

# PROSPECTUS 2021-22



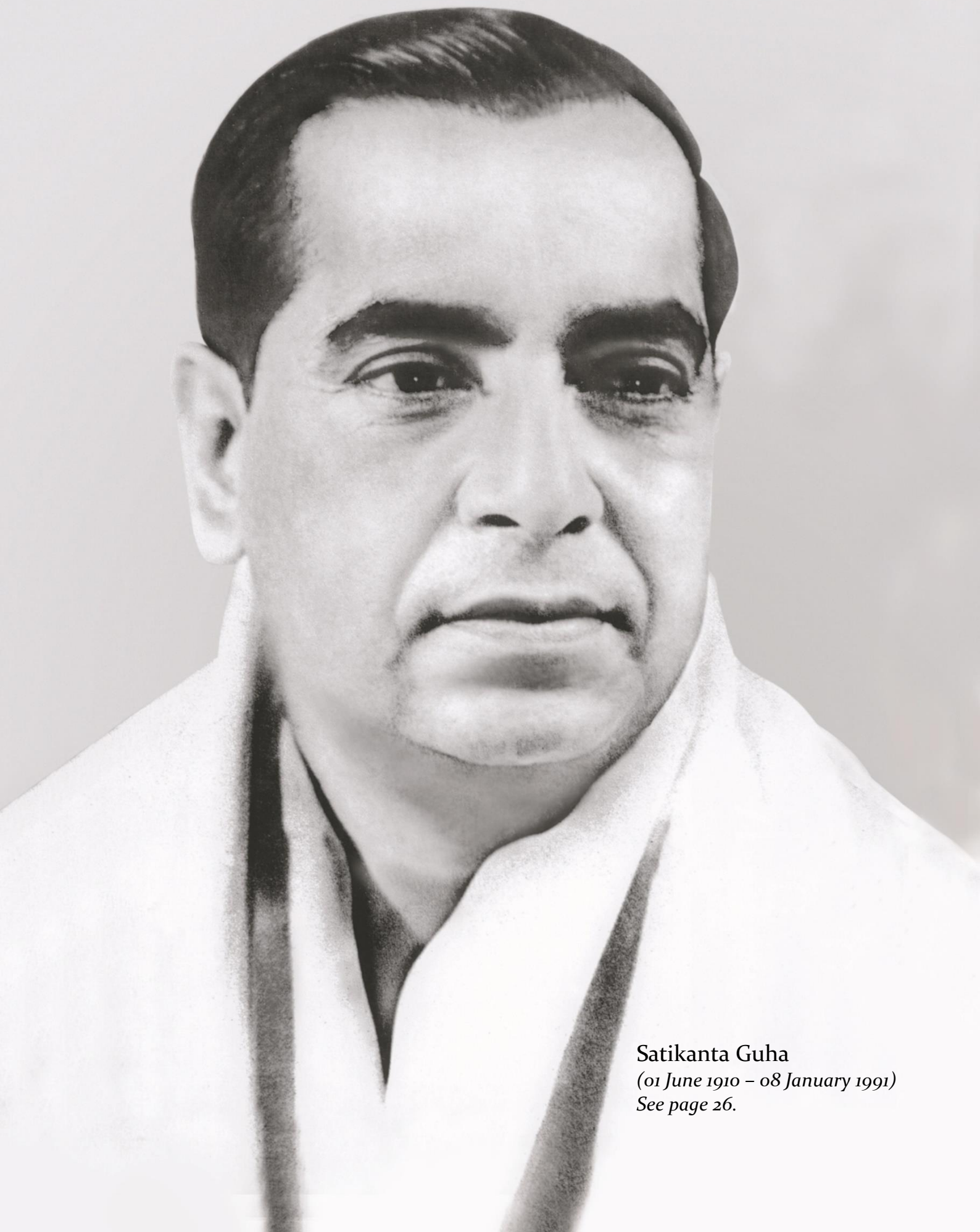
KNOWLEDGE  
WISDOM  
EMANCIPATION

## GARDEN HIGH SCHOOL IISER KOLKATA CAMPUS

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**Satikanta Guha**  
(01 June 1910 – 08 January 1991)  
See page 26.

## Contents

Background	04
The School	05
Location	05
Foundation Day	05
The School Motto	06
Aims	06
Teaching: The Principle	08
Teaching: The Method	09
General Supervision & Teacher-Pupil Ratio	10
Remedial Classes & Special Training	11
Medium of Instruction	12
Vernacular Languages	12
Departments of the School	12
Academic Year	13
School Hours	13
Fees: Structure & Rules	14
Admission: General Information	16
Admission: Nursery I – Class VIII	17
Withdrawal & Transfer	18
Transport	19
Textbooks & Exercise Books	20
Work Diary & School Website	20
Uniform & Dress Code	21
Conduct & General Discipline	22
Medical Care	23
Counselling Service	23
Assessment of Pupils	24
Promotion	24
Progress Reports	25
Parent-Teacher Meetings	25
Satikanta Guha	26
Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER) Kolkata	27
Satikanta Guha Foundation	28
Prity Lata Guha	29

*N.B. Wherever the context so demands, the pronoun 'he' includes 'she'.*



## Background

The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Kolkata and the Satikanta Guha Foundation came to an agreement in 2014 that the Foundation would set up a school within the IISER Kolkata campus (Mohanpur) for the benefit of the children of the members of the staff of IISER as also of people living in neighbouring areas. While IISER would provide the requisite land, building and infrastructure, the Foundation would run and administer the School. Hence, it was decided to call the school: **Garden High School – IISER Kolkata Campus**.

The School, comprising only eight classes from Nursery I to Class V, was inaugurated on 30 March 2015 by Prof R. N. Mukherjee, Director, IISER, in the presence of guardians, members of staff of IISER Kolkata, Garden High School (Kolkata), Garden High International School (Kolkata), Garden High School – IISER Kolkata Campus and guests. The School began holding classes from the next day, i.e. 31 March 2015.

Garden High School – IISER Kolkata Campus is an unaided institution run and administered by Satikanta Guha Foundation, which has already established and is managing two other educational institutions at Kolkata: Garden High School and Garden High International School. Garden High School is affiliated to the CISCE, New Delhi, and its pupils sit for the ICSE (Class X) and ISC (Class XII) Examinations. Garden High International School is affiliated to Edexcel (formerly London Examinations) and Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE), University of Cambridge, UK. Its pupils take the IGCSE (formerly O-Level), Advanced Subsidiary (AS) Level and Advanced (A) Level Examinations of these Boards directly through the School.

*For further information regarding IISER Kolkata, see page 27.*

*For further information regarding Satikanta Guha Foundation, see page 28.*



## The School

Garden High School – IISER Kolkata Campus is an English-medium coeducational school that at present comprise classes from Nursery (3+ year age group) to Class VIII. The aim is to upgrade the School to Class XII eventually.

However, though affiliation has been sought from CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education), Delhi, for introducing Classes IX and X, the matter is now pending a resolution in the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta.

The School is run on the same ideals and principles as its sister institutions, for these ideals and principles have already earned them a high reputation in academic and co-curricular activities alike.

The first Academic Session of the School commenced 31 March 2015.



## Location

The school building with a covered area of about 51,700 sft is located on a three-acre plot within the IISER Kolkata campus.

## Foundation Day

03 November is observed as the Foundation Day of the School, for it was on 03 November 2014 that it was formally resolved that the first Academic Year of the School would begin in March 2015.

## The School Motto

Let knowledge lead to wisdom, and wisdom to emancipation.

The school motto echoes what many thinkers of many lands and many ages have said in many different ways: knowledge is not enough, and mere knowledge may dazzle and make one blind. Learning must lead to wisdom which gives one the capacity to see things in a proper perspective, and enables one to grow out of oneself. It is through wisdom that emancipation comes. Very few can attain it, but it is this straining after a goal, knowing that it will probably always be beyond one's reach, that makes a man, a man.



## Aims

Ideal education has no ulterior purpose. It is not concerned with teaching the techniques of how to do well in examinations. It must not also be confused with training for a profession: how to produce a good doctor, lawyer, or an engineer. Nor does it intend to provide a ready-made moral or intellectual outfit that will help a pupil get through life. It is concerned with 'the pupil himself, in what he is thinking, in his quality of mind, in his immortal soul'.

At the same time, we cannot ignore the fact that the prevalent socio-economic conditions of our country have made the chief, and perhaps only, aim of education, at least at the school level, the training of a pupil to pass examinations so that he may



secure admission to an institution that will, in turn, train him for a profession. Teaching has thus been reduced to a mere imparting of knowledge and training. Following suit, learning has become a mere acquisition, without assimilation, of knowledge and of an ability to use skills blindly, without imagination or innovation. It is a reality that cannot be ignored and must be dealt with on its own terms.

The School thus aims at a compromise between the ideal and what is practicable in existing conditions.

Garden High is thus a school

- where pupils come first, and all else later.
- which thinks that education is concerned with pupils as persons, not with how they can be trained for a career.
- which believes that a school should be ‘training minds, not stuffing them’.
- which, therefore, encourages pupils to think for themselves, and tries to kindle their curiosity, so that they may venture out on their own beyond the beaten track of the syllabi.
- which does not try to impress with inessentials at the cost of what is essential: academic integrity and excellence.

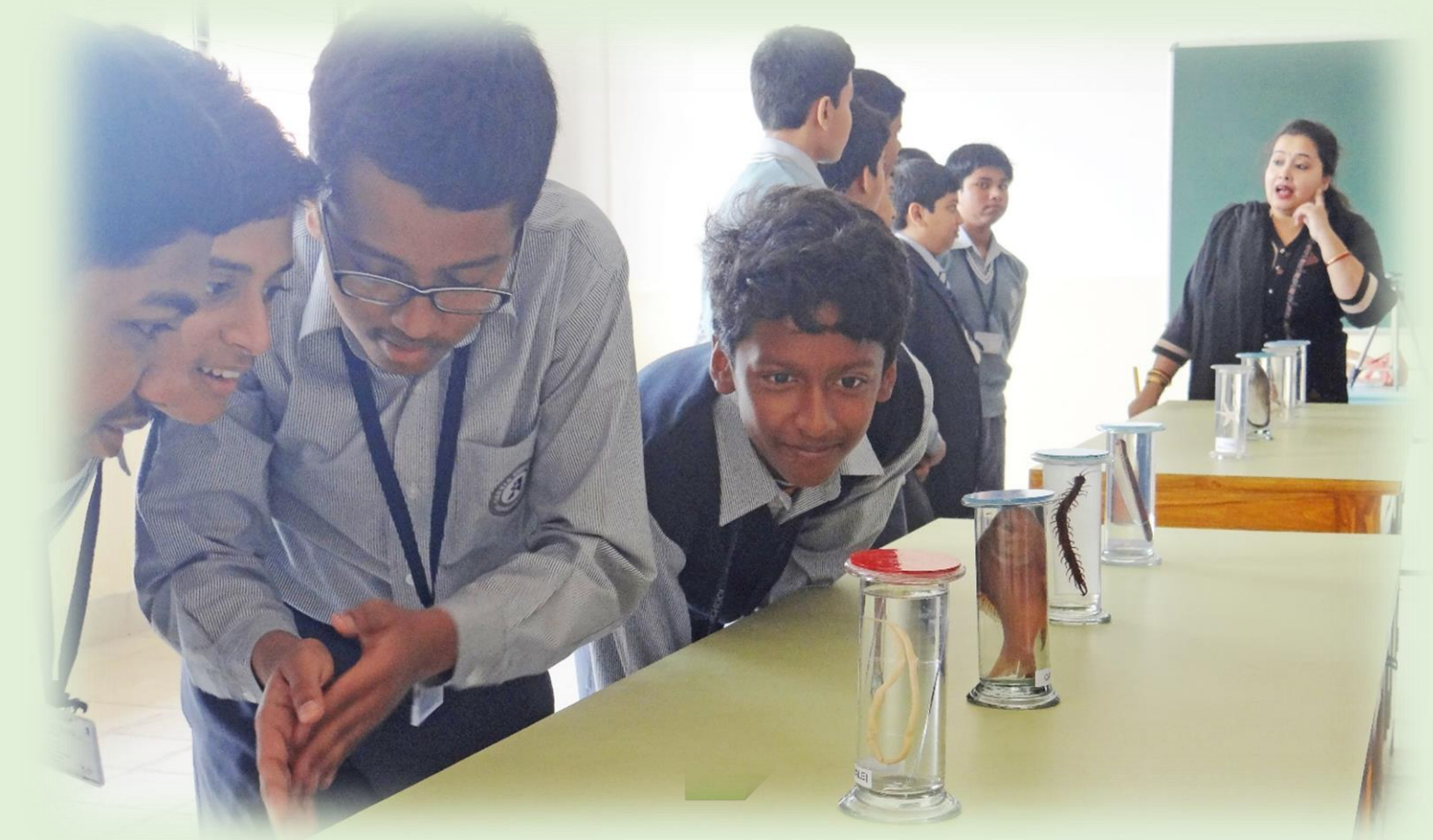


## Teaching: The Principle

At the nursery level, the child should be gradually made aware of the world outside him, so that he may by slow degrees stop being concerned with only his own needs and start thinking of other living beings and things around him, like his family and friends, plants, flowers, animals, and birds. This process of growing out of oneself must be made happy and pleasant through an abundance of colour, play, music, rhyme, and rhythm.

At the primary level, the imparting of knowledge in various forms has to begin through the study of languages, literature and other subjects. This acquisition of knowledge will obviously grow in volume and substance as the pupil begins his ascent up the steps of the secondary and higher secondary stages. What must not be lost sight of is that as the input of knowledge increases, so must the emphasis on the training of the mind – the power to think and judge for oneself. A responsible school or teacher must never forget that there is no necessary correlation between knowledge and wisdom, and that without wisdom one cannot be emancipated, i.e. freed from the bondage of the here and the now.

So, pupils should be encouraged to ask questions, voice their doubts, verify what they are told and taught. They must not be urged to accept at face value whatever they read or hear. They should be gently led to evaluate things in the light of their own experience, but at the same time be made aware of how these same things have been assessed by mankind over the centuries. Teachers must try to instil in the pupils a sense of perspective, a sense of right and wrong, and to make the pupils think of others more than of themselves, for that way lies wisdom which instils in man an urge to try and break out of the shell of a mundane self-centred existence into a more glorious world of awareness and sympathy with all that makes up this universe.





## Teaching: The Method

### A. The Method (during the suspension of normal classes)

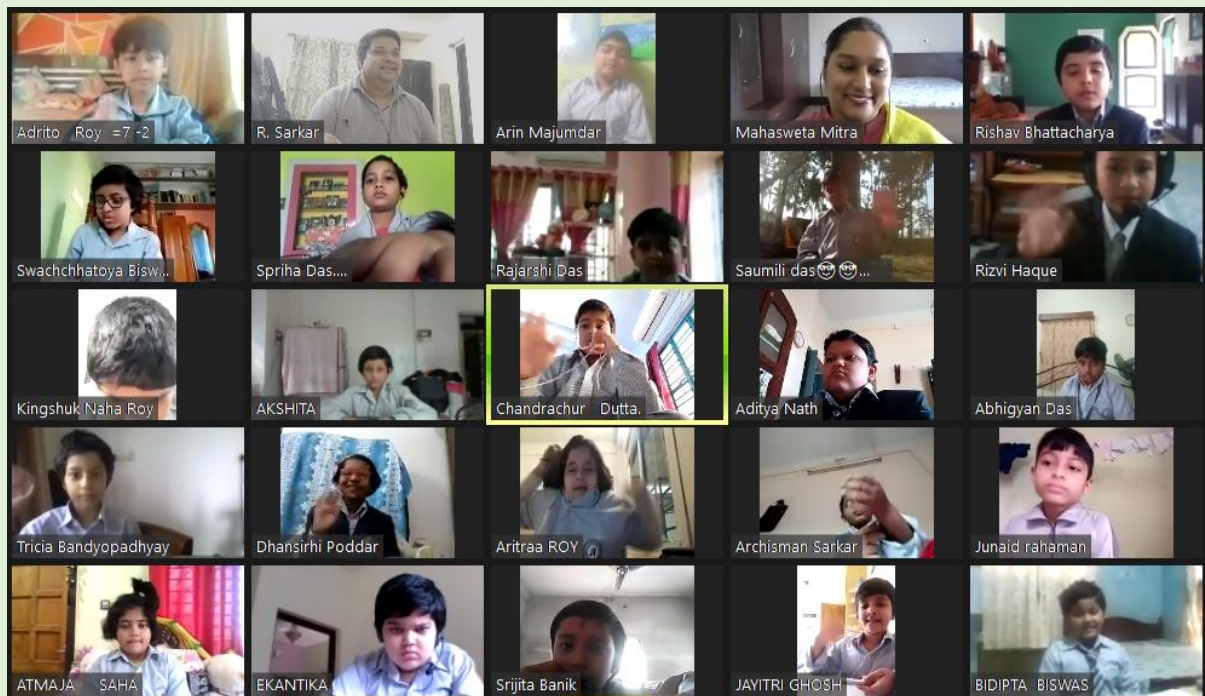
So long as we cannot emerge out of the shadow of the pandemic (COVID-19), the School will be compelled to follow an empirical method of online teaching that is modified and updated constantly to suit the needs of pupils of all classes without subjecting them to undue strain and pressure. This method combines actual teaching, providing study material, setting assignments and continuous evaluation. All efforts are also being made to conform to the guidelines of the appropriate authorities.

Regular training by their colleagues (the computer teachers and technical staff) and consultants, specially appointed for the purpose, has familiarized our teachers with the different aspects of online teaching, including holding online examinations and assessment and evaluation. So, the School will not only continue with this method of teaching as long as necessary, but might also combine it with actual classroom teaching on a regular basis even when normalcy returns.

### Laptop/Desktop and Internet Facility

It is strongly recommended that a pupil be given easy but supervised access to a laptop/desktop and internet facility at home, so that he may attend online classes conducted by the School as and when necessary.

The schedule (days and timings) of such classes will be announced beforehand and guardians should see to it that their wards attend such classes and complete and submit the assignments within the time limit prescribed.



## **B. The Method** *(followed before the pandemic and to be followed when normalcy returns)*

Since formal education must start with knowledge, this School takes all possible steps to ensure that knowledge at all levels is imparted with care. Uniformity and accuracy are ensured through drawing up of lesson plans. Each teacher has to make sure that a pupil has not only understood but also assimilated what he has read and heard.

Depending on the subject concerned, the first stage of such assessment may consist of oral and/or blackboard work. Before a pupil is asked to do any written work, answers to probable questions are discussed as far as possible. This is followed by class assignments which are corrected in detail, corrections of serious errors being entered in the body of the exercise itself. The corrected assignments are then sent to parents for scrutiny and signature.

Very little homework is set, and it consists mostly of handwriting, correction of errors, revision of work done in class, and learning specified lines of a poem by heart, etc. In the case of slow learners, specific tasks may be set by the teachers concerned.

Guardians are earnestly requested not to help pupils with these tasks, for the errors committed help a teacher to understand the actual progress made by the pupil. All that a guardian needs to do is to supervise: see to it that the pupil does the work that he has been asked to do.

*See also Assessment of Pupils, page 24.*

As long as the restriction imposed by the concerned authorities on holding classes in the usual manner remains in force, it will obviously not be possible to follow the methods described under *Assessment of Pupils (page 24)*.

If, during an academic year, it is not possible to hold any examination requiring the presence of all pupils of a particular class on the same day and time at the school premises, assessment/evaluation of pupil's performance will be made in accordance with directions/guidelines issued by the concerned authorities. In the absence of any such direction/guideline, the School shall devise its own method of assessment and evaluation based on class assignments and general performance throughout the year.

Guardians are, therefore, requested to see to it that their wards follow the directions given by teachers during online classes, complete the assignments set and upload them to the School Student Portal as directed.

## **General Supervision & Teacher-Pupil Ratio**

It should also be made clear that by 'academic excellence' we do not mean securing some of the top ten or twenty ranks in a public examination. Though affiliation to any board or council means working within a prescribed syllabus, the School will do its best to educate its pupils in the true sense of the term: teaching them to think independently and rationally. Pupils will always be encouraged to interact with teachers both inside and outside the classroom. To make this interaction easy and possible, the teacher-pupil ratio will be about 1:30. Pupils will have free access at all times to their teachers, who will give them all the attention and help they need to solve their academic problems as also any others that they may have. Though pupils will spend only a part of the day in school, the aim will be to make them feel at home and encourage them to open out and grow naturally.





## Remedial Classes & Special Training

The School wants a pupil to excel as much as his parents do. While every effort will be made at school to provide a pupil with the guidance and attention that he needs, at least one of the parents must give some time to him, not only to ensure that he revises the lessons taught in class or completes the tasks set, but to give him the company he needs. It must be remembered that a pupil will spend only a limited time at school, and many a problem can be nipped in the bud if only a parent spends a little time with the young, curious, and demanding learner at home. This has become all the more necessary in the modern social structure, particularly with the decline of the joint-family system. It is essential that a parent knows who the pupil's companions are and how he is spending his time.

A pupil should not need any special help at home. Additional guidance or 'special training', if and when necessary, will be provided by the School by way of remedial classes at no extra charge. These classes will be designed and held in accordance with the special needs of each child or a group of children – either in parallel with general classes or separately, on Saturdays and/or holidays, on the school premises or at the residence of a teacher of the School. Guardians are requested to cooperate with us in this matter by ensuring that a pupil attends these classes regularly. We would also like a guardian to let the pupil work independently, for errors, perhaps more than correctness, serve as true indices of proficiency.

Guardians must understand that a recommendation to attend these classes must not be taken as an unfavourable assessment of a pupil's merit. On the contrary, such a recommendation assumes that a pupil has the capacity to do better and all that he needs is some special attention or guidance in some specific areas, and that also only for some time.



## Medium of Instruction

Since the medium of instruction is English, English, both spoken and written, is taught with particular care, for without an adequate proficiency in the language, no child can follow a lesson, no matter what the subject.

## Vernacular Languages

Bengali and Hindi are taught with utmost care, and all efforts are made to make pupils aware of their heritage as Indians. At the same time, as the motto of the School – Knowledge, Wisdom, Emancipation – makes it clear, pupils will be encouraged to think of themselves as belonging to the common race of man and shed all racial, social, and religious prejudices.

## Departments of the School

NURSERY DEPARTMENT	Nursery I, Nursery II & Preparatory
PRIMARY DEPARTMENT	Classes I – V
SECONDARY DEPARTMENT	Classes VI – VIII



## Academic Year

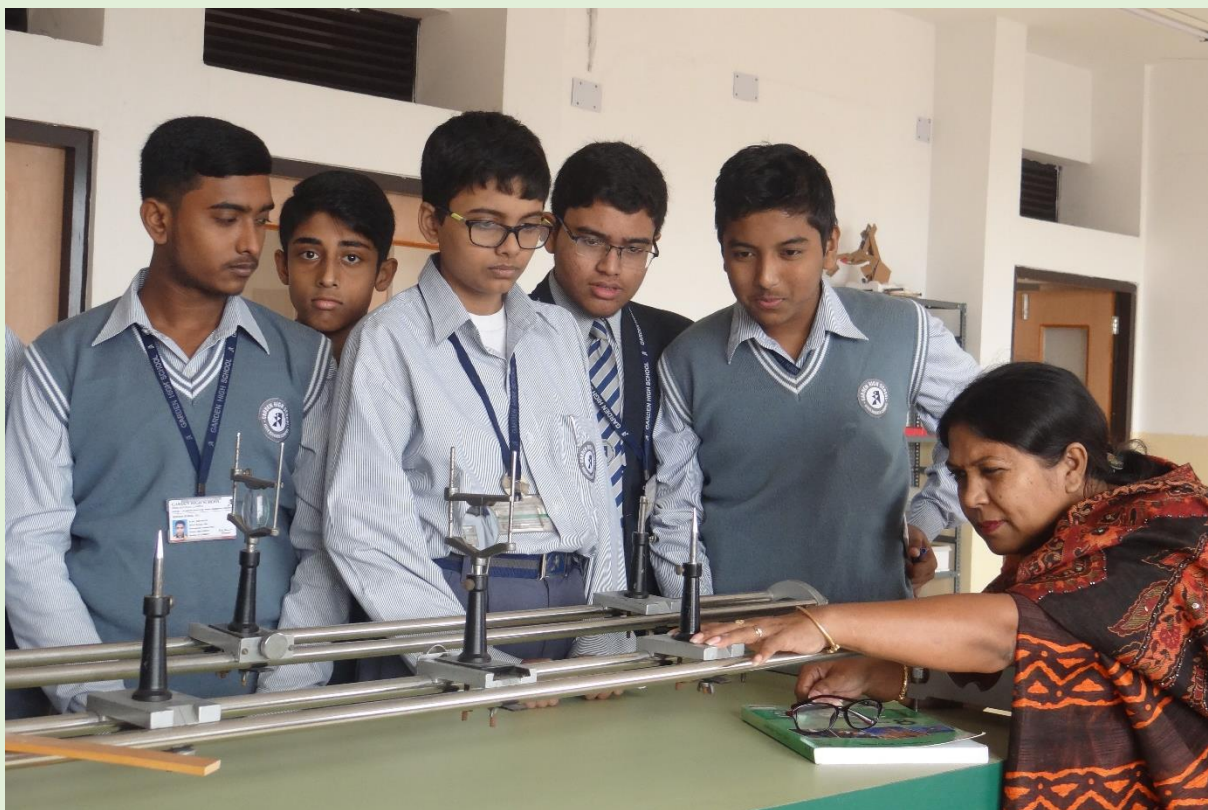
Each Academic Year will commence in April and end in March the following year.

It is planned, subject to the relevant rule/s of the affiliating body, to begin an Academic Year on the first working day of the second week of April every year and end it on the last working day of March the following year.

Each Academic Year will be divided into three terms:

- (a) April/May to September/October (inclusive of Summer Vacation)
- (b) September/October to December (inclusive of Autumn and Christmas recesses)
- (c) January to March

Though the number of terms will remain the same, the duration of each term may vary from year to year.



## School Hours

Nursery I – Class II: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Classes III – VIII: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

School hours may be changed in the academic interest of pupils or as advised by the concerned authorities.

On specified days of the week, pupils may be required to stay back after regular school hours for extra-curricular activities, remedial/special training classes, etc.

## Fees: Structure & Rules

### FEE STRUCTURE 2021-22

#### CLASS I

Admission Fee	₹ 37,000/-	<i>Payable at the time of admission; non-refundable</i>
Caution Money Deposit	₹ 10,000/-	<i>Payable at the time of admission; see 4, 5 &amp; 7 below.</i>
Session Fee	₹ 18,000/-	<i>Payable every year at the beginning of the Academic Session; non-refundable.</i>
School Fee per month	₹ 3,650/-	<i>Payable monthly; see 4(a), 8 &amp; 9 below.</i>
Transport Fee (Payable monthly)	<i>This fee will depend on the distance involved and will be notified before resumption of normal classes.</i>	

#### FEES: RULES

It must be emphasized and made clear to all would-be guardians/parents that all fees are based on expenses incurred annually, but realized through fees over a period of twelve months. Therefore, all fees, including transport charges, are payable even for periods during which the School may be closed due to various reasons, like vacations, recesses, holidays, etc. and due to unforeseen circumstance or circumstances beyond the control of the School authorities.

1. All existing fees are subject to an upward revision from time to time. However, sufficient advance notice will be given before any revision is given effect to.
2. Fees are calculated on an annual basis and spread over 12 months.
3. Admission is granted on the specific condition that the guardian undertakes to pay all applicable fees and charges, as existing or revised, by the dates specified hereunder or as will be otherwise intimated.
4. (a) **Once admission is granted to any class, no fee, excepting the Caution Money Deposit, after adjustment of dues, if any, will be refunded even if the pupil is withdrawn from the School before/without attending a single class or withdrawn before the Session begins.**  
(b) All refunds will be made after 15 working days of the receipt of a claim.
5. (a) Please retain the Caution Money Deposit receipt and read the terms and conditions printed on its reverse carefully.  
(b) In case the Caution Money Deposit receipt is lost, an indemnity bond, executed on a ₹ 50/- non-judicial stamp paper, must be submitted to the Accounts Office for obtaining a refund. The proforma of the bond is available from the said Office on request.



6. Session Fee is payable every year at the beginning of the Academic Session. No part of it is refundable even if the pupil leaves before the end of the Academic Year.
7. When a pupil finally leaves the School, the Caution Money Deposit, less any amount due to the School, will be refunded.
8. School Fee and all other fees are payable **monthly** as follows:
  - (a) **April 2021:** at the time of Admission.
  - (b) **May 2021 – March 2022:** by the 10th day of each month.Unless otherwise necessary, no reminder regarding the dates by which the above-mentioned monthly payments are to be made will be issued.
9.
  - (a) A **Late Fee** of ₹ 250/- will be charged if any fee is paid after the due date but on or before the last day of the month in which it is due.
  - (b) A **Late Fee** of ₹ 500/- will be charged for any fee paid after the last day of the month in which it is due, but before the end of the following month.
  - (c) If any fee, whole or in part, remains unpaid for more than two consecutive months, the name of the pupil concerned is liable to be struck off the rolls without any prior intimation to the guardian.
10. At the time a pupil finally leaves the School, all dues must be paid in cash, or by a demand draft or pay order.
11. All payments, except that mentioned in clause 10 above, should be made by NACH or online or a/c payee cheque, where applicable, in favour of **Garden High School – IISER Campus**. The name, class, section, and ID No. of the pupil concerned should be clearly written on the back of a cheque. The receipt issued will be valid only on encashment of the cheque. Outstation cheques, except those payable at par, will not be accepted.
12. A charge of ₹ 250/- will be payable if a cheque/NACH mandate is dishonoured.
13. Even if fees have been paid in advance and accepted, prolonged absence of a pupil without prior intimation and/or written permission of the Principal/a duly authorized School official is not allowed. School authorities reserve the right to strike the name of a pupil off the rolls if he is absent for a month, inclusive of holidays, without prior intimation to and a written permission as mentioned above.
14. At least three months' notice should be given in writing or three months' fees, including Transport Fee, where applicable, paid in lieu thereof before a pupil may be withdrawn from the School.
15. All dues to the School must be paid and clearance certificates obtained from the authorized Librarian, and Games Teacher, and, where applicable, from the Laboratory-in-charge before a Transfer Certificate can be issued.
16. The School reserves the right to frame new rules or modify existing ones for collection of fees.
17. If necessary, a guardian may meet the Principal for further information.



## **Admission: General Information**

1. Admissions to Nursery I – Class VIII will be granted in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the appropriate authorities.
2. The decision of the Academic Council of the School regarding admissions to all classes will be final and binding on all applicants for admission and their parents/guardians.
3. Names of pupils selected for admission will generally be posted on the School Notice Board and School Website.
4. Once admission is granted to any class, no fee, excepting the Caution Money Deposit, after adjustment of dues, if any, will be refunded even if the pupil is withdrawn from the School before/without attending a single class.





## Admission: Nursery I – Class VIII

### 1. Eligibility

Eligibility for admission to the Nursery Department is primarily dependent on the age of the child and the distance of the residence of the child from the School.

The age requirement for each class is given below:

Nursery I (born between 01 April 2017 – 31 March 2018, both days inclusive)

Nursery II (born between 01 April 2016 – 31 March 2017, both days inclusive)

Preparatory (born between 01 April 2015 – 31 March 2016, both days inclusive)

### 2. Procedure

- (a) All necessary information will be available on the School Website/Student Portal. The Registration Form duly filled in should be submitted along with supporting documents online and the originals must be produced for verification when intimated, failing which the admission granted may be cancelled and the fees/charges paid forfeited.
- (b) On receipt of the Registration Form, the guardian will be informed of the date and time of a virtual interaction with the Principal or authorized senior Departmental Head/s, and both parents along with the child should be present at such an interaction.





## Withdrawal & Transfer

1. In case a guardian wishes to withdraw his ward from the School, he should inform the School in writing at least three months in advance or pay three months' fees in lieu thereof.
2. A Transfer Certificate will be issued only if a guardian applies for it in writing to the Principal, and after due clearance from all the concerned departments of the School has been received.
3. Once admission is granted to any class, no fee, excepting the Caution Money Deposit and Laboratory Deposit, after adjustment of dues, if any, will be refunded even if the pupil is withdrawn from the School before/without attending a single class.

*See Fees: Structure & Rules, page 14 ff.*

## Transport

It must be emphasized that transport fees are based on expenses incurred annually, but realized through fees over a period of twelve months. Therefore, transport fees are payable even for periods during which the School might be closed due to various reasons, like vacations, recesses, holidays, etc. and due to unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond the control of the School authorities.

School transport will be available on specified routes. The School Office should be contacted for full particulars.

A fleet of modern vehicles is run by transport operators duly authorized by the School. Each vehicle will have an escort and is in constant touch with a supervisor present on the school premises throughout the day. The supervisor may be contacted whenever required during school hours.

It should be noted that after classes are over for the day, children take considerable time in coming down and boarding their respective vehicles. School buses, therefore, take some time before they can begin their return trips after classes are over.

A special bus badge will be given to every pupil availing of school transport. This badge must be worn by a pupil to facilitate identification.

Many private transport operators, totally unconnected with the School, may display the name of the School on their vehicles and offer transport facilities to pupils. Guardians are hereby cautioned that the School cannot exercise any control over them, and cannot, therefore, assume any responsibility whatsoever for the safety and security of pupils availing of such transport facilities.

To ensure the safety and security of children availing of school transport, the transport operators have been instructed to provide escorts (male and/or female) for all vehicles.

The School Office should be contacted in case of any difficulty.





## Textbooks & Exercise Books

All prescribed textbooks and exercise books will be supplied, on payment of necessary charges, by agencies approved by the School. Pupils will not be permitted to use exercise books purchased from the market.

Exercise books and textbooks will be supplied on specified dates from counters to be set up on the school premises.

## Work Diary & School Website

At the beginning of the Academic Year, the School will supply each pupil with a copy of the School Work Diary. Information and rules regarding attendance, absence, and other matters will be furnished in the Diary.

Important information regarding major past and forthcoming events and other matters will be posted on the School Website on a regular basis.





## Uniform & Dress Code

1. Guardians are provided with all information regarding the prescribed school uniform well in advance to enable them to order and procure them in time.
2. Uniforms, including shoes, and school bags or satchels should be procured from suppliers recommended by the School to ensure uniformity and quality. Guardians are requested to cooperate with the School in this matter.
3. Girls may wear only one pair of simple earrings or ear-studs. Pupils will not be permitted to wear jewellery of any other kind to school. Any jewellery worn to school in contravention of this rule may be confiscated and suitable disciplinary steps taken against the pupil concerned.
4. Nails must be clipped short. Use of *mehendi*, hairdyes, make-up, nail polish, styling gel, etc. is not permitted.
5. Girls may wear only black hairbands or clips. Hair longer than shoulder-length should be tied up neatly and not left loose.
6. Boys must have their hair cut above ear-level. Hair must be neatly combed.





## Conduct & General Discipline

1. Good manners and proper conduct are an integral part of education. It is extremely important that pupils remember this and conduct themselves in a manner befitting the reputation and dignity of the School which they represent and which will be known to the outside world through them. Their conduct both within the School and outside must at all times be beyond reproach.
2. Once a pupil has entered the school premises, he will not, except in an emergency, be permitted to leave until classes are over for the day and his assignments have been completed.
3. Pupils must take proper care of the school building, furniture, and facilities they use. Wilful damage to or destruction of school property will not only attract a fine, but may result in suspension.
4. Pupils must also take proper care of the articles they bring to school. The School shall not in any way be responsible for the loss of any personal belonging, including money, brought to school.
5. Pupils must not bring expensive stationery or articles like iPods or CDs to school. Such expensive articles, if found on any pupil inside the school premises, will be confiscated, nor will the School be responsible for the loss of any such article.
6. Pupils must not bring cellphones to school under any circumstance. Any violation of this rule will attract severe disciplinary action, including suspension. Guardians are advised to be particularly cautious in this regard.
7. No books other than textbooks and/or School Library books should be brought to the School without the express permission of the Principal.
8. A pupil may be given detention assignment for misconduct.
9. Pupils are not permitted to give gifts to other pupils or members of staff. Only token gifts like candies or toffees may be distributed on birthdays.



## Medical Care

A trained nurse will be in attendance during school hours.

The School should be informed in writing of any chronic ailment or physical handicap that a pupil suffers from and the medicine/s prescribed, together with a photocopy of the prescription, and a certificate from a registered medical practitioner that the pupil is fit to attend regular classes. While all possible care will be taken to look after such a pupil while he is on the school premises, the School cannot take any responsibility whatsoever for any unforeseen development or eventuality.

In case a pupil needs immediate expert or special medical attention for any reason, the responsibility of the School will be limited to admitting him to a suitable medical centre and informing the guardian concerned as soon as possible. The School shall not be liable to pay or reimburse any expenses incurred or to be incurred in this regard, or pay any compensation for any injury or loss suffered.



## Counselling Service

A qualified and experienced counsellor has been appointed by the School to advise pupils and guardians. The School Office should be contacted for further details.



## Assessment of Pupils

### NURSERY I – CLASS II

Pupils of these classes will not be required to sit for any examination. They will be assessed on the basis of the work done in class throughout the Academic Year.

### CLASS III – VIII

Pupils will be assessed on the basis of class assignments and two examinations in an Academic Year, viz. a Half-Yearly Examination and an Annual Examination.

The guidelines of the affiliating Board will be followed in any system of evaluation that the Academic Council recommends and the School adopts.

## Promotion

Promotions to higher classes will be granted as per the rules of the appropriate authorities.

However, guardians, who want their wards to repeat a year in the same class, should inform the Principal of their decision in writing at least a month before the beginning of the next Academic Year.



## Progress Reports

Progress Reports will be issued twice a year.

## Parent-Teacher Meetings

Parent-Teacher Meetings will be held at regular intervals and on prior notice.

Guardians may meet the Subject Teachers/Class Teachers/Principal on any working day by previous appointment through the School Office.





## Satikanta Guha 01 June 1910 – 08 January 1991

Satikanta Guha was born in Sunamganj, Sylhet (now in Bangladesh). He was educated at Dhaka Collegiate School, Dhaka, and Hare School and Presidency College, Kolkata. He stood first in First Class in the LLB Examination of Calcutta University.

Though his subject of formal study was history, his real love from childhood was literature. From the age of 15 he started editing journals for children: first *Benu*, and then *Chitra*. This brought him into close personal contact with Abanindranath Thakur and Dakshinaranjan Mitra Majumdar. Later he also edited *Rangmashal* for some time. This well-known journal for the young had earlier published his immensely popular but incomplete serial, *Amarlata*. He set up several publishing houses, publishing books that included Abanindranath's *Rajkahini*, Dakshinaranjan's *First Boy* and *Last Boy*, and Shibram Chakraborty's *Baadi Thekey Paliye*.

Financial reasons forced him to join a commercial firm, but he soon gave it up, and with his brother Banikanta founded the *Purba Parishad*, a cultural organization devoted mainly to dance and drama. A ballet troupe under his direction visited Ceylon (Sri Lanka) at the invitation of that country's government. But once again he had to take up a job to earn his livelihood. In 1954 he finally turned away from the world of commerce, and in association with his wife Prity Lata founded South Point.

South Point attracted many talented and gifted personalities as teachers: Utpal Dutt, Kamal Kumar Majumdar, Sekhar Chattopadhyay, Mangalacharan Chattopadhyaya, N. Viswanathan, Surojit Sen, and Gita Ghatak among others. In a little over two decades, South Point came to be acknowledged as the world's largest school in terms of the number of pupils enrolled for an academic year. It enjoyed that distinction for many years. South Point also became synonymous with academic excellence, for year after year its pupils secured ranks among the first ten in all public examinations at the school level.

With South Point firmly established, he turned to his first love: literature. He received the Mouchak Award for his contribution to children's literature, and the Rabindra Puraskar for his novel, *Natyakar*.

Blessed with a rare insight, he could recognize and appreciate both talent and greatness. Author, painter, singer, dancer, actor, craftsman, scholar – whoever came to him for help, got it ungrudgingly. Those who were genuinely gifted found in him a kindred spirit who befriended, encouraged, and helped them in distress and need. Vishmadeb Chattopadhyay, Gopesh Chakraborty, Subho Thakur, Guru Gopinath, Madhav Menon, Kelu Nair, Sukumar De Sarkar, Indrani Rehman, and Uday Shankar were only a few. During his lifetime South Point was a home to many organizations, like the Little Theatre Group, Ali Akbar College of Music, Ballygunge Cultural Seminar, and Guru Thankamani Kutty's school of dance.

He was most unfortunate in birth, life, and death, in that he was born a Bengali, and lived, worked, and died in West Bengal.





## Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER)

The Ministry of Education (previously MHRD), Government of India, has set up several Indian Institutes of Science Education & Research to promote quality education and research in basic sciences by appointing established scholars as faculty members so that they may continue working in their respective fields of specialization and at the same time teach, motivate, and guide students interested in studying and taking up research.

The strength of IISER Kolkata lies in its talented students, faculty of excellent academic repute, state-of-the-art research facilities, and the flexibility of the academic programs.

The Institute offers a BS-MS (a 5-year Integrated Masters) program, involving two years of compulsory exposure to all the science disciplines: Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Biology, Earth and Planetary Sciences, and Computer Programming and Electronics, followed by two years of study in a 'major' discipline, and finally a year devoted to research leading to a thesis (Masters). In addition to the BS-MS program, the Institute also offers a post-BSc Integrated PhD program to induct talented students early into research. In addition, there are the 2-year MS (thesis) program for BTech students and the regular post-MSc PhD program. PhD programs are specifically focused on cutting-edge, competitive research.

## **Satikanta Guha Foundation**

Satikanta Guha Foundation is a charitable society, registered with the Registrar of Societies, West Bengal, and the Income-tax authorities u/ss 12A and 80G of the IT Act, 1961. It is also registered under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976.

The Foundation was established in September 1991 in memory of Satikanta Guha who had expired in January that year.

Since the names of Satikanta Guha and his wife Prity Lata Guha, the first Secretary of the Foundation, are indissolubly linked with South Point as its Founder and Associate Founder, the first members of the Foundation decided that education should be the main sphere of the Foundation's activities.

### **1. GARDEN HIGH SCHOOL**

The Foundation began its activities by rendering financial assistance to various centres of learning, educational institutions, and needy and meritorious pupils. However, it was increasingly felt that the Foundation should be more actively involved in promoting education by establishing a school. That would indeed be the best way to honour the man whose name it bears and to commemorate his contribution to the cause of education. The project of setting up a school, comprising Nursery, Primary, Secondary, and Higher Secondary Departments, was thus undertaken in 1999 and Garden High School was established.

### **2. GARDEN HIGH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**

The second project – involving the setting up of an international school – was undertaken in April 2013. Garden High International School (GHIS), comprising Grades IX & X and Advanced Subsidiary & Advanced Level classes (equivalent to Classes XI & XII of CISCE), started functioning from 7 April 2014. Class VIII (Fundamental Level) was introduced from the academic year 2018–19.

The School is now affiliated to Edexcel (previously London Examinations) and Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE).

GHIS observes 30 July, the day on which Prity Lata Guha was born, as its Foundation Day.

### **3. GARDEN HIGH SCHOOL – IISER KOLKATA CAMPUS**

The Foundation has set up a school on the campus at Mohanpur (near Kalyani) of IISER (Indian Institute of Science Education and Research) Kolkata. This School, which started functioning from 31 March 2015, now comprises classes from Nursery I to Class VIII. Affiliation has been sought from CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education), New Delhi, and the matter is awaiting a resolution in the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta.



**Prity Lata Guha** *30 July 1916 – 04 November 2005*

Associate Founder, South Point School and South Point High School

Founding Trustee, South Point Education Society

Former Secretary, Satikanta Guha Foundation

President Emeritus, Garden High School



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is subject to amendment or change  
in the light of any guideline or order issued by  
the appropriate authorities or a  
Court of Law.*

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