



# CITY COLLEGE

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## 7.2.1: Describe two best practices successfully implemented by the Institution as per NAAC format provided in the Manual

### Best Practice: 1

#### 1. Title of the Practice: *Community Engagement and Social Responsibility*

#### 2. Objectives of the Practice:

1. To inculcate values of community engagement in the students so that their understanding of, and approach to social issues will be holistic, respectful and inspiring.
2. To generate proper social attitudes in young minds.
3. To gain an understanding of social realities and find out solutions.

#### 3. The Context:

Despite India's economic growth, problems related to population like poverty, inequality, environmental degradation and conflict persist. It is expected that education would contribute towards arriving at solutions to these problems to some extent. The higher education sector is bestowed with certain social and academic responsibilities. City College played a key role in the generation of social attitudes in young minds during the Bengal Renaissance. One important mission of this college is to develop sensitive and responsible youth forces that have social commitments toward the larger sections of society. The college has made serious efforts to improve the social connect of our students and faculty members through various initiatives.

#### 4. The Practice:

The extension activities of the college focus on the concept of campus-community partnership, engaging the students with the realities of society and creating a mind-set of extending a helping hand to those in need.

Several exceptionally intense and disastrous tropical cyclonic storms hit West Bengal in 2019-20, including Fani on 3rd May 2019 and Bulbul on 6th November 2019, The super cyclone Amphan on May 20, 2020, another super cyclone "Yass" made its landfall on May 23-28, 2021 and COVID-19 Pandemic simultaneously causing considerable devastation in



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Eastern India. During that time, our College premises were used as shelter for needy people, the college offered financial assistance, relief goods and other forms of assistance to the impacted people, both directly and through students. Simultaneously, faculty members from all departments were familiar with the various techniques of online teaching in order to provide students with a hassle-free virtual classroom atmosphere.

### **5. Evidence of Success:**

Various events of social relevance have been organized by the college over the last few years. These include Blood Donation camp, distribution of woollen garments, stationery items and food packets to the economically challenged, awareness camps on the Student Credit Card Scheme, visit to 'NatunGhar', an old-age home for destitute women, Visit to 'Pratyush', a society for downtrodden children and women and seminars on social context such as 'Human rights and Gender Sensitization', 'Non-Violence in Gandhian Philosophy' etc. at the college premises.

### **6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:**

In terms of the challenges and problems encountered in implementing the practice of community engagement and social responsibility financial limitations hinder the implementation of this practice on a larger scale. The real challenge, however, is to take up and sustain a programme with long term impact instead of one-off, short term projects. The College has not been able to identify and implement such a programme so far.

### **Best Practice: 2**

**1. Title of the Practice:** *Fostering an environment that is inclusive for all learners*

#### **2. Objectives of the Practice:**

City College is one of the oldest colleges of eastern India established in 1881 and has 143 years of history. The College arose from a seabed of extensive educational activity in Bengal by the members of the Sadharan Brahma Samaj in the late nineteenth century. Since then, the City College has always strived to retain its reputation as a learning institution for the marginalized and middle class people of Bengal. The College was founded with the goal of providing a better and more complete education to Indian students of all castes and creeds and to create learning spaces where financial and social disadvantages do not impede a student's education and growth.

#### **3. The Context:**

Students at City College come from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds for its reputation and strategic location at the heart of Kolkata with good connectivity by train and bus. The institution strives to aid all the students in their evolution as leaders and agents of social change who make a significant contribution in all spheres of life.



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#### 4. The Practice:

At a time when the Indian education system is undergoing a significant transition as per the government's thrust on inclusive and practical knowledge dispensation, it is of paramount importance to ensure that students belonging to the economically challenged categories are not left behind. The institution is known for providing quality education at nominal fees. The institution promotes education among the students, by providing an inclusive environment such as yearly Sports events, frequent publications in magazines and college publications, updated seminar and central libraries, a variety of cultural programs, regular academic field trips and excursions, community social outreach initiatives, a number of special programs, workshops, frequent parent-teacher meeting, seminars and webinars, as well as a number of online activities.

City College has a highly specialised ERP platform, an effective administration with various committees addressing every facet of high-quality education. Students also avail of various Govt. Scholarship and the college sensitizes the students about such opportunities through awareness camps and also facilitate the process to help the needy and deserving students.

#### 5. Evidence of Success:

Our rich alumni strength is one evidence of success. There are several Bhatnagar awardees, eminent scholars, renowned persons in the cultural field, famous sportspersons etc. Following the practice of promoting education for all, many of our students pursue higher education and are successfully placed in various organizations across India.

#### 6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

In order to achieve the set objective of providing holistic education to all, certain facilities are needed such as a dedicated seminar/conference room and more smart classroom for the Arts departments, language laboratory for language subjects, a dedicated computer room for the Economics department. There are some challenges due to space limitations and certain difficulties because this institution's building and infrastructure is shared by two other colleges.



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