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TOWARDS TOMORROW

MUMBAI EDITION

Advertorial, Education Promotional Feature

SMARTKIDS

A new step

Poonam Jain | TNN

SERRA International is revolutionising the early child-hood education scenario. The pre-school is richly and carefully re-sourced to stimulate learning and development. "Our aim is to revolutionise the early childhood education in the country by providing world-class curriculum,"

A parents' role undoubtedly mirrors on the Child - at both home and the classroom level

says Arun Arora, Chairman of SERRA International pre-schools. Catering to preschoolers, it has partnered with EtonHouse, Singapore, to ensure quality. The curriculum is based on the UK Early Learning

Goals, and inspired by Inquiry-based learning and Reggio Emilia educational approach of Northern Italy. Though Reggio Emilia started in Italy after World War II, the Reggio Emilia approach attracts worldwide attention. A case in point is the parent involvement and the concepts of teachers as learners at SERRA. "The parents' role eventually mirrors on the Child - at both home and the classroom level. And that's why parents are welcome to take part in discussions, child development concerns, and curriculum planning," says Monisha Pandit,

Head of Training. Teachers' long-term commitment to enhancing the understanding of children is at the crux of the Reggio Emilia approach. "We give autonomy to the teacher. She becomes a skilled observer and implements a curricu-

lum specific to the child's needs." Children ask questions to explore new possibilities, clarify their thinking, and solve problems. Underlining the importance of questioning, Arun Arora wanted to encourage children's natural curiosity. "When children inquire, they are both problem solvers and problem posers and that's why SERRA thrives on these tiny tots talking their heads off," he says.

SERRA believes environment is the third teacher. "We create an environment which is rich with provocation to challenge their thinking," says Pandit. Learning is by no means limited to classrooms. "Natural environment, the outdoors and local community are all an integral part of a children's curriculum," she concludes.

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