

• Forecast: Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers • Max. tem: 31°C • Min. tem: 23°C • RH: 63% • Rainfall: Nil

[ Unique Attempt ]

# Making learning easy for dyslexics

One-of-its-kind Akira Learning Centre opens at St Andrews School, Bowenpally

CITY BUREAU

HYDERABAD

Akira Learning Centre, a unique attempt at teaching and guiding dyslexic children into the mainstream, was inaugurated at St Andrews School, Bowenpally, on Thursday.

The swanky first-of-its-kind facility in Hyderabad has introduced the concept of Multiple Intelligence, a novel and promising alternative approach in teaching children with learning disabilities. The concept of Multiple Intelligence is that children have multiple or multifaceted learning abilities and these abilities can compensate for deficits that they have.

“We have tools such as verbal, logical, naturalistic, musical, inter and intra-personal learning techniques, which can go a long way in helping children improve a lot with their learning abilities,” said Akira Learning Centre director Alana



TOP-CLASS: Managing Director, St Andrews School, Hyacinth Emanuel, and Director, Akira Learning Centre, Alana Emmanuel, with children at the learning centre. — Photo: Hrudayanand

Emmanuel, after the centre was thrown open.

With each classroom just having five children and a teacher, the learning curriculum for each student is highly individualised. “Each child will have a unique way

of learning things and one single curriculum will not yield desired results. Hence, the teaching style and curriculum will be individualised,” said St. Andrews School managing director Hyacinth Emanuel.

Traditionally, parents enrol their children with learning disabilities at two different places i.e. sending the child to a place of learning or to an occupational therapy facility. “We have brought the two under one

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ST. ANDREWS SCHOOL MD

roof at this centre. Our faculty members underwent training at Madras Dyslexic Society,” says Hyacinth Emanuel.

The academic programme will focus on three challenges that children with learning disabilities face, including providing enough academic skills that will hold the children in good stead and developing self-confidence and understanding their learning difference so that they can become effective self-advocates.