



THE DN WISDOM TREE GLOBAL SCHOOL

A School As Unique As Your Child

From its very inception in 2018, The DN Wisdom Tree Global School, Bhubaneswar, has been a pioneer, committed to transformational learning through innovative academic and co-scholastic practices, in an enabling and joyful environment, while being connected to nature and heritage by way of first-hand experience.

The institution started its journey as a premier Kindergarten and Day Care, and went on to a full-fledged K-12, CBSE curriculum, co-education day boarding school (in 2022), set in a curated 12-acre green space, with state-of-art infrastructure, unlike any other in the state of Odisha. With 400 students presently, The DN Wisdom Tree Global School is a young school, making its presence felt in the education landscape in terms of uniqueness – not just in physical spaces, facilities and infrastructure, and the teaching-learning processes, but also a school that has a vision of sustainability and eco-consciousness, embracing out-of-the-box practices that would ensure a generation of skilled and sensitive global citizens.

Recently, in recognition of the transformational learning and green practices of the school that are linked to SDGs, Education World Grand Jury India School Rankings 2024-25 has listed The DN Wisdom Tree Global School as the top ranking **SDGs Committed School - #1 in Bhubaneswar, #1 in Odisha, and #7 in India**. Specifically, The DN Wisdom Tree Global School contributes to the achievement of:

SDG 3 - Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

SDG 4 - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

SDG 5 - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

SDG 11 - Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

SDG 13 - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy.

The school is committed to making its contribution to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals, facilitating an inclusive, equitable, and sustainable journey for our children and for all stakeholders.

A Green Portfolio

The DN Wisdom Tree Global School has a Green Portfolio embedded in its day-to-day functioning. It is led by Ms. Panchami Manoo Ukil, Vice Chairperson, a recipient of the prestigious Sanctuary Wildlife Service Award 2022 for her contribution to environmental conservation and promoting care for the natural world, who believes it is incumbent upon her to inculcate eco-consciousness and green practices in children as early as possible, to raise a generation of climate ambassadors who are skilled and responsible global citizens.

Ira the Dolphin is the **School Mascot**, raising awareness about the need of conservation of this dolphin species as well as other threatened species of wildlife, reiterating our commitment to green ethics and towards building a band of eco-ethical global citizens of the future.

Mission Palash is one such pioneering endeavour, a flagship project to revive a lost species – Palash (*Butea monosperma*) that had almost disappeared from the city of Bhubaneswar and its surrounding woodlands.

As part of its 'Rebuilding through Regreening' efforts post the devastation wreaked by cyclone Fani, The DN Wisdom Tree Global School decided to

reintroduce the indigenous Palash through a special strategy of plantation and urban greening in the city. The Mission Palash campaign was launched by former Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik, and so far, over 200 Palash trees have been planted in Bhubaneswar.

The 12 acre school campus is green – **age old trees have been retained** and the architecture has been woven around these green spaces. Children regularly plant trees and cultivate small veggie patches and flower beds. The greenness is visible and palpable; and children are encouraged to spend time outdoors, learning to connect with nature. **Exposing students to the outdoors** is part of daily routine at The DN Wisdom Tree Global School. Activities include sky watching, tree climbing, identifying birds and trees, storytelling under the mango trees, nature walks, tree planting, campaigns to bring back lost species like Palash are a part of the school calendar.

Use of natural ingredients for celebrations as well as learning activities is a key feature of the green practice at The DN Wisdom Tree Global School. For Holi, children have learned to use flowers like Palash blooms and marigolds, for Ganesh Chaturthi, they create little idols from freshly-ground Haldi, and light small earthen oil lamps with cotton wicks for Deepawali. For the rich, traditional Odia festival of Kartik Purnima, children create and float banana stem boats to mark Boita Bandana as a tribute to Odisha's glorious sea-faring past. On Nuakhai, children have learnt to use Sal leaves to make bowls and plates in which the cooked new grains are served.

The festival of Rakshabandhan means celebrating **Vrikshbandhan** for students and mentors of The DN Wisdom Tree Global School, when children make eco-friendly 'rakhis' and tie them on trees, promising to protect them through life. On Bapu's birthday, Gandhi Jayanti, children are familiarized with the working of the **Charkha and the importance of Khadi**.

Flowers, leaves, twigs, natural colours, old newspapers and discarded items like bottles, boxes, paper goods and ornaments are used for craft activities, with a strict ban on use of thermocol and plastic.

Exposure Field Trips to biodiversity hotspots as well as natural habitats like Mangalajodi, enable awareness and information on the of importance of various ecosystems and the dangers they face.

The school's **Heritage Code** further facilitates the anchoring of proactive practices, as it requires the institution to promote and use handcrafted products and artisanal services, inculcate green practices for promoting conservation, and enable information dissemination on our natural resource heritage and cultural legacy. The DN Wisdom Tree Global School believes in sharing and engaging students as well as the extended community in preserving cultural heritage through relevant activities and appropriate practices. For example, the school has instituted a handloom dress code for all mentors and staff, from its very first year, with the objective of raising awareness on the incredibly rich legacy of handwoven textiles, and towards supporting local weavers.

Originality and uniqueness are a hallmark of The DN Wisdom Tree Global School. Going beyond the curriculum is our constant endeavour. **The Wisdom Finishing School Programme (WFSP)**, now in its fifth season, is a singular and unique initiative of the school. Emerging from Vice Chairperson Ms. Panchami Manoo Ukil's vision and experience, the interactive modules focus on a confluence of academic development together with personality enhancement that enriches every child's cognitive growth. This is made possible only by exposing them to a wider world and broadening their horizons. The programme comprises of familiarisation with knowledge domains and activities that enrich children intrinsically, embedding skills, values, and knowledge to polish their personalities, enhance their intellect, and to bring out the best of their innate gifts.

We are beginning to see the impact of these practices, as children become powerful influencers in their families, taking back their learning to be worked on at home. And we see parents beginning to adopt and adapt to sustainable choices – for their children, and for reducing their carbon footprint.

Light a Lamp for Planet Earth This Deepawali, a special campaign of The DN Wisdom Tree Global School was launched in October 2024, to create awareness on Climate Change and highlight the climate crisis as an emergency. The campaign is anchored around 12 Easy Steps to reduce carbon footprint, which would be circulated to educational institutions across the country.

The Wisdom Model United Nations Conference 2024 (WIZMUN 2024), Odisha's first Green Concept MUN was organized and hosted by the school in November 2024. With 200 delegates from different schools, colleges, and universities, and four committees led by young Executive Boards, the two day conference focused its deliberations on climate change and its impact on communities. Most importantly, the conference adopted and undertook the **Wisdom Climate Action Pledge**, to take forward their roles as climate action ambassadors in their respective communities and domains.

Several other practices enable holistic impact:

- Children are involved in all activities related to minimizing carbon footprint. Students of middle school have conducted their first **single-use plastic audit**, and their recommendations are now being incorporated in the everyday functioning of the school.
- The DN Wisdom Tree Global School has a **no sugar and no gluten menu** for its in-house dining; this covers at least three meals on normal working days as well as meals on special occasions, for all students, mentors, and staff.

- The school promotes the Art for Earth initiative, an endeavour to create art from waste.
- The school is presently looking closely at its energy consumption and on minimizing energy use by conserving electricity. Solar energy is to be installed soon. Rain water harvesting is to be initiated in 2025.

This narrative documents the journey of a very young school, over a span of just about six years, a school that has its lens focused on sustainable choices, building relevant skills and values in all who pass through its portals, and is on a mission to contribute to raising human capital that makes a positive difference to the well-being of the world.