

BALSAM ACADEMY

E-PROSPECTUS

All rights reserved.



CONTENTS

<i>Our Commitment to Lifelong Learning</i>	04
<i>Balsam Academy - Name, Symbol, Colours</i>	05
<i>Our Vision & Mission</i>	06
<i>Core Values</i>	07
<i>Core Principles</i>	08
<i>History of Balsam Academy</i>	10
<i>Academic Approach</i>	11
<i>Beyond Academic Approach</i>	12
<i>Our Campus</i>	16
<i>Parent Involvement</i>	18
<i>Testimonials</i>	19
<i>To Know More</i>	20

OUR COMMITMENT TO LIFELONG LEARNING

Established in 2004 as an after-school activity center and a pre-school, Balsam Academy has evolved into a cherished institution dedicated to fostering lifelong learning.

Our humble beginnings have paved the way for close-knit relationships and experiential learning, principles that continue to define the essence of Balsam Academy. Despite our growth to the current position, our purpose remains unwavering: to nurture the innate curiosity of each child, encouraging them to question, discover, and engage with the world.

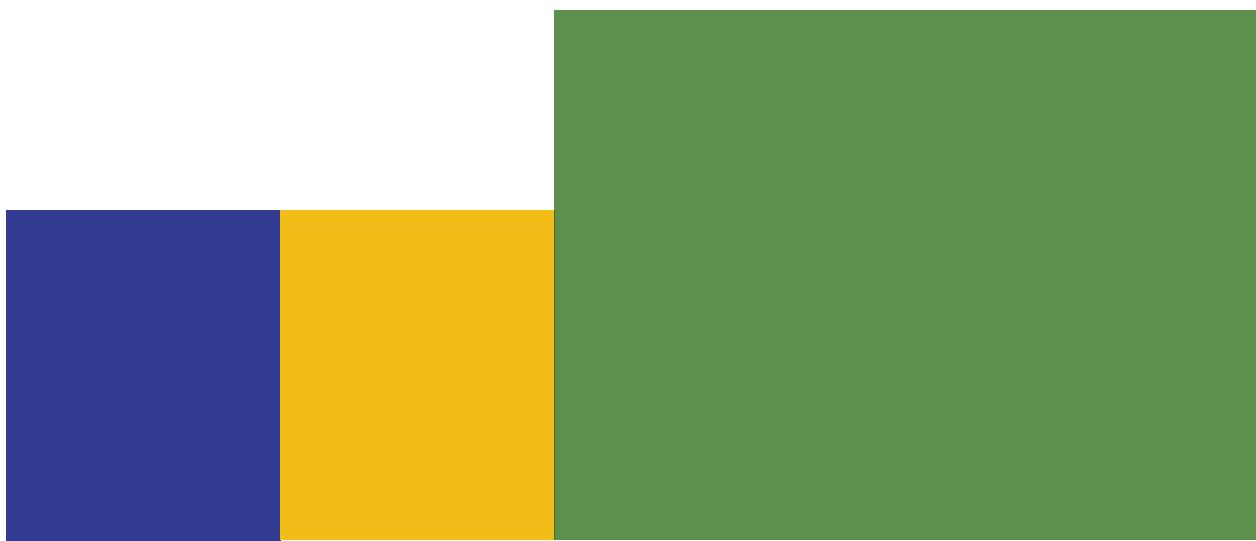
Over the past two decades, Balsam Academy has achieved numerous milestones and accolades, solidifying our commitment to excellence in education. From academic and beyond academic achievements to innovative teaching methods, our school consistently strives for and attains new heights. These accomplishments reflect the dedicated efforts of our educators, the support of engaged parents, and the enthusiasm of our students.

At Balsam Academy, the journey of lifelong learning extends beyond traditional classrooms. We envision an educational future where the entire community—students, parents, teachers, and beyond—collaborates to cultivate accountable, resilient, and responsible global citizens.

Click the title to watch our featured video here: [**20 Glorious Years of Balsam Academy**](#)

Our students derive knowledge not only from textbooks but through experiences and interactions. With the guidance of dedicated teachers and parents, their education unfolds as an integrated process of thinking, feeling, and doing. By fostering their interests and abilities, we empower them with the flexibility and skills needed to navigate life's challenges.

As we celebrate our past achievements, we look forward to the future with a renewed commitment to excellence. Balsam Academy shall continue to strive for educational greatness, embracing innovation, and adapting to the evolving needs of our students. Our core values remain anchored in community, exploration, and the relentless pursuit of knowledge. We extend an invitation to join us on this journey as we cultivate the next generation of imaginative and compassionate citizens. The future of education commences right here.



Balsam Academy



WHATS' IN A NAME?

As majestic as the Balsam firs that quickly grow to become towering architectural trees with a bold presence in the landscape and with a unique dispersal system found in the Balsam flowering plant, we at Balsam stretch our arms to reach the horizons and share knowledge with no limitations whatsoever.

SCHOOL SYMBOL

Our school affirms commitment to nurturing inventiveness in each child. Secure in the warmth of a caring school with parents, facilitators and the environment symbolized by the golden yellow triangles while the green circle represents the student who will be inspired to realize his/her potential and aspire for excellence in all their endeavours.



SCHOOL COLOURS

Yellow, white and green form the tri-colour of Balsam Academy. Colours taken from the elements fit in with our approach to life and learning.

Yellow – vibrant and charged with energy that we associate with childhood, symbolize a passion for life, learning and knowledge, for action of both mind and body.

White – brings to the mind the values of friendship and unity, of peace that we must help to promote, the world over. It also reminds us that as individuals, we belong to a larger group, the family of man.

Green – symbolizes the gift of life, strength and talents, which we must develop and use to the fullest. It is therefore the colour of endeavour of endless progress and prosperity.



OUR VISION

Balsam Academy aims to provide a supportive learning environment that enables students to maximise their potential through a comprehensive and holistic education approach.



OUR MISSION

Balsam Academy is dedicated to creating a supportive learning environment that fosters the holistic growth of each student. We encourage and motivate students to become life-long learners who strive for excellence. We achieve this by instilling essential life skills and values, which equip them to make a positive impact on their communities.



CORE VALUES

Respect

At our core, we value respect for oneself, others, and the environment, treating everyone and everything with dignity, fairness, and consideration.

Integrity

We uphold honesty, trust, and ethical behaviour in all aspects of our lives, adhering to a strong moral code and holding ourselves accountable for our actions.

Compassion

We demonstrate care, empathy, and understanding towards others, promoting a culture of kindness and supportiveness that extends beyond our immediate community.

Responsibility

We take ownership of our actions and decisions, acknowledging the impact they have on ourselves and those around us, and taking steps to ensure our choices align with our values.

Diversity

We embrace and celebrate the uniqueness of individuals and cultures, recognising the value of different perspectives and experiences, and fostering a culture of inclusivity and mutual respect.



CORE PRINCIPLES

Supportive Learning Environment

Balsam Academy provides a nurturing environment that supports the holistic growth of each student, fostering their intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development.

Holistic Growth

Balsam Academy values the growth of its students beyond academics, aiming to develop their emotional intelligence, social skills, and physical well-being, thus nurturing their holistic growth.

Lifelong Learning

Balsam Academy instills a love of learning in its students and encourages them to strive for excellence in all areas of their lives, promoting continuous learning and personal development beyond the classroom.

Essential Life Skills and Values

Balsam Academy emphasizes the importance of essential life skills, such as critical thinking, problem-solving, effective communication, and collaborative teamwork, while also instilling values such as respect, responsibility, integrity, and empathy in its students.

Positive Impact

Balsam Academy aims to equip its students with the necessary tools to make a positive impact on their communities, empowering them to lead by example, and become responsible global citizens, both now and in the future.





HISTORY OF BALSAM ACADEMY

A child born in the year 1938 grew as a man who did not complete elementary education in school but was an active learner, who not only consumed but produced knowledge by setting up industries in Bangalore. He played a leading role in creating entrepreneurs and job opportunities in Bangalore. A man with a broad vision with thoughts flowing from a stupendous mind made way for the development of the village near Arcot, the birthplace of his ancestors.

His initiation of changing the life in the village and their economic conditions began in 1986 when he preferred agriculture to an industry. A futuristic thinker, a silent performer, he left behind distinctive marks with his green thumb. A temple, a school and a hospital was what he planned for the villagers. The temple was under construction when he left this world in 1989.

Treading in the footsteps of Late Sri. K. Balaram was too large to fit in. His life partner who had to transform from a homemaker to an industrialist, completed the temple project and was actively involved in the developments of the village, accomplished all this and more with great ease while she successfully raised her children who are also inclined to shaping a better place for the children of tomorrow. Balsam Academy – a dream project, was founded under the stewardship of Smt. V.B.Saroja, Founder Trustee of Balaram Memorial Trust.

First opening its doors in 2004 as an after-school activity centre to a pre-school, the school developed as a co-educational school with 14 students to start off. The school that has moved to its present address is adored by visitors. Today, Balsam Academy stands out exclusively as a place for continued learning - a dream come true.



ACADEMIC APPROACH

Balsam Academy is dedicated to providing a pedagogical plan that seamlessly aligns with the National Curriculum Framework and the National Education Policy, creating a learning environment that is rigorous and fosters joy and meaning for children.

Our curriculum transcends the conventional, focussing on developing application-oriented competencies. This approach integrates the learning environment, resources, teaching approaches, assessment programs, and methods, as well as the values and ethos of the school.

With the emphasis on cultivating an inclusive, child-centric learning environment to empower students to become independent, self-reliant, and lifelong learners; our curriculum is designed to be more than a syllabus, focusing on a practical yet professional approach to develop application oriented competencies that are precise and measurable.

Interdisciplinary instruction plays a crucial role, and thereby the teaching-learning processes include collaborative learning, cooperative learning, reciprocal teaching, discussions, group projects, blended learning with the integration of ICT (Flipped Classrooms), experiential learning, problem-based learning, case studies, portfolios, presentations, and projects.

We incorporate a Waldorf Inspired Teaching Approach tailored to accommodate diverse backgrounds, learning styles, and intelligences of our students, ensuring teaching methods cater to various stages of development.

Additionally, to further enrich the learning experience, students are offered membership to school clubs with clear objectives set by club owners, comprising both parents and teachers. This approach encourages students to take ownership of their learning journey and extends their education beyond the confines of the classroom.

Recognising the importance of social responsibility, we are also committed to making a positive impact on communities through community outreach programs. These initiatives instill a sense of civic responsibility in our students, fostering empathy and a commitment to creating positive change in the world.

BEYOND ACADEMIC APPROACH

An integrated curriculum approach at Balsam Academy provides continuum of concepts with skills -based learning, and provides opportunities to students to enhance artistic skills, pursue physically active and healthy lifestyle and build life skills. The integrated approach helps to build the strongest possible foundation for children from the elementary years onwards.

Art Education

Art Education is a part of the curriculum at all levels from class 1 to 10. Two periods in a week for each section of each class is allocated to involve students in the activities as specified in the CBSE Manual. Students explore different media and techniques and their use for creative and productive expression for common use. Opportunities are provided for development of awareness about folk arts, local specific arts, and other cultural components leading to an appreciation of national heritage. Locally available material is used to make different products. Visual Arts, Performing Arts and Language Arts (creative drama, puppetry, poetry) are some of the media of creative arts that are facilitated.

Art Integrated Learning

Arts Integrated Learning is a creative and constructivist teaching-learning approach through which students demonstrate their understanding of a concept through various art forms. It signifies exploration of academic content (ideas, concepts, prior knowledge) and skills sets to be acquired by a student through the various forms of Art.

Art Integrated Project

Art-Integrated Project work for classes I to X is designed to make teaching- learning competency-based and joyful. As part of this, at least one Art-Integrated Project in each subject are taken up by all students of classes IX and X from the academic session 2020-21, and students of classes I to VIII are also be encouraged to take at least one Art-Integrated Project (trans-disciplinary project) in a given academic year.

Art Integrated Project are conducted as per the following guidelines:

Classes I-VIII, Art Integrated Project should be of trans-disciplinary nature. The project work includes more than one subject and this is considered for Internal Assessment in the subjects concerned.

Classes IX and X, the students take up the art integrated project work as subject enrichment activity in all the subjects for internal assessment. Minimum of one project work for students from classes I-X is mandatory to integrate any art form of the paired State /UT, as defined under Ek Bharat Shresth Bharat Programme.

Health and Physical Education

Acknowledging that health is a multi-faceted concept encompassing physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being, our approach aims for a comprehensive view of holistic health.

This holistic perspective integrates three essential components: Health Education, Physical Education, and Yoga. Each of these elements contributes to achieving a well-rounded state of health that spans the physical, mental, intellectual, emotional, social, and spiritual dimensions. It emphasizes that true health is not merely the absence of disease or infirmity but a state of overall well-being. By seamlessly integrating these aspects, our program ensures that learners receive a comprehensive education and acknowledge the interconnectedness of various dimensions of well-being.

Library

Our extensive library houses over 7,000 volumes, including books, videos, DVDs, CDs, and periodicals continually updated. It provides students and teachers with diverse reference materials, internet facilities, and a daily E-newspaper, encouraging active discussions on current events. We enhance literary and language skills through selected works, including stories, poems, videos, and articles. Literary weeks, in collaboration with Language departments, further enrich the literary experience, offering dynamic platforms for exploration and understanding. In essence, our library serves as a vibrant center for intellectual exploration and active engagement with literature, media, and current affairs.

Skill Education

In alignment with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) objectives, we have enthusiastically embraced the CBSE Skill Education program, a pioneering program designed to equip students with real-world skills, fostering a seamless transition from the classroom to the professional arena. It consists of two integral components: Employability Skills and Subject-Specific Skills, providing students with a well-rounded skill set for success in both their personal and professional lives.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Our program urges students to apply theory practically. Coursework spans data manipulation, graph creation, and authoring. With a 1:1 student-to-computer ratio and well-equipped classrooms, learners have direct access to computer systems. We foster computer-mediated learning, integrating digital lessons for collaborative, multidisciplinary experiences. Embracing flexibility, e-learning seamlessly intertwines with our curriculum, ensuring a dynamic and adaptable learning environment.

To further support students and educators, we organize ICT training and professional development programs on a continuous basis. This commitment to ongoing learning ensures that our school community remains proficient and up-to-date in leveraging the full potential of ICT for educational enrichment.

WORK EDUCATION

In our commitment to holistic skill development, Work Education is integral. This component prepares students for the practical aspects of the professional world. Through hands-on experiences and projects, students gain insights into various vocational skills, fostering

responsibility, teamwork, and practical problem-solving. Workshops and training sessions enhance employability, providing a well-rounded understanding of work environments.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Board is actively championing the imparting of essential life skills, health and hygiene awareness, sanitation practices, disaster management, vocational education, environmental education, and values education. These initiatives are not just integral to the educational framework but also extend to making a positive impact on the community, nation, and the global arena.

A key component of this endeavor is the Community Outreach Program, which serves as a catalyst for creating awareness among children and equipping them with life skills. This outreach extends beyond academic and global boundaries, cultivating a mindset that embraces community service and societal well-being.

Furthermore, as part of our commitment to preserving cultural heritage, we actively involve students in hands-on activities such as weaving, handcrafts, traditional arts, crafts, painting, and other folk arts. This not only imparts practical skills but also ensures that these ancient art forms remain vibrant and do not fade into obscurity. Through this holistic approach, the Board aims to instill a sense of responsibility, cultural appreciation, and global awareness in the young generation.

Outbound Learning

Outbound Learning serves as a dynamic platform, offering unique learning experiences. This approach inspires students to surpass their perceived limitations, unveiling strengths they may not have realized they possessed. The immersive wilderness settings provide an ideal backdrop for students to explore and push their boundaries, fostering not only personal growth but also instilling confidence in their abilities. This hands-on, experiential learning approach empowers students to embrace challenges, encourages self-discovery, and promotes a sense of confidence derived from overcoming obstacles.

Clubs

At Balsam, we prioritize a comprehensive education by actively involving students in diverse social, athletic, and artistic clubs and societies. Scholastic and co-scholastic activities are integral to our curriculum, including a wide range of co-curricular opportunities. Students join clubs such as Visual & Performing Arts, ICT, Robotics & AI, Wellness and Life Skills, STEAM, Environment, Heritage, Health, NCC and more where their participation and achievements are assessed. This approach not only enhances academic skills but also fosters teamwork, leadership, and a holistic understanding of various disciplines, aiming to develop well-rounded individuals prepared for success in diverse environments.





OUR CAMPUS

Nestled within these pages is a glimpse into the heart of our institution, reflecting our commitment to providing a supportive learning environment. At our school, we believe in holistic development, ensuring that each student's educational voyage encompasses not only academic excellence but also personal growth and a profound connection to the world around them.

Our state-of-the-art facilities are designed to nurture a safe and secure haven for exploration and discovery. From well-equipped classrooms to interactive learning spaces, every corner echoes our dedication to fostering an environment where students feel empowered to inquire, explore, and thrive.





Building a pathway of purpose, passion and progress



PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Our commitment to fostering a strong partnership with parents commences from the moment you contemplate Balsam Academy and continues beyond your child's school years. The Balsam experience is a shared journey for both parents and children. Consequently, our objective is to ensure parents are well-informed and actively involved in their child's educational journey.

As part of our commitment to the Partnership for Success initiative, we encourage Balsam parents to actively engage in their child's education by completing ten (10) Parent Involvement hours each school year. These hours can be documented on the Parent Involvement Card, and parents who fulfill the required hours will be acknowledged during our Awards Day celebration.

This initiative not only recognizes and appreciates your valuable contributions but also reinforces the collaborative effort between parents and the school for the success of our students.



TESTIMONIALS

Since 2013, I have navigated a sea of knowledge filled with unexpected and unimaginable experiences that have profoundly shaped me. Balsam Academy, an integral part of my life, holds a special place in my heart that will never fade. Its child-friendly environment, accompanied by delightful and amiable staff, has transformed the campus into a sanctuary of learning. It feels like just yesterday when I first stepped foot on campus, yet time has swiftly flown by. Balsam has gifted me with countless memories that I will cherish for a lifetime. In essence, Balsam Academy is more than just an educational institution; it's a haven for creating indelible memories that will forever reside in our hearts. Balsam is more than a paradise; it is a destination one could never truly leave.

- **Kalyan Sree V. (Class of 2023-24)**

Both of my children have been attending Balsam Academy for the past two years. I'm delighted with the balanced approach the school takes towards academics, extracurricular activities, and sports. It's gratifying to witness my children's development as well-rounded individuals. The encouragement and care they receive from the faculty are impressive. What stands out the most is the school's commitment to fostering the holistic growth of every child. I've found the entire school staff, including the management, to be highly responsible and supportive. Balsam Academy embodies all the qualities a parent seeks in a good school for their children.

- **P. Nalini, Mother of N.P. Sujith
(Class of 2023-24)**

My journey with Balsam Academy over the past decade has been nothing short of extraordinary. This school is more than just an institution; it is a hub of innovation, growth, and values that truly nurture both students and educators alike.

During these 10 years, I've witnessed how Balsam Academy stands committed to crafting opportunities for all, a principle that resonates deeply with my personal goals as an educator. From encouraging students to explore environmental sustainability, igniting scientific curiosity and creativity through several programs lined up annually, Balsam Academy is a beacon of holistic education.

As I joined in 2014, I was naïve, as a caterpillar, without any prior teaching experience, but as years passed by, Balsam sculpted me as a vibrant butterfly, with all the required skills, talents, attitude and values. I express my heartfelt gratitude to the iron lady, Asha Rani Balaram, whose unwavering support and steadfast guidance have been the cornerstone of Balsam Academy's and my success. Her vision, dedication, and motivational spirit inspire every individual, making her the driving force behind the school's efficient functioning and its journey of excellence.

It has been fulfilling to collaborate with passionate colleagues and dedicated leadership who constantly strive to make learning dynamic and engaging.

- **Kaveri Priya, Science HoD
(2014 - 25)**

TO KNOW MORE

To know more about our procedures & policies, innovative educational programs and the vibrant community at Balsam Academy, feel free to **click** the titles below and explore.

Admissions

Approach

Assessments

Glimpses

Grader Handbook

Newsletters

Parent Handbook

School Timings

Student Activities

We are dedicated to providing comprehensive information and answering any inquiries you may have about our school's unique approach to education and fostering a supportive learning environment. For more details you can contact us through:

Website: www.balsamacademy.org

Email: balsamacademy@gmail.com

Phone: 04172-272611 / 12

Address: 5/410A, Vanapadi Road, Bharathinagar Extension, Ranipet - 632403
[Click here for directions](#)

Follow us on our social media platforms. Just click on the usernames below to access the accounts. Do like and subscribe to get all the latest updates

Instagram: [@balsamacademyofficial](#)

Facebook: [@balsamacademyofficial](#)

YouTube: [@balsamacademy](#)

Join us on this journey of academic excellence and holistic development!