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## Inclusive Schools

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### FACILITIES FOR INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS—PROVISIONS FOR APPEARING IN EXAMINATIONS (CBSE)

#### Children with Special Needs (CWSN)

All the schools affiliated to CBSE were advised in the Circular No. 45 of 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2008, to ensure that no child with special needs is denied admission in the mainstream schools. These directives observed that there are many schools affiliated to CBSE who are not abiding by this directive.

There seems to be a whole lot of misconceptions among schools and school authorities on various issues pertaining to children with special needs. These children with special needs face challenges in learning as they may not be able to focus on the teacher during classroom interaction or may be their pace of learning may vary. The social and the emotional skills also need to be further strengthened.

“To overcome these problems generally an aid is given to the child. An aid is an adult sitting along with the special child encouraging and motivating the child to move along with the class.”

The schools are advised to permit the parents, when they make request to provide an aid so that individual attention is possible for the child and enables the student to grow and learn along with other peers in the classroom.

“Further inclusive education also needs to be done with an Individual Evaluation Programme. Specific goals should be set for each child with special needs based upon the appraisal. For this purpose the schools need to have a special educator.”

The CBSE Circular No. 65 stated that “It is being reiterated that any school which fails to provide attention to a child with special needs or makes

a pretext of denying admission to any category of a differently abled child will be liable to stringent action even to the extent of disaffiliation."

#### **Inclusive Education of Children with Disabilities Guidelines**

- Ensure that no child with special needs is denied admission in Mainstream Education.
- Monitor the enrolment in schools of disabled children.
- Provide support through assistive devices and the availability of trained teachers.
- Modify the existing physical infrastructure and teaching methodologies to meet the needs of all children including children with Special Needs.
- Ensure that 3 percent reservation of persons with disabilities is done in all institutions receiving funds from the government (Under the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995)
- Ensure that all schools are made disabled friendly by 2020 and all educational institutions including hostels, libraries, laboratories and buildings will have barrier free access for the disabled.
- Ensure the availability of study materials for the disabled and Talking Text Books, Reading Machines and Computers with Speech Software.
- Ensure an adequate number of sign language interpreters, transcription services and a loop induction system will be introduced for the hearing handicapped students.
- Revisit classroom organization required for the education of children with Special Needs.
- Ensure regular inservice training of teachers in inclusive education at the elementary and secondary level.

#### **Concessions Given to the Physically Challenged Candidates**

- Exemption from studying third language upto middle school level (class VIII)
- Permission to use an amanuensis.
- The amanuensis is a student of a lower class than the one for which the candidate will be taking the examination.
- The centre superintendent of the Examination Centre chooses a suitable amanuensis and forwards the child's particulars to the Regional Officer concerned for consideration and approval.
- The candidate pays the fees as prescribed for the use of the amanuensis to the Board. However, the blind, physically handicapped or the spastic candidates get the services of amanuensis free of cost.
- The amanuensis is paid the remuneration as prescribed from time to time by the Board.

- The candidate is permitted to use the services of an amanuensis in all or any of the papers. The services of the same amanuensis is taken up for all the papers. The candidate is permitted to draw the diagrams, etc. themselves if desired by them.

- Additional time is given in the following manner—

Paper of 3 hour duration	60 minutes
Paper of 2½ hour duration	50 minutes
Paper of 2 hour duration	40 minutes
Paper of 1½ hour duration	30 minutes

- The Centre Superintendent makes the seating arrangements for the dyslexic, blind, physically handicapped and the spastic candidates, preferably on the ground floor, as far as possible.
- Alternate type questions are provided in lieu of the questions having visual inputs for the blind candidates in English Communicative and Social Science for Class X and History, Geography and Economics for Class XII.
- Separate question papers in enlarged print for Mathematics and Science and Technology in Class X are provided.
- The Centre Superintendents are directed to send the answer books of special category students in separate covers.
- In order to facilitate easy access, a few selected schools are made the examination centres for special students.
- The blind candidates from Delhi have the facility to use computer or a typewriter for writing answers.
- Teachers from blind schools are appointed as Assistant Superintendents (invigilators) at the special examination centres. Precautions are taken to appoint different subject teachers on different days.
- A separate column has been provided on the title page of the answer book for indicating the category of physically challenged candidates so that the answer books are segregated. So that they can be sent separately to the Regional Office of the Board.
- At the secondary level a candidate has the option to opt for one language and any four of the following electives—
- Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Another Language, Music, Painting, Home Science and Introductory Information Technology, Commerce (Elements of Business) & Commerce (Elements of Book Keeping and Accountancy).
- Blind candidates have been permitted to offer subjects like Music, Home Science etc. that are not available in the school.