



## **SOUTH POINT SCHOOL NOTICE**

Dear Parents / Guardian

We share our deep concern about the agitation by a group of guardians of the School, in front of the school gates between 10.30 am and 12.45 pm on Friday, January 31, 2020 against the proposed fee structure for the next academic session beginning April 2020, that was intimated to all of you vide a notice dated January 27, 2020.

The agitating guardians had squatted in front of the school gates and blocked the same, while shouting slogans. This disrupted traffic movement along Mandeville Gardens and badly affected the arrival and dispersal of children. The little ones of Nursery and Transition classes were visibly upset, though teachers tried their best to comfort them. Many young children were exposed to heated exchanges amongst the agitators and other parents. It is unfortunate that such behaviour, hurtful comments about staff members and shouting of slogans were witnessed not only by passers-by and neighbours but also by pupils of the Morning, as well as, the Afternoon session. Officers from the Gariahat Police Station also arrived at the scene.

The agitating parents wanted to meet the Principal, who readily agreed to speak to some representatives as meeting the entire group was not possible with regular school on. Representatives finally met the Principal and were duly explained the reasons for the fee enhancement. They were made to understand that the fee hike this year was more than the usual increase in order to ensure that staff members get paid salaries that are commensurate with what schools are required to pay as per statutory obligation. This is the reason why more than two months' notice has also been given to parents about the impending fee enhancement from April 2020. It was also explained that it has always been our endeavour to keep our fee structure reasonable, particularly when compared to other similar institutions and we shall continue to do the same in future also.

The physical safety and emotional well-being of students have always been a top priority at South Point. In spite of the best efforts put in by all today in the circumstances as mentioned above, entry and exit points needed to be changed due to the agitation, resulting in panic, fear and confusion amongst the children. In fact, we were apprehensive of a stampede which was thankfully averted by the alertness of some of our dedicated staff members and with the intervention of officers from the Gariahat Police Station and the South East Traffic Guard.

As already mentioned in our Notice dated 27.01.2020, we would like to once again clarify to all guardians that the salaries of teaching and non-teaching staff of our School are required to be revised following the notification of the West Bengal Revision of Pay and Allowances Rules 2019 by the State Government. While the Rules provide such revision from January 2020, we have decided to make the revision effective from April 2020, keeping in mind hardships that guardians may face due to a mid-year enhancement. The financial impact from such salary revision alone during the year 2020-21 comes to approximately Rs.950 per student per month, apart from the normal increase in other expenses due to inflationary factors.

We sincerely hope that such incident is not repeated in future so that we may continue to impart holistic education in a secure environment. We look forward to your cooperation and support in helping us keep our pupils safe and maintain the academic standards of South Point while at the same time provide quality education to our pupils at affordable cost to the guardians.

Thank you.

**Dr. (Mrs) M. Kohli**  
**Director**

January 31, 2020