

Let us join hands for our children,
for a better tomorrow



Our Responsibility to Children (ORC)

Integrated Child Protection Scheme

(An initiative by various Government departments in collaboration with civil society)

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ORC Our responsibility to Children



Our children are changing along with the changing times. It is true that children of present day are talented and are technically advanced and are more proficient in gathering knowledge than the older generation. At the same time many of our children suffer from various emotional, behavioral and social issues and many are unable to cope with the changing situations and circumstances. There are children who fall into unhealthy practices which are detrimental to their well being. Some get indulged in deviant activities, some are into immature and unhealthy sexual practices, some on the other hand develop suicidal tendencies. We see such heart rending situations in every sphere of society, everyday. All these point a finger towards the lack of sensitivity and collective responsibility of teachers, parents and society in general towards our children.

The positive circumstances that we create, the love and consideration that we show them and the people in society who are worthy of emulation play a vital role in the molding of the character of a child. That there are positive and negative tendencies in every individual is a fact. The dominant trait of a child is determined by the circumstances under which he/she grows.

Our Responsibility to Children (ORC) is a consciously tailored problem oriented, solution focused intervention model to ensure better protection and development of children through responsible, capable and collective mentoring by parents, teachers, society and peers.

Our Responsibility to Children (ORC) is now being implemented as an integral part of Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) with various Government departments like education, health, police, excise, local self government and nongovernmental agencies, committed individuals, parents, teachers, guardians as its key stakeholders.

The objectives of the program are identified as,

1. Facilitate the coordination between institutions and organizations (governmental and non-governmental) working for the development and protection of children.
2. Guide, lead and spread awareness about the responsibility of parents, teachers and the general public towards children.

3. Lead children away from unhealthy life practices and harmful behaviors, identify and bring back children with special needs and attention to the social mainstream through counseling, mentoring and through expert attention.

Strengths and difficulties assessment, Life Skills Education, Identification and management of emotional, social, behavioral and learning issues, promoting creative talents in children for their personal development and security, coaching parents, teachers, volunteers etc in different aspects related to responsibilities towards children are some of the activities included in the ORC program.

The coordination of ORC activities will be realized through the ORC resource centers (ORC-DRC) being developed in all districts of Kerala. ORC – DRCs will function as referral/ link/ coordination units responsible for organizing expert care as and when the need arises and as knowledge hubs for teachers, parents, volunteer mentors and various agencies who work for the protection and development of children. DRCs will also provide wide range of facilities for counseling, trainings etc.

Any individual or organization- social, faith based, cultural or political- with a sense of social responsibility and genuine interest in the development and protection of children is welcome to be an active partner of ORC.