

STICHTING MYINT MYAT THU FOUNDATION MYINT MYAT THU

HULPORGANISATIE VOOR KINDEREN IN MYANMAR



AID ORGANISATION FOR CHILDREN IN MYANMAR



FMMT SECTA (SPECIAL EDUCATION CENTRE TAUNGGYI)

EDUCATING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

THE MEANING OF 'SPECIAL EDUCATION'

'Special education' (also known as special needs education or aided education) is the practice of educating students (children) with special educational needs in a way that addresses their individual differences and needs. Ideally, this process involves the individually planned and systematically monitored arrangement of teaching procedures and accessible settings. These interventions are designed to help learners with special needs achieve a higher level of personal self-sufficiency and success in school and their community, than may be available if the student were only given access to a typical general (often poor and exceeded) education in Myanmar.

Common special needs include learning disabilities, communication disorders, emotional and behavioral disorders and developmental disabilities. Students with these kinds of special needs are likely to benefit from additional educational services such as different approaches to teaching (individual or small- selected group teaching), the use of technology, a specifically adapted and reassuring teaching area and more. The goal is that each child must receive mainly an **Individualized Education Program (IEP)** that distinguishes his/her particular needs.

A special school like FMMT SECTA is thus a school catering for students who have special educational needs due to severe learning difficulties and physical disabilities or on recovery. It will be specifically designed and explored, staffed and resourced to provide appropriate special education for these children. Next to the educational aspects the school offers facilities for children (apart from the logistic functions as a kitchen, restrooms, bedrooms,...) such as a play area, a library and living -leisure rooms for their wellbeing and home feeling.



EDUCATIONAL MODULES

MODULE 1. SPEECH THERAPY

Target groups: Children (Ex-schisis patients (5 to 17 years) with physical speech or hearing problems, low express capacities, psychological inhibition,...;

Intake: At the initial consultation, a speech therapist will review the medical and social history and obtain any relevant information before conducting an evaluation of the child's speech and language skills. This initial assessment serves as the baseline for developing an appropriate individualized treatment plan to meet the needs of the child(and family).Level test(s), groups, goals and courses to be developed in cooperation with mentor Prof. Dr. Siriparn Sriwanyong, Department of Special Education, Srinakharinwirot University Bangkok;

Approach and method: Therapy sessions are tailored to the specific needs of each child. The therapist will use a variety of techniques and strategies to facilitate progress:

- Individual therapy sessions give each child the personal attention he or she needs;
- Group therapy sessions provide a realistic communication context in which children can practice newly developed skills.

Note: Individual coaching during average terms of three months in small groups or individually, through short sessions daily; In between or alternated with animation, workshops, and other relevant teaching subjects. Students will get acquainted with modern teaching tools as tablets and software(apps) will be used in all FMMT SECTA modules.

Mentorship Speech therapy teachers of FMMT(*).

Elucidation: Clef lip and/or open plate patients from all over Myanmar receive a free medical treatment organized and financed by FMMT and MTS (Myat Thar Shin Taunggyi). Often these children didn't go to school because of their handicap or experienced several learning difficulties. After the operation and repair of the physical aspects of their defect (cleft lip/open palate,..) these children can receive a speech therapy training (training free of charge and free stay, eventually with a family member) in FMMT SECTA. The goal is that these children can reintegrate into society and keep up again with standard education.

(*) FMMT plans in cooperation with Srinakharinwirot University and mentor Prof. Dr. Siriparn Sriwanyong to establish its own 'Speech therapy teachers training'(STTT) unit in Yangon. Graduates, preferable in medical or pedagogical disciplines can engage for a retraining to a professional speech therapist. Participating successfully at this (free) professional course these students can thus accomplish a certificate as Speech therapist. After their training, they should engage for FMMT SECTA or can be sent out by FMMT as freelance speech therapist for other institutes or other regions in Myanmar. All modalities will be stipulated in a mutual agreement.



MODULE 2. LANGUAGE (ENGLISH)

Target groups: Talented children(12-14 and 15-17 years) with the lack of financial means are offered a quality English language lessons education; Groups are limited to 15 students/ 6 hours a week.

Intake: Level test (to be developed);

Approach and method: Modern English language courses cover beginning and intermediate levels of speaking, reading and writing in English, including grammar and literature skills. While teaching all aspects of the English language other subjects(knowledge and skills) are implemented as nature and sustainability, (world)economy, business features, culture and society.

Mentorship: English language teachers(nationals and foreign language teachers)

Elucidation: As we know, developing language skills is a key thing for children to develop general learning skills, to prepare for higher studies and to be successful in a job environment later. FMMT SECTA wants to offer for a start the English language lessons. Later, Chinese or French can be considered.

MODULE 3. UNIVERSITY PREPARATION COURSES(UPC) - UNIVERSITY STUDIES & SPONSORED SCHOLARSHIP

- A. University preparation (sponsored scholarship)
- B. University preparation (student fee)

Group A: Talented students(15-17 years, max. 10 students- 9 months period, max. 2 years) with the lack of financial means are offered a quality education as preparation for university studies(language, economy,..). For these specific students, the free education is offered through a sponsored scholarship formula(*).

Group B: Students(15-17 years, max. 10 students) - 9 months period, max. 2 years) with own financial means and from the region. Access according to the FMTT SECTA conditions and fees.

Intake: Level tests (to be developed);

Approach and method: Courses to be achieved;

Mentorship: Experienced teachers;

Elucidation: This University Preparation Course(UPC) prepares students for university-level study by teaching them the required skills for academic success, with an emphasis on the student becoming an independent learner. The course is conducted in a supportive and hands-on environment and covers learning skills, research and writing processes, numeracy tools and accessing knowledge. Students will be introduced to university life and will have access to course and career advice to assist in making informed decisions about undergraduate degree selection. The course is suitable for both recent school leavers and mature age students who have not studied at university previously. Group A and B have as described a different instream but will form one group in the teaching process.

(*) FMMT plans to set up a sponsored scholarship for specific students. Burmese or foreigner companies, organizations or individuals worldwide can financially support a particular FMMT SECTA student during *the preparation at FMMT SECTA and during his/her concrete studies at a Myanmar or foreign university*. After students apply for 'adoption' they are listed for donors to search. Upon being selected for this sponsored scholarship the student is notified and the donor will be given progress reports during the academic year. Donors feel the direct impact their gift has when directed to a specific student, knowing that it could be the life line that made the difference in completing their education and achieving their career aspirations. Donors also have the opportunity to become further involved in their students academics progress by having opportunities to meet with their student.

MODULE 4. LIBRARY, WORKSHOPS, AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Mentorship: Librarian (and assistant volunteers)

Elucidation: The library (with around 1000 titles in Burmese and English language) will be profiled as a low threshold, neighborhood library and meeting place, containing study books, dictionaries, fiction, and non-fiction. The books can be consulted in the reading room or taken home for a certain period according to the free rental service system (Registration of free membership). The library provides also free use of PCs with an internet connection and Wi-Fi.

Next to its regular offer the library organizes free educational and cultural activities such as storytelling, lectures and narrations for children and youngsters.

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PERSONAL

STAFF

Manager(1) (38 h/w)

FMMT SECTA provides educational, informational and cultural services for its students and for the local community and thus contributes to a quality of life by supporting quality learning and the pursuit of knowledge.

The manager of FMMT SECTA will be a big picture thinker, an articulate communicator and have a passion for (special)education and culture. The ideal candidate will plan and lead the educational program and the framework in a way that supports the students for the best.

The manager pursues a high standard of quality within educational programs, the offered services and the daily operational activities of FMMT SECTA. The manager reports to the council on a regular base and will develop, enhance and administer the educational program, services and facilities of FMMT SECTA. The manager will have a permanent focus on the efficiency, flexibility and 'custom service' of FMMT SECTA;

Responsibilities include:

- Develop and recommend strategies, long-range plans and objectives for the educational programs, cultural programs and services;
- Develop policies, rules and procedures for the effective operation of FMMT SECTA, including establishing goals and objectives and monitor program expenditures, evaluate and recommend staffing needs, equipment, materials and supplies;
- Provide the needed facilities and organize communication and transport, reception, stay and discharge of students and their families;
- Negotiate, prepare, administer and monitor contracts and agreements with teachers and others involved in the delivery of teaching programs and activities;
- Develop grant and funding sources. Seek and obtain sponsorships for all aspects of FMMT SECTA;
- Prepare and present complete (year)reports both orally and in writing about professional practices and program design;
- Provide information for marketing and promotional activities. Respond to media inquiries;
- Respond to complaints and requests for information;
- Manage the daily workload of staff and employees; set goals, objectives and performance standards and control systems; select, train, develop and manage the performance of staff. Select, supervise, train and coordinate the work of contractors and volunteers;

- Deliver quality and comprehensive secretarial, administrative and communicative tasks and financial monitoring for FMMT SECTA and FMMT Myanmar;
- Perform other related duties as assigned;

Knowledge of:

- Principles of organization, administration, budgeting, contracting and personnel management;
- Principles, practices and procedures for planning, implementing, managing and evaluating marketing, promotion, and fundraising principles, strategies and techniques. Effective communication techniques in working with the public, community groups, artists, performers, media and others associated with the delivery of cultural arts programs;
- Research methods and techniques and methods of report presentation;

Ability to:

- Develop, coordinate, and administer educational and cultural programs and take new initiatives;
- Plan and execute strategic directions, initiatives, goals and objectives;
- Develop budgets, monitor expenditures and negotiate contracts;
- Plan, organize and assign work; supervise, train, review and evaluate the work of staff and volunteers;
- Analyze department policies and procedures, identify, recommend, and implement improvements;
- Establish and maintain cooperative relationships with those contacted in the course of work;
- Analyze problems, identify alternative solutions, project consequences of proposed actions, and implement recommendations in support of goals;
- Exercise good judgment, flexibility, creativity, and sensitivity in response to changing situations and needs;
- Work well under pressure to meet deadlines;
- Speak and write fluently Burmese and English and communicate clearly and concisely;
- Ability to work fluently with all MS Office features and tools;

Speech therapist(1) (38 h/w)

If you have excellent communication and listening skills and enjoy helping others you may consider a training to become a speech and language therapist for FMMT. As a speech and language therapist (SLT), you will treat children who have various levels of speech, language and communication problems, or difficulties in swallowing, drinking or eating.

- You could deal with a diverse client group, including people with physical and learning disabilities, hearing loss/deafness, psychiatric disorders or dementia, and could treat a range of conditions, including cleft palate, stammering, language delay and voice disorders.
- You usually work as part of a multidisciplinary team alongside another teacher, and will often liaise with others(family or teachers when developing treatment plans.

Responsibilities:

Your tasks will vary depending on the nature of the client's problem. However, you will need to:

- Identify the speech and communication difficulty or disorder;
- Assess the cause and nature of the problem, for example, congenital problems (such as cleft palate) or acquired disorders after a stroke or injury;
- Devise and deliver a suitable treatment program, working on a one-to-one basis or in groups, to enable each of your clients to improve as much as possible;
- Review and revise the program as appropriate;
- Monitor and evaluate the children's progress;
- Write confidential client case notes and reports, as well as information for parents and other professionals and do general administrative tasks;
- Manage a caseload while taking into account priority cases, waiting lists, successful outcomes;
- Work within a team to improve the skills, methods, effectiveness and good results.

At a more senior level is expected:

- Support newly qualified SLTs and speech and language therapy assistants;
- Plan and deliver training sessions;
- Undertake clinical audit;
- Participate in research projects.

Intake, engagement and modalities:

- Candidates have a university degree(preferable medical or pedagogics or comparable);
- Pass the intake test for aspirant FMMT speech therapist;
- Engage for an intensive 6 months training in Yangon, free of charge;
- Engage as a FMMT speech therapist according the contractual agreements (to be stipulated);

Language teacher(1) (19 h/w)

Teaching English as a foreign language (TEFL) involves teaching adults and children whose first or main language is not English.

Responsibilities:

EFL teachers use a range of course books and materials, plus a variety of audio-visual aids. A strong emphasis is placed on dialogue and role-playing, but more formal exercises, language games and literature are also used.

The content of lessons varies depending on the reason why the students are learning English, e.g. whether it's for business use for adults, school work for children and so on. The aim of each lesson is to encourage the students to communicate with each other using the structures and vocabulary they've learnt and to improve the four basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Tasks that should be carried out include:

- Classroom management;
- Planning, preparing and delivering lessons to a range of classes and age groups;
- Preparing and setting tests, examination papers and exercises;
- Marking and providing appropriate feedback on oral and written work;

- Devising, writing and producing new materials, including audio and visual resources;
- Basic administration, such as keeping student registers and attendance records and reporting to the management.

Librarian - mentor (1) (24 h/w)

- Help visitors conduct research and find the information they need;
- Organize library materials so they are easy to find, and maintain collections;
- Plan and guide programs for different audiences, such as storytelling for young children, workshops, animation activities, free time, excursions;
- Develop and index databases of library materials;
- Research new books and materials by reading book reviews, publishers' announcements, and catalogues;
- Organize library materials so they are easy to find, and maintain collections;
- Develop and index databases of library materials;
- Choose new books, audio books, videos, and other materials for the library.

Teachers UPC(2)(6 h/w)

tbd

OTHER PERSONAL

Household personnel(2) (38 h/w)(19 h/w)

- Cleaning and cooking, permanence and supervising tasks, security and maintenance;

COUNCIL

FMMT(2), MTS(1), Management and pedagogic staff(2), externals(2)

FMMT SECTA: PROFILE, WORK DOMAINS AND SERVICES

A digital and green environment spot

FMMT SECTA is favoring the green building approach that aims to build in respect of our environment and that of future generations while offering maximum comfort to occupants.

Green building uses resources efficiently. Its success is to leave fewer traces on the environment through the use of renewable energies and by ensuring high energy yield. This is a balanced solution between construction and a sustainable environment. FMMT SECTA will withdraw energy out of roof solar panels, organize rainwater recuperation and the natural cleaning of its waste water and sorting garbage. The center pretends to be a model building for the region on sustainability and brings this under attention through promotion and workshops.

Last but not least, FMMT SECTA wants to profile as a digital learning environment. The use of PC's, tablets and apps will be integrated in all teaching and working processes.

Public relations, sponsor events and funding activities

Next to the financial support coming from Belgium it should be also the aim to receive funds and donations in Myanmar or build structural partnerships. A yearly program of public relations events, sponsor events and funding activities underline the solidarity between Myanmar and Belgium and will broaden the financial support and possibilities. Therefore the management of FMMT SECTA will design yearly its strategy and organize concrete activities, sponsorships, collections,...