

Project Title-School Garden & Composting



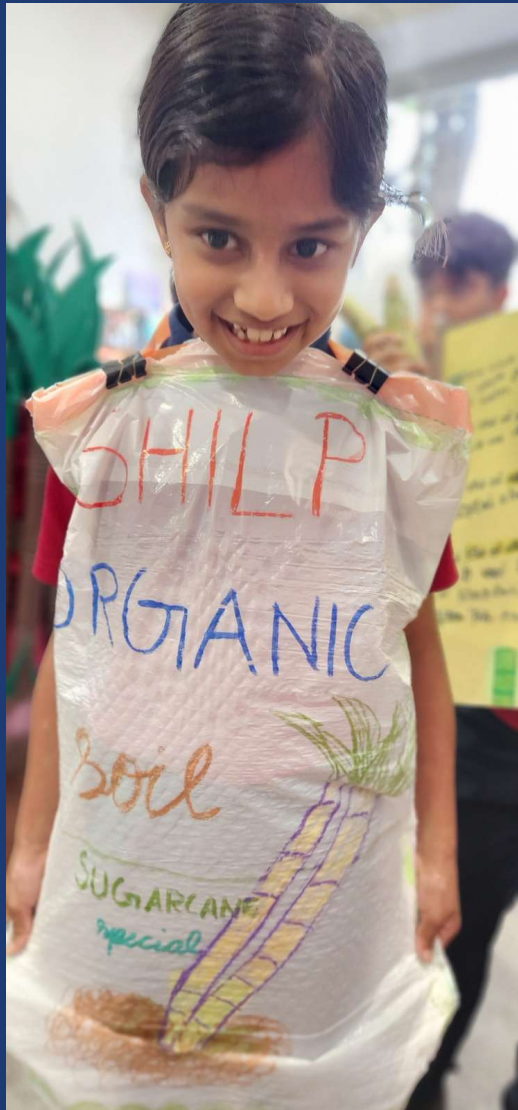
Vision

Soil becomes a classroom.
Waste becomes a resource.
Students become its custodians.

Mission:

As India's First Fairtrade school , our mission is to bridge the gap between environmental learning and everyday action.





Key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Addressed

SDG 4 (Quality Education): School farms act as living laboratories for experiential learning in science, math, biology, and environmental conservation.

SDG 2 (Zero Hunger / Sustainable Agriculture): Educating students sustainable food production, crop diversity, and local food security.

SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being): Promoting nutritious, chemical-free food and reduces non-communicable diseases by serving locally grown crops in cafeterias.

SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production): Introducing principles of composting, water conservation, and reducing food waste.

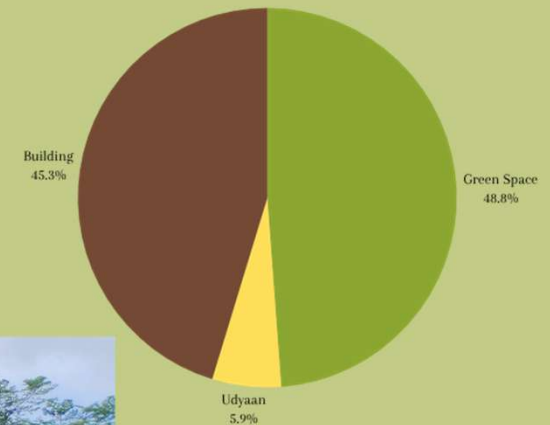
SDG 15 (Life on Land): Fosters a sense of responsibility toward natural biodiversity, soil health, and conservation.

Our Campus

Total Land Area : 17 acres

Total green area : 8.3 acres
(48.8%)

Shilp Udyaan area : 1 acre (5.9%)



VSA Community

Students : 2500

Staff : 500

Parent
community



Our new Classroom

An acre of unused land became our new classroom in 2023



Soil, our new *Black Board*



Soon the focus shifted from
cultivating land to
cultivating “seeds of possibility”

The 'Live' Classroom

Udyaan became a living classroom.



Preparation(for sowing)

Learning by doing (grafting and repotting)

Results (Harvesting tapioca)

Active Physical Participation



Experiential Knowledge



Life skills and values

New *Learnings* from “New Classroom”

- **QUESTION**
Where does our food come from?
- **EXPERIENCE**
Sowing • Nurturing • Harvesting
- **LEARNING**
Understanding food, farming and Nature
- **LIFE SKILLS**
Patience
Responsibility
Care



Harvesting of green chillies by students of Grade 6

Many diverse Learnings



Art & Creativity



Numeracy skills- measuring, weighing and calculating yield



Entrepreneurship skills



Design and problem-solving skills



Environmental education



Social and interpersonal skills

Learning How to Manage Waste- Resource

Waste transformed into a resource for Shilp
Udyaan.

SHILP KITCHEN
serves
~3,000 MEALS
EVERY DAY
↓
generating
100Kg OF ORGANIC
WASTE
↓
400Kgs of
nutrient rich
COMPOSTING +
VERMICOMPOSTING

- **QUESTION #1**
What happens to the waste we throw away?
- **EXPERIENCE**
Composting to Harvesting
Vermicompost
- **LEARNING**
Understanding how organic waste can be transformed into a valuable resource for growing plants
- **LIFE SKILLS**
Responsibility
Resourcefulness
Sustainability



*Meeting a friend of
the soil*



*Vermicomposting
@Udyaan
25.11.25*

Learning to be Responsible Producers / Users

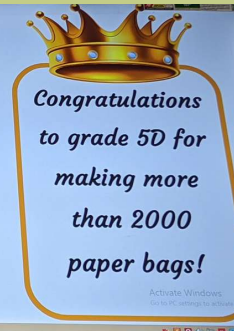
- **QUESTION #2**
Can something we consider waste be given a new life?
- **EXPERIENCE**
Reuse , Repurpose and Create
- **LEARNING**
Understanding waste reduction, resource conservation and the value of reusing materials instead of discarding them.
- **LIFE SKILLS**
Responsibility
Resourcefulness
Creativity



Supporting local, sustainable choices - Recycled Paper and Cloth Bags



Eco-champs of VSA! Their collective effort resulted in 1000+ paper bags!



Celebration of milestones in Paper Bag Making

Practical Learning - Caring & Sharing *with all*

- **QUESTION**
Who shares our garden with us?
- **EXPERIENCE**
Observing and interacting with soil, plants, insects, birds and other living beings.
- **LEARNING**
Discovering how every living organism is connected and contributes to the ecosystem.
- **SKILLS & VALUES**
Observation
Empathy
Respect for Biodiversity



“Understanding our role in
Ecological Interdependence”

Learning to Achieve Common Goal through Partnership

Students, educators, families and experts came together towards a shared goal.



**Seed to Grain
From Paddy to Ragi**

**Pickle and Guppy
Tales**



**Interactions with
Fairtrade Cotton
Farmer**

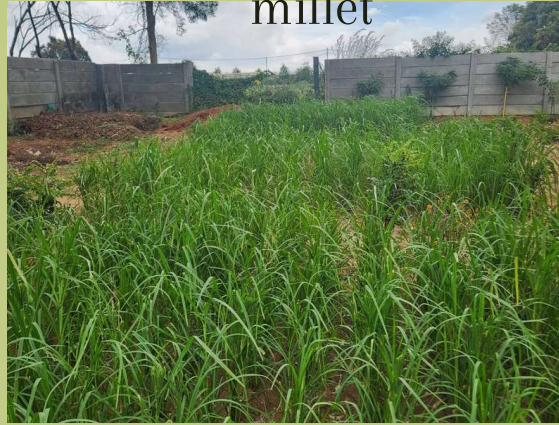
**Collaborating with
Farmers @ GKVK**



Hosting Cotton farmer Sarvaiya Pravinkumar Nagajibhai and his family opened new channels of interactions.

Collaboration and Partnership at Udyaan

2023-24- Year of the Millets: Udyan students of grade 8 cultivated 20 kgs of ragi millet



2018- Basmati cultivation undertaken under the guidance of our grandma Mrs. Leelavati



PICKLE TALES

120 bottles of pickles made from Udyaan grown chillies and tomatoes became an instant hit with parents and guests at **Independence day Celebrations**



IMPACT



UDYAAN inspired Innovation and start-up ideas

In 2026, a visiting NITI Aayog team selected two Udyaan-inspired student innovations as approved project ideas:



Smart Vermi compost bin-
Developed a sensor-based device to monitor key parameters of the composting bin, enabling students to understand and optimise the composting process.

Automated vertical Garden system-
Exploring efficient ways to grow food in limited spaces



“It Bloomed! - “From a seed in Udyaan to a seed of learning at home.”



From: Asha Venkatesh <ashavjc@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, 24 Sept, 2026, 8:11 am

Subject: 🌻 , it bloomed! 🌻

To: Bipasha Mandal <bipasha_mandal@vidyashilpacademy.edu.in>

Cc: Nidhin Joshua <nidhinjsh@gmail.com>

Hi Bipasha Ma'am,

Hope you're doing well 😊

Wanted to share with you the outcome of the sunflower seed that was given to be planted. Ira truly enjoyed planting it and watch it grow. She watered it regularly and that was so surprising to us parents! The joy when she saw the flower bloom was immense!

Thank you very much for your teachings and love to her!

Have a great day ahead 😊

Thanks & Regards,
Asha Venkatesh

FROM UDYAAN TO COMMUNITY ACTION

In a creative and impactful initiative, Shilpites collected paper bags and crafted new ones from recycled newspapers. These eco-friendly bags were then distributed at GKV Sante, where students also engaged vendors in meaningful conversations about reducing plastic use and embracing sustainable practices. The school children promise to relentlessly pursue this initiative every month.....



Testimonials:



“I Want to be a Farmer
when I grow up”
-Student Sahana



“Impressive initiative ...
please keep it on”
-Parent



“Very tasty.....”
-Educator Sindhu



A seed was planted → the garden grew → the learners grew →
the community grew → the idea continues to grow.

**Thank You for support and encouragement
@ Shilp Udyaan**