

Druk White Lotus School, Ladakh, Indian Himalaya

Status Report, Summer 2009



Education

506 students in total (260 girls; 246 boys)

158 residential students from remote areas

Local Head Master plus 23 Ladakhi and Tibetan teachers

25 support staff, including warden and house mothers

Nursery class (age 4) through Middle School class 7 (age 14)

Montessori methods in Nursery, Lower and Upper Kindergarten

4 team houses (marmot; pika; yak; blue sheep) to foster teamwork

English-medium school

Study of Bodhic (Ladakhi) language

New IT staff member

Parents' Association

School 'recognized' by State educational authority

Will apply in due course for affiliation to Central Board of Secondary Education (Indian national examining board)

Education Development

Senior Education Adviser guiding development

140 international sponsors finance disadvantaged day and residential pupils

Diverse school educational resources

Provision of sports facilities and equipment

International volunteers actively involved English, arts and IT

Dental healthcare program, with support of international volunteers



Teacher training program

Active international cooperation with other schools

Hardship Fund to assist with emergency family situations

Construction

Master Plan inspired by His Holiness the 12th Gyalwang Drukpa

Nursery & Infant Courtyard completed 2001

Residences 1 & 2 fully occupied; Residence 3 to be completed in 2009 and Residence 4 in 2011

Junior School Courtyard opened 2004

Dining Hall and Administration buildings completed and functioning

Head Master's house completed in 2006

Middle School opened November 2007, including first Science Laboratory and Creative Arts Studio

New solar energy system commissioned in October 2008

Secondary School must be completed in 2011

Library to be completed in 2011

Nursery & Infant Courtyard won three World Architecture Awards

School designed by international team from Arup Associates and Arup, London

Construction by local construction manager and staff, with support from Arup volunteers

Sustainability

Featured in US television documentary series "e² design: the economies of being environmentally conscious"

Trombe walls use passive solar energy

Construction using mainly local materials

Master Plan, including solar energy, sports areas, recycling/composting and greenhouses

More than 1,000 trees planted on the campus during 2008

School nurturing student and staff talents to foster sustainable human development

Heritage

Hosted 800th anniversary celebrations of Drukpa Lineage

Emphasis on Ladakhi performing arts

School welcomes children from all backgrounds and aims to ground them in their own culture

New Creative Arts Studio being equipped and put to use

'Living Traditions' heritage project being initiated with support from US volunteers

Location for several international and Bollywood film-shoots

Finances & Fundraising

Not-for-profit fee-paying school with fee levels set at locally affordable levels

School receives no direct financial contribution from Indian educational authorities

US\$2 million raised to date for capital investment

US\$600,000 needed to complete Secondary School, Library, Residence 4 and related infrastructure

Renewable energy equipment installed, co-financed by voluntary carbon-offset funds

100% of donations are invested in the project



Organization

Druk Padma Karpo Educational Society
a non-profit society registered with the State of Jammu & Kashmir

Drukpa Charitable Foundation (USA)
a 501(C)(3) organization

Drukpa Trust (United Kingdom)
UK registered charity No. 1014948

Drukpa Humanitaire (France)

Contacts

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International Co-operation

Alton College, UK

Arup Associates and Arup

Autodesk, Inc.

Jet Airways (India) Ltd.

kontentreal, New York

Ogilvy, Los Angeles

St. Christopher School, Herts, UK