



## Annual Report

Educate. Empower. Transform.



Prepared By:

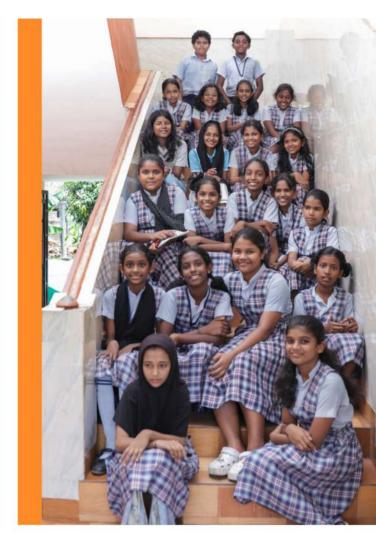
Sajitha Menon

Approved By:

**Anne Samuel** 

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### Introduction

We are pleased to present the Value Education Trust (VET) Annual Report for 2023–2024 and announce that VET will now be EmpowerEd Foundation. This report offers an overview of the activities, achievements, and financial performance over the past financial year, highlighting our efforts to empower children from marginalised communities in Kerala through our innovative, value-rooted skill development programs. The purpose of this report is to communicate our initiatives and impact, keeping all the stakeholders informed about the progress and future plans.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our stakeholders and supporters. Your unwavering commitment and generous contributions have been vital to our success. Our achievements would not have been possible without the dedication of our team, enthusiasm of our volunteers, support of our partners and donors, and the trust of the communities we serve.

Thank you all for your continued support and partnership!



We will now be called EmpowerEd Foundation. We are proud of our legacy that was started by Dr. George Samuel in 1992, as Value Education Trust. We continue with his vision and mission. To have a name more inclusive of all the programs that have evolved over the past 42 years.

# Message from the Director



Anne Samuel
Director, Value Education Trust
(Now EmpowerEd Foundation)

Reflecting on the past year at Value Education Trust, I am inspired by the transformations we've seen. Our students have evolved from shy learners to confident individuals, a testament to the dedication of our trainers, teachers, and parents.

In 2023-24, we expanded from serving 30 children in Thiruvalla to 435 across Kerala. This growth mirrors the profound changes in our students, with hesitant voices becoming articulate leaders and struggling learners excelling academically. Feedback from partner schools and parents confirms significant improvements in confidence, character, and enthusiasm for learning.

As we transition our name from Value Education Trust to EmpowerEd Foundation, our commitment to empowering children, teachers, and parents remains steadfast. Looking ahead, we aim to reach 1,500 children by 2027 and 23,000 by 2040, fostering educational excellence and personal growth.

Thank you for your unwavering support in unlocking the potential of every child we serve.

Warm regards,

Anne Samuel
Director, Value Education Trust

The goal of disciplining your child is actually to help them develop self-discipline, meaning to assume responsibility for their actions, including making amends and avoiding a repeat, whether the authority figure is present or not. – Laura Markham

### **About Us**



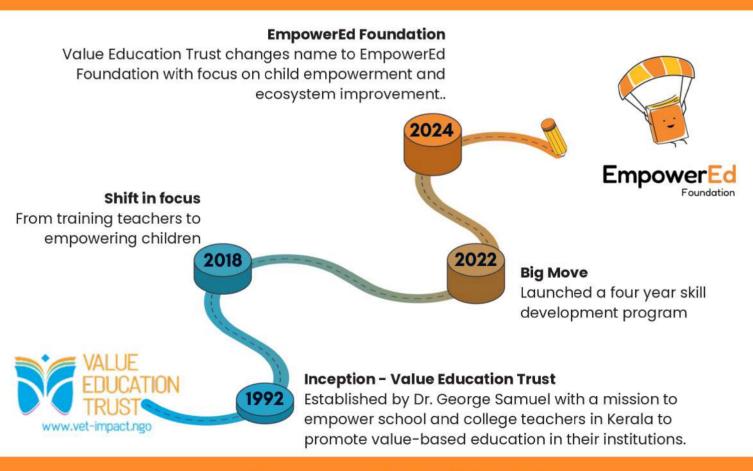
#### Vision

To empower marginalised children to cultivate virtues and embrace responsible citizenship.

#### **Mission**

We empower marginalised children in India by bridging gaps in literacy, numeracy, cognitive skills, and value formation. Through quality, personalised education and emotional, social, and career readiness training, we nurture lifelong growth, responsible citizenship, and well-rounded individuals.

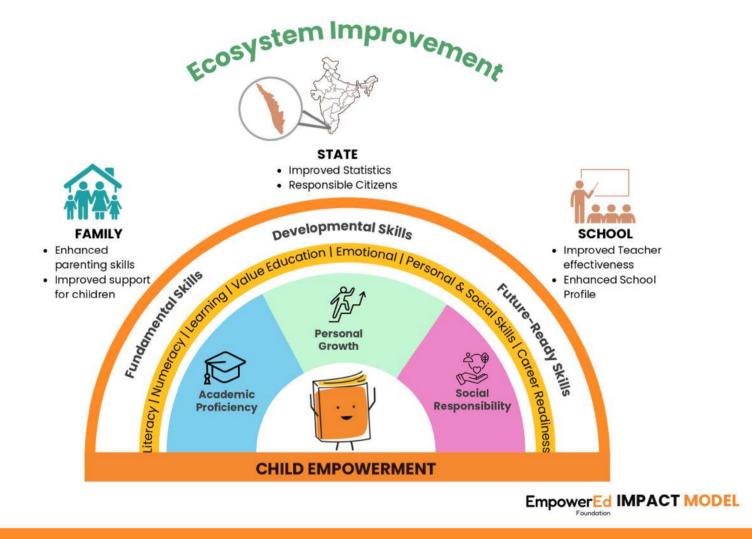
### **History**



To know more about our history visit: www.empowered.ngo/about/

### The Impact Model

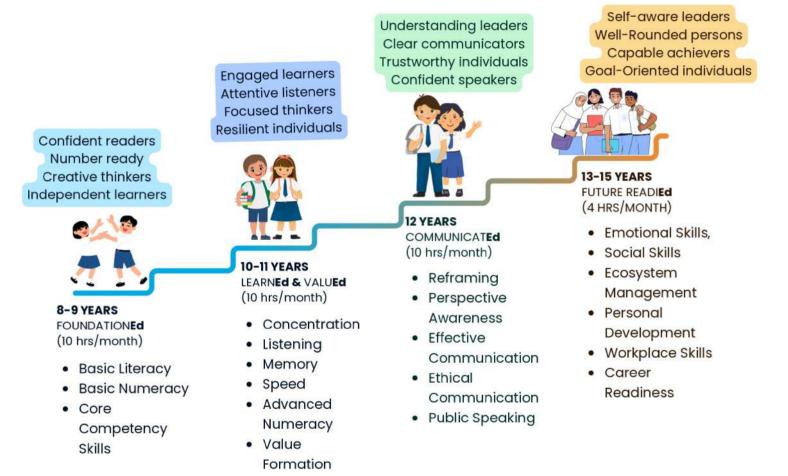
Our model is child-focused, utilising a dual approach: Child Empowerment and Ecosystem Improvement. The Child Empowerment component directly engages in training and developing the child, while the Ecosystem Improvement aspect focuses on enhancing the roles of all external stakeholders who influence a child's life.



Over the years, our models have been continuously refined to achieve greater structure, consistency, and effectiveness, becoming an integral part of EmpowerEd Foundation. To learn more about these models, visit:

### **Age Transition Model**

We tailor our programs to align with the developmental stages of the children we serve. Our robust age transition model addresses age-specific needs while fostering the skills necessary for academic, personal, and social excellence.



The Age Transition Model equips children with targeted skills training to help them seize opportunities and navigate the challenges unique to their age group. To learn more about these models, visit:

### **Our Programs**

Complementing the two models, are our comprehensive age appropriate programs - BeGin, SMARTlearner and 4 line



#### **BeGin**

A two-year program that improves the fundamental literacy, numeracy and core competency skills of children in **grades 3 and 4.** 

- Basic Literacy
- Basic Numeracy
- Core Competency
- Teacher Training
- · Parent Counselling

#### **SMARTlearner**

A two-year program that builds learning-skills and advanced numeracy while nurturing the value-formation of children in **grades 5 and 6.** 

- Learning
- Advanced Numeracy
- Value Education
- Teacher Training
- Parent Counselling

#### 4 line

A four-year program that develops emotional, personal, social, and career readiness of children in

#### grades 7 to 10.

- Communication
- Emotional
- Social
- Personal
- Workplace
- Career Readiness
- · Facilitator Training
- Parent Counselling

### Impact 2023-24

- Academic Improvement: 15% increase in subject scores among children.
- Increased Engagement: 10% rise in classroom engagement of children.
- School Administration Feedback: Average score of 9.2 out of 10 indicating exceptional performance in program execution, coordination, and student impact.

### **Financial Statements**

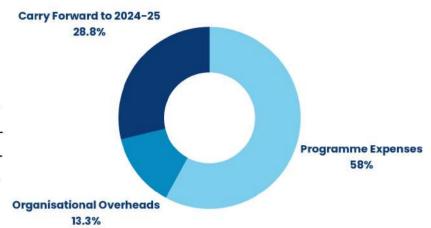
# Summary income and expenditure breakdown (2023-24)

 Total income:
 ₹ 4,39,921/ 

 Programmatic expenses:
 ₹ 2,54,949/ 

 Organisational overheads:
 ₹ 58,403/ 

 Carry forward to 2024-25:
 ₹ 1,26,569/ 



#### Budget Overview (2024-25):

Total Budget: ₹44,64,894.00 Contingency budget: ₹2,12,614.00



For latest financial statments and details visit: <u>www.empowered.ngo</u>

### Amala's Journey: From Struggles to Success

"Value Education Trust's skill-development program at our school has been transformative. It has not only boosted the children's numerical abilities but has also significantly enhanced their character development. Previously disengaged students have become more attentive and focused across all subjects. They have also shown improved behaviour and social skills. The project's impact is particularly evident among our fifth and sixth graders."

- The Headmistress of Amala's School

Amala, a seventh grader at a government-aided school in Ernakulam, comes from a humble background. Her father works as a daily wage painter, and her mother cares for her and her sibling. With a monthly income of just 12,000 rupees, the family faces significant financial challenges.

Despite these difficulties, Amala dreams of becoming a doctor. However, she struggled academically, with limited access to parental guidance or additional tutoring due to her parents' lack of formal education and financial constraints.

In 2022, Amala's life took a positive turn with the introduction of our Child Empowerment program. This initiative provided her with much-needed support in literacy, numeracy, and essential academic and life skills.

Today, Amala's teacher has seen remarkable improvements in her academic performance and confidence. She now actively participates in extracurricular activities, a testament to her growing self-assurance and determination to achieve her dreams.



1st term 5th grade vs 3rd term 6th grade (20 Months)

"Mathematics now feels more intuitive, and my overall confidence has soared. The brain exercises from the Abacus classes have sharpened my focus, allowing me to solve problems visually without needing physical tools. Additionally, the character education sessions have reinforced my belief that with hard work, I can achieve anything—a principle I am eager to apply in all my endeavours."

- Amala on her experience

### **Jennifer's Determination Amidst Adversity**

"Jennifer didn't know anything before—not even letters or numbers. She couldn't even name the common utensils in our kitchen. She was so withdrawn, never mingling with anyone because of her condition. But after twelve months of training with her teacher from the Value Education Trust, she's become so much smarter and more confident. She even took the initiative to join the church choir. Her doctor is amazed at her progress, especially given the severity of her hearing impairment."

- Jennifer's mother for the opportunity Jennifer has received

Jennifer, a sixth grader at a government-aided school in Ernakulam, faces numerous challenges at home. Her father, a daily wage painter, struggles to find consistent work, and the family's monthly income barely exceeds ₹15,000. Jennifer's mother, diagnosed with lung cancer shortly after Jennifer's birth, has had to bear the household responsibilities while caring for Jennifer and her two younger siblings—all of whom have a severe hearing impairment that is expected to worsen to total deafness with age. Doctors have urgently recommended hearing aids, but the financial strain has made this impossible, pushing the family further into debt.

Jennifer's father avoids responsibilities, leaving her mother to manage everything alone. Despite these formidable challenges, Jennifer holds onto her dream of becoming a pilot. However, her hearing impairment made learning extremely difficult during her early school years, and her school experience was reduced to mere daycare. This struggle was reflected in her academic performance, as she found it increasingly difficult to keep up in class.



Jennifer's life changed dramatically when she enrolled in the four-year skill development program offered by Value Education Trust. After just twelve months of intensive training, her progress has been remarkable. Her academic abilities have improved significantly, and she has transformed from an introverted child into a confident young girl, filled with newfound hope for the future.

"These classes have instilled in me a love for learning. I feel more confident now. I enjoy my classes at school, and I can communicate better with my friends. I've even joined the church choir, something I never thought I'd have the courage to do."

- Jennifer on the impact of the learning-skill development sessions.

### **Partnerships**

Government-aided schools in the Thiruvananthapuram and Ernakulam districts.



### Collaborations

Trained teachers

Parents of 435 enrolled children

### **Testimonial Videos**

Scan QR or click link to watch



Amala (Student)

https://youtu.be/5NAbJVOh67c



Farzeen (Student)

https://youtu.be/0lgOD9FX\_uY



Parents, Teachers, and Students https://youtu.be/rtAF3P54New



Sr. Leena Grace (Head Mistress - STGHS) https://youtu.be/AJpYxmKv2x8

https://empowered.ngo/about/

#### Core Values that connect us:



#### Social Responsibility

Ready to be involved in activities that serve to meet human needs.



#### **People Oriented**

Value people for who they are and be sensitive to their feelings.



#### Stewardship

Practice and promote a balanced attitude towards the use and management of resources.



Credibility

Fulfil responsibilities promptly and thoroughly with integrity.



#### Perseverance

Make progress towards the vision despite difficulties and hurdles.

### **Road Ahead**

	Enroll Children	Schools	Equip Children	Empower Teachers	Engage Parents
2027	1,500	22	100	115	1,000
2031	3,960	52	2,645	321	2,500
2035	7,560	96	8,465	529	6,000
2040	13,590	166	22,925	1,151	15,000

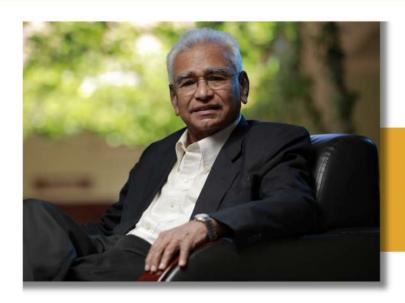






To know more about our plans, please visit <a href="https://empowered.ngo/about/">https://empowered.ngo/about/</a>

### Acknowledgement



#### Dr. George Samuel

Special acknowledgement to our Founder, Dr. George Samuel for his vision, continuous guidance and support.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has supported our mission this year. Your contributions have directly impacted the lives of the children we serve.

- **To our Donors:** Your generosity has fuelled our programs, allowing us to reach over 400 children and empower 30 educators.
- To our Partner Schools: Your collaboration has been essential in expanding our impact.
- To our Volunteers: Your dedication has been invaluable in mentoring the children and advancing our initiatives.
- To our Advisory Board: Your guidance and support have strengthened our mission and broadened our reach.

### **Special Mentions**

- We wish to recognise our child sponsors whose partnership has been pivotal in our outreach efforts.
- Our deepest appreciation goes to our Program team led by Mini, whose tireless work and commitment have made a profound difference.

Heartfelt thanks to everyone who has been part of our journey. Your contributions, in every form, have brought us closer to our shared vision of a brighter future for all children.

### **Our Core Team**



Anne Samuel

Managing

Director



Sajitha Menon
Director, Finance &
Administration



Mini V R Director, Programs

### **Advisory Board**

#### Ms. Uma Achuthan

Managing Consultant, ESA Consultants & Solutions, Chennai

#### Mr Irbaaz Shaikh

Senior Manager, Strategic Partnerships, Piramal Swasthya

#### **Mr Benson Varghese**

Founder, HEYDAY Branding

#### Mr Leejoe Vergis Mathew

Business Strategist and Trainer

#### Dt Lakshmi Sreenath

Dietitian and Founder, F.H.U.N Nutrition

#### Adv Reni K Jacob

Social activist, Advocate and Development professional

#### Dr Praveena K.

Deputy Dean,
Accreditation &
Compliances SCMS Group

#### **Dr June Cyriac**

Assistant Professor, Sacred Heart College, Cochin

#### Ms Anis Sunil Jacob

Retd. School Head Mistress

### Contact

#### Office Address:

Building No. 10/24, Bethel Cottage, Manjadi P.O., Tiruvalla 689105 Kerala, India

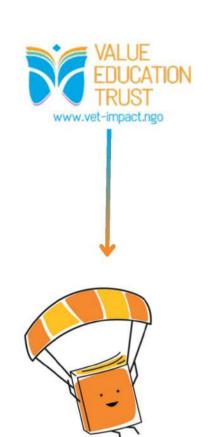
#### **Primary Contact:**

Anne Samuel
Director, EmpowerEd Foundation
Email: anne.samuels@hotmail.com

Phone: +91 96565 14000

Email: info@empowered.ngo

Website: www.empowered.ngo





#### Social Media:

LinkedIn: <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/empoweredfoundation/">https://www.linkedin.com/company/empoweredfoundation/</a>
Facebook: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/empoweredfoundation.ngo/">https://www.instagram.com/empoweredfoundation.ngo/</a>
Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/empoweredfoundation.ngo/">https://www.instagram.com/empoweredfoundation.ngo/</a>

#### Bank Details for Donations:

Account Name: Value Education Trust

Bank Name: HDFC Bank

Account Number: 50200033770772

IFSC Code: HDFC0000201

If you have any enquiries or would like to learn more about our programs, please reach out to us. We value your engagement and support in making a difference.