

The Ardee School Partners with Nirvana Being To Unleash Air Pollution Free Greener Campus

In a first of its kind initiative in India, the New Friends Colony based school to use Nirvana Being's technology to make its "my right to breathe" campaign a reality.

New Delhi, October 2018: THE ARDEE SCHOOL, New Friends Colony, one of Delhi's leading K-12 schools, in collaboration with Nirvana Being, market leader in Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Compliance has transformed the ambience of the school in terms of the air quality the children breathe in. This breakthrough achievement at THE ARDEE SCHOOL has been possible with the passionate and focused efforts of Shefali Varma, the Chairperson of Ardee School. The school is one of the founder members of the campaign "my right to breathe" and under the accomplished and expert guidance of Nirvana Being they have created a revolution in the school education sector.

The School's Special Task Force team under the leadership of Shefali, has taken some pathbreaking decisions to provide healthy and improved air quality to the students. The school classifies days as Yellow and Red depending on the pollution level range, and follows a system of flagging the same. This has been made possible with the deployment of monitors across the school premises. It alerts the students on the adverse impact of the air quality and prepares them for emergency preventative care. Parents can stay informed through the use of an online link to the air quality monitors.

The School suspends all outdoor activity once the PM2.5 levels exceed 200ug/m³ in line with their policy of limiting exposure of children. However, sport and physical activity is imperative for cognitive development. Nirvana Being has retrofitted the ventilation systems in the lower ground floor area of the school with MERV 14 rated Honeywell Electronic Air Cleaners to reduce PM2.5 levels by 80-85% from ambient levels, down to 0.3 microns. This floor is 15000 square feet of space dedicated to indoor sports and activity. The air quality is kept under control with high quality 'Air Circulation System' and electronic air cleaners and filters. The impact is very distinctly observed on Yellow and Red days when the PM2.5 levels exceed 200ug/m³ and playing outdoors is very unsafe.

The school ensures healthy air with creative techniques such as plants being used in classrooms and further looking into the installation of a German engineered planter called Airy that generates eight times more clean air than an earthen pot. These tools replenish oxygen levels and reduce volatile organic compounds in the classrooms where children spend most of their day. With this robust arrangement, the school is a safer place for children rather than a closure on heavy pollution days.

The Ardee School has engaged in initiatives such as offering video classes to students when schools are closed down by the government on severe pollution days; waste free school drive, wearing masks while commuting on red days, customizing the school calendar to ensure longer breaks during poor air quality periods (Diwali and winter break) and reducing other holidays to keep a balance, the red brigade

participation to raise air pollution awareness in the community and regular discussions on pollution that cover aspects on how to prevent, prepare and protect oneself.

Commenting on this milestone move, Mr. Jai Dhar Gupta, founder of Nirvana Being said, “It is imperative for school authorities to realize the detrimental impact of air pollution on a child’s development. The effects can be severe in terms of physical and cognitive impacts. Thus, this issue needs to be actively and aggressively addressed, to limit the exposure of children. If we want a healthy nation and a better tomorrow, we have a responsibility to deal with this concern in schools, where children spend a bulk of their day.”

The Ardee School Chairperson, Mrs. Shefali Varma said, “Children are most vulnerable to the rising pollution levels, which is not improving any time soon. The effects of breathing in impure air are clearly visible in their overall growth. We cannot afford to neglect this grave situation any more. Children spend 8 hours a day with us. It is our responsibility to ensure that our students are protected and this is what we are trying to achieve.”

But the fight cannot stop here. The Ardee School has begun **the Carpool To School** movement and simple incentives like privilege cards for students and attendance waivers is offered to the more environmentally conscious students who are ready to step out of their comfort zone.

In addition, in the school’s endeavour to spread awareness on this health emergency, a talk by Mr. Jaidhar Gupta and Dr. Nitin Verma, renowned paediatrician is being hosted at their New Friends Colony campus on November 1. On the same day, the student council of the school has planned an anti cracker march, in which the school community will engage the community as they reach out to them to help them understand the need to have a No Cracker Diwali. The school community has reached out to all stake holders to join them in fighting for their child’s right to breathe.

About Nirvana Being:

Nirvana Being and its team have been at the forefront of not only raising awareness, but also presenting various protective products and solutions that can purify your micro environment, while we work on broader change.

Through its offerings, Nirvana Being is looking to protect its patrons from the perils of air pollution whether they are outdoors, in their car, or in their home/office. They are always working on solutions that are environmentally friendly and show our adopters a more sustainable path.

They have already delivered on our promise of Better Health Today for thousands of consumers and businesses in India. They have served prominent companies such as PVR, Fitness First, Jindal Steel, Bennett Coleman, Birla Group, Fab India, Pernod Ricard, Belgian Embassy, and more.

For further information, please refer to the Nirvana Being website: <https://www.nirvanabeing.com>.

About The Ardee School:

THE ARDEE SCHOOL, New Friends Colony established in 2017, is a secular, child centric co-educational day-boarding school. It follows the International Cambridge Curriculum and plans to offer the Diploma Program of International Baccalaureate. The pre primary school follows the International Montessori Program, followed by the Cambridge curriculum across grades 1 to 10, culminating in the IGCSE examination in Year 10 and the A Levels at Year 12. The school is currently in the accreditation process for the IB Diploma programme. The school weaves the best practices and methodologies of various curricula to create an indigenous curriculum which allows analytical and critical thinking vs rote learning.

The school is a multi-cultural community with four more branches in Delhi, Gurugram, Noida and Goa.