

## **Progress and achievements**

The Old Capital Secondary School (OCSS) founded in 1995 with a motto "Quality Education for All" is located at a serene and peaceful place at the top of Gorkha bazar amidst beautiful trees.

OCSS has obtained lots of academic and extra-curricular achievement since its inception. The school has got education award for its academic excellence in different times from the government of Nepal, ministry of education and district education office. This school received Tuborg excellence award in 2001 by recognizing its outstanding result in SLC Exam 2001 at national level. In addition to this school has received many other awards and appreciations for the outstanding performance at different activities like quiz contest, dance competition, athletic, running, oratory competition, drawing and painting and football and so on.

OCSS which was run with 76 students at the time of establishment has now around 1900 children. The school runs nursery to 12 with the children aged 4 to 17. OCSS which was started from only one building has now 6 buildings with 55 rooms. It owns big play ground, good garden, science lab, library and computer lab and many other facilities and amenities.

The students attend the school regularly and punctually. Their attendance and regularities is duly taken into consideration. The parents are informed about their study, performance, attendance and school behavior and conduct at each trimester. Teacher parents meeting counseling and parenting program takes place frequently at least four times in a year.

In case of boarding children supported by Direkthilfe Nepal e.V. most of the students are genuine, laborious and hard working. Most of them are good at maths, Science, Language arts, and reading except few students who are under average in maths and science.

These children have good preparation for their classes. They always complete their homework, assignment and project work on time. They are always on time in attending the classes and reporting the school after vacation.

They implement the plans for their improvement in the courses and subjects. in which they are not found good at. They always show willingness to questions to discuss. They set the specific goals for each term.

### **Challenges & support needs**

The global spread of COVID-19 has unforgivingly changed the lives of individual across the world. The pandemic affected all of us but not equally. Those students who have been historically marginalized and from the poor economic background directly faced difficulties in getting education. They experienced the worst effects of COVID-19 yet have the least access to academic excellence. There was challenges and difficulties in joining the schools physically. In such a terrible situation school and colleges have linked the children with zoom schooling but in a poor country like Nepal, it was very difficult to get the internet at its excellent speed to meet the requirements.

However, the school tried its best to connect, communicate and coach though there were some problems in connection. The students who were from rural areas faced lot of challenges and obstacles in joining the online classes in time due to the poor network. It was costly as well. In the beginning there was a problem of devices. The problem of devices was addressed by the support of DHN e.V. but the disorder and fluctuation in network was beyond the control. So it was quite irritating for the students.

In the beginning, since the environment of the school was totally new for them, it took a couple of days to get familiar with the new friends and staff but the counseling & guidance of lovely & caring staffs and teachers made them feel that they are at home, not away from home. Slowly and gradually the students got adapted in the new environment of school and hostel. They even felt home sick, were unpleased and faced difficulties to understand the new friends and new teachers. We provided them counseling and they were motivated towards their goal. Their parents also came to visit them in boarding. Ultimately, after a few

days they felt comfortable and fully adjusted by the kind behavior of the staff of the hostel and school teachers.

Now they are extremely happy and motivated with their stay and study at OCSS.





(School excursion in November 2022, Lumbini)

Mr Janak K.C.

(Principal of The Old Capital Secondary School, Gorkha)