

Hassle- free at Thiruvanmiyur

The Thiruvanmiyur balwadi, sponsored by Mr. C.Srikanth, was inaugurated on 18th June'08. The Trust has appointed a Montessori trained teacher, Ms. Arul Selvi, to manage this single center. She has been able to manage this center quite well with some help from the balwadi teacher and the balwadi ayah.

The local corporation councilor has also shown some interest in this balwadi center. The party workers are active and are taking care of any infrastructure related support. Right now the compound area in front of the balwadi is being leveled and will be cemented. There are plans to provide a sanded play area and a covered stage.

The ICDS Project Officer for this center, Ms. Sargunam, is very supportive. The balwadi staff have unusually and strangely acknowledged the authority of the Trust teacher! Thus, the Trust teacher seems to be holding fort and working with full freedom.

The center may be small, but is new and neat, and comfortable in every way. The Trust teacher lives very close to the center and she has been working sincerely treating the center to be her own. Attendance on any given day is around 20-25 and more are seeking admission.

The parents are very impressed with our work. They say the children love to come to the center. Some parents are so involved and caring that they are willing to sit with the children in the event of the ayah being absent or late. Children come very neatly and nicely dressed. They leave their footwear in the stand near the door. The snack basket is deposited on the kitchen counter. Then they jaunt off to roll out a mat, choose a material from the display shelf and settle down to work as if they were doing this for years!

At 11 am the teacher rings a bell. They are off to the toilet helped by the ayah and then have their snacks followed by some collective presentation or activity. At 12pm they have lunch. After lunch the teacher helps the older children with higher activities or they may do some art work.

On the whole this small, lone center has turned out to be less demanding on cost, attention and administration and promises to show greater progress in the months to come.