual, emotional and moral attributes. To tackle these differences, amongst the student community, is one of the greatest challenges of the college.

The college is aware that a great number of students reside in houses without adult supervision making them vulnerable to social evils. Given that substance abuse and alcoholism is destroying the lives of young people, it was imperative to adopt certain measures which would

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impose constraint on the students. In this connection, discipline enforcement is augmented by mentoring programme with timely dose of lessons in moral-social ethics.

The introduction of wearing uniforms is a major step taken towards maintaining a certain degree of discipline in the college. The intent of a uniform dress code is to bring students from different backgrounds as one, without disparity. It also promotes among the students a sense of unity, confidence and self respect.

The Practice

The Disciplinary Action Committee is tasked, in liaison with the administration, with monitoring discipline in the institution. The enforcement of discipline is carried out in accordance with the rules and regulations of college. Adherence to the maintenance of decorum in the college is strictly enforced; discipline is enforced in the classrooms, library, canteen, and within the campus. Students are advised to maintain discipline and behave in a manner befitting of one in uniform, even outside the campus. Attendance of students is tracked regularly to check truancy; regular occurrences of which are brought to the notice of the authority, the mentor and the parents concerned. Students with troubled behaviour are brought to the notice of the concerned authority or mentor who in turn counsels them as and when required.

The college has been declared as Tobacco Free Zone, for which regular awareness programmes are conducted by the college, as well as by the tobacco control board of the district. Students are educated on the harmful effects arising out of the use of tobacco products.

Through discipline enforcement, the students are expected to respect the environment, develop civic sense and develop a positive attitude towards community service. The duty of maintaining the classrooms, in terms of discipline and cleanliness, is entrusted to the students under the supervision of the class representatives. Weekly inspection is carried out by the committee to ensure that such disciplinary activities are carried out by the students with diligence and sincerity.

Evidence of Success

Enforcement of discipline is central to the proper functioning of every institution which has concern for the holistic development of the students. Through the emphasis on discipline the college has witnessed a satisfactory improvement in class attendance, academic performance and behavioural attitude of the students. Evidence of success is supported by a dramatic change in cleanliness of the classrooms and around the college campus. The most visible improvement in the attitude of the students is the absence of any malpractices in the examination halls, of which the college is most proud of. There has also been a dramatic drop in the use of tobacco products amongst the students. The college can claim that the practice of discipline enforcement, accompanied by mentoring at individual level, is acting as a positive force in every aspect of life of its student.


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Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Despite the success achieved thus far, it is not free from loopholes. Some of the basic problems encountered are, the influence of social environment around the students, peer pressure, social media and popular culture etc., to which students are susceptible to succumb. This is beyond the control of the college, especially after class hours. As mentioned earlier, many students coming from rural areas live without adult supervision and parental guidance, and such students often tend to fall behind.

The teachers have been trying in their own capacity to meet the need of the students. However, the college recognizes that the presence of teachers trained in basic skills on mentoring would help, in a positive way, in addressing the issue. Discipline enforcement is an exercise needing constant monitoring for which purpose the college needs more CCTV coverage in the campus.



10/11/20

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