**Chetana Bikash Model School became trendsetter offering the students handwriting training:**

Chetana Bikash Model School at Parbatipur upazila under Dinajpur district has set a unique example and become a trendsetter by training the students on handwriting.

A total 238 students of the educational institution at Ghanashyampur village of the upazilla have similar handwritings both in Bangla and English. They have also improved their performances significantly.

The school was established on 30 decimals of land in 2015. Initially, there were only 35 students in class I, II, and III. They used to score poor marks in the examinations as their handwritings were very hazy. It was really very shocking and perturbed me very much. So, we made a plan to arrange handwriting training for the students so that they could overcome their poor performance,” said the head teacher, Enamul Hoque.

We got result after the effort. Five students of the school last year won awards at the upazila level handwriting competition arranged by a local NGO.

“We hired a handwriting expert from Gaibandha district who trained three teachers of the institute in 2016. The trained teachers used to take the special handwriting classes for the students in all classes. Every new student needs to go through a one-week long training classes on handwriting first,” the head teacher noted.

“This one-week training is usually arranged in the month of February soon after the admission every year.”

The school has now been upgraded to class VI this year. It will become a secondary school gradually.

Some 17 students appeared in the Primary Education Completion Examinations [PECE] last year and 15 of them secured GPA-5, while 18 appeared in the [PECE] exams in 2018 and all of them secured GPA-5.

Most of the guardians of the school students are from low income group. So, the school authority fixed the monthly tuition fee between Tk 230 to Tk 700 considering the parents financial status.

“Students had shown keen interest to improve their handwriting when the handwriting care classes were introduced in 2016. They improved a lot. All of the students can write in the same style now, the head teacher mentioned.

“It seems difficult to find out the subtle differences in their writings. All of their copies look alike in terms of handwriting,” said Morsheda Begum, a teacher of the school.

Mohammad Golap Hossain a guardian of the student said, his son got admitted to the school in 2017. ‘He was not up to the level as a student and his handwriting was not good initially. But he has improved tremendously over the last three years,” said Golap Hossain who was a rickshaw-van puller by profession.

Rafiqul Islam, a student of class six said, “I had to attend the handwriting training class for two months. I failed to ensure good handwriting initially while writing fast. But now I can finish answer of all the questions maintaining the handwriting style during the stipulated time in the examination.

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