**Developing Skills for Schools in the 21st Century**

**through Affiliation with UK Skills Ltd.**

**The Issue**

There are approximately 300 million students attending elementary and secondary schools and approximately 50 million students attending colleges and universities. In the majority of schools and classrooms students are mainly taught using traditional instruction techniques, and their development and performance is assessed on lower-level thinking skills such as memorization and recall. Furthermore many schools still rely on the multiple choice, short-answer and essay questions.

**This needs to Change**

Our goal is to discover the most important skills that students need to be successful in life. After speaking with hundreds of business leaders and extensive research over hundreds of articles, it has become clear that it is time for education to change. Universally the same workplace, personal and social skills continue to be mentioned ever more loudly. There is simply less demand for obedient workers who can simply show up on time and follow directions. There is an increased demand for self-directed workers who can adapt and learn quickly, think critically, communicate and innovate.

Approximately 75% of our students will be employed in jobs that don’t exist yet. So, how do we prepare them for this? I believe that we do so by helping each student develop the skills that they will need to succeed in a future filled with uncertainty.

**UK Skills Ltd. a UK based not-for-profit organisation,** through its partners in India, the Education for Employment Foundation (EEF), provides a programme of courses, qualifications and measures to establish and enhance current vocational, technical and professional skills training to Schools in India.

**What is the Role of the Educational Institution in teaching 21st Century Skills?**

Preparation of school students for the world of work is a relatively new idea and takes many forms. It is just one of the roles and responsibilities of schools and school staff but is being increasingly seen as one as important as academic learning and instruction.

**21st Century Skills often, but not purely, labeled Employability Skills are:**

1. **Personal Attribute Skills** - characteristics of an individual. They are what make up one's personality. They help a person get along in a new situation.
2. **Behaviourial Skills** - refer to the reflective ability of the individual in relation to the characteristics of the situations he or she may come up against.
3. **Process Skills** - provide a foundation for learning the integrated (more complex) skills.
4. **Core Skills** - defined as precise, focused on consolidation of individual technologies and production skills.

These skills are intended to help students keep up with the lightning-pace of today’s modern markets. Each skill is unique in how it helps students, but they all have one quality in common - the imparting of skills and knowledge specific to crafts, trades and occupations that the students will follow once leaving School. Vocational Education is traditionally but not exclusively non-academic and is complimented by Employability Skills - a series of life skills or workplace skills such as team working, creativity, communications skills, financial skills etc. It is also based increasingly in the modern world and provide the tools for a student to enter and prosper in the world of work, society and their peer groups.

**What does UK Skills offer?**

UK Skills will work with Schools, as Advisors and Partners, to make Schools into **Centres of Excellence** (COE) in the delivery of vocational and related skills. We will work with staff, stakeholders, Industry, local employers and national/regional bodies to transform it to meet the needs of students entering the world of work through a Seven Point Plan to:

* develop and provide a meaningful and relevant curriculum, course content, assessment regime and qualifications for vocational, technical and professional skills training to schools in India,
* upgrade the skills of teachers and administrators to reflect the needs of vocational skills delivery,
* improve the facilities and features of schools to make vocational skills training more attractive to staff, learners and trainees,
* work with local employers to ensure that the curriculum meets the needs of the job market,
* broaden the curriculum to include employability and entrepreneurial skills relevant to the 21stcentury,
* bring core skills training in literacy, numeracy and digital skills to the front of the school agenda, and
* raise the employability and retention potential of employees from schools, making schools, the students and staff there, and the curriculum, relevant to a modern India.

**What is Vocational Education?**

Vocational education is referred to as career education or technical education. Vocational education can also take place at the post-secondary, further education, and higher education level; and can interact with the apprenticeship system.

**Our mission**

UK Skills, working with its partners in UK education Institutions of international reputation and with partners in India, is experienced and expert in the needs of the employment market and the working of Education and Training in India. We have the background and reach to help people and companies throughout India, from the village to the metro to the smart city.

**UK Skills** hasa long experience as a not-for-profit organisation in developing and delivering learning, assessment and qualifications. These include face to face, paper based and digitally delivered training as well as blended and online delivery. We have a clear focus on providing solutions that are tailored to the requirements of a modern India and meet the needs of learners, industry and society. We confidently boast effective and efficient quality management procedures, processes and systems. These form the backbone of our delivery of assessment, learning, training and qualifications. We work with a range of customers and clients in Education and Training across the educational universe in government funded, CSR and industry funded environments. We work with our clients and customers to specify requirements and tailor learning and systems to meet those requirements. These lead to a record of successful implementation with benefits to all stakeholders.

**The Action - UK Skills, has initiated the idea of developing skills in schools through its affiliated centres.**

It is important for students to learn a core knowledge, understanding and skills but we are not helping them develop by simply requiring them to regurgitate facts in an attempt to earn grades for a course. We need to have students apply what they are learning by engaging them in projects and to engage them in higher-order thinking skills, skills, they will need for future success. Bloom’s Taxonomy provides a great illustration of the different levels of thinking. As educators, we need to stop depending on the lower level skills, such as memorization and recall, and help students develop higher-order thinking skills such as applying, analyzing, evaluating, and creating. Then, and only then, will we be truly helping students be successful with this as our ambition **UK Skills, has initiated the idea of developing skills in schools through its affiliated centers.**

**What is the Process for Affiliating your Schools and Educational Institutions?**

* Demonstrate you can align your School to expectations of the 21st Century employment market by undertaking an affiliation of UK Skills Ltd
* Apply for an affiliation of UK Skills Ltd.
* Pay the appropriate Fee for an affiliation of UK Skills Ltd. and receive your Institutional Certification
* Proudly work with UK Skill Ltd, UK to develop your students and prepare them for the modern world.

**UK Skills Affiliation Procedure -** any educational institution recognized by any state or central government or international board can apply for the Global Skill Certificate. In order to qualify they must demonstrate commitment and resources in four critical areas of teaching and learning.

* Facilities: Minimum of twenty PC/ laptops with broadband services, , and technological investment and involvement in learning and teaching.
* Resources: at least one educator with enough awareness of Foundation and Literacy Skills, a beacon of expertise and excellence within the School to lead change.
* Vision: able to show that the Institution and Staff understand the needs of Students, Community and India
* Commitment: Leaders and Senior teachers demonstrating the quest to transform the life of the learner resulting in enhancing the learner’s self-belief and self-esteem.

The educational institution benefits the most by adopting these process and practices, it will not only inspire but assure a change in learners towards 21st century skills.

**Ask Yourself**

**Is your institution set to evolve and is it in a position for evaluating and enhancing its curriculum, assessment, self-analysis and teaching practice?**

**Are you ready for change?**

Your educational institution has to be affiliated to the Global Skill Partnership Certificate. UK Skills has the following admission criteria for it’s Global Skill Partnership Certificate:

* The award is in recognition to an educational institution who is emphasizing 21st century skills learning.
* At least one audited activity on the 21st century skills learning agenda.
* Willing to appoint a counselor for emphasizing on the 21st century skills learning.
* Keen on collaborating with other schools in your own city/town.
* Committing to impart 21st century skills to its 100% of pupils.
* Ensuring that the 21st century skills will have achievable outcomes.

**Applying for an Affiliation with UK Skills -** educational institutions can apply for affiliation for Global Skill Certificate by completing the registration form.

**Fee for an Affiliation with UK Skills** - the registration fee (to be paid by international funds transfer to a UK bank or Indian bank account, which is convenient for the institution) will be:

\*£200 (GBP Two Hundred Only) per educational institution one time fee

\*£500 (GBP Five Hundred Only) per educational institution for a period of two academic years.

\*Conditions apply

The affiliation will only be granted after thorough assessment. If due to any reason the educational institution is not affiliated, it will get another opportunity after six months and no fees will be charged for the same.

**What does the affiliation or partnership cover?**

It allows the educational institution to continue to operate completely independently, but proudly claim to have a formal collaborative agreement with UK Skills that boasts educational support, advice, and influence in the development and delivery of the School’s academic policies, standards or programs.

The Global Skill Partnership Certificate is supported by the ability to call on advice and guidance on curriculum, assessment and teaching practice through:

1. 1 x ninety minutes session on school audit programme to raise standards for developing 21st century holistic educational institution
2. 1 x ninety minutes webinar programme per year for school head on Standards & Benchmarking in School Excellence
3. 2 x ninety minute webinar per year for the students of grade XI on Entrepreneurship
4. 2 x ninety minute webinar per year for the students of grade 1X Digital Literacy and Financial Literacy
5. One ninety minutes webinar per year for administrative staff
6. One ninety minutes webinar per year for non-administrative staff
7. One ninety minutes webinar programme per year for Physical Education Instructor
8. One ninety minutes webinar programme per year on Multiple Intelligence Analysis Tool
9. Permission to proudly display the UK Skills Logo on promotional material and prominently on the walls of the educational institution.

**The above programme will be undertaken from the date of affiliation.**

**What are the other Benefits (at additional actual cost) of UK Skills Partnership?**

* Invitation to attend the UK Skills annual Conclave and workshops.
* The schools with an outstanding performance will get an opportunity to show case and speak at workshops.
* Member of a delegation - UK study tour to K12, Further Education and Higher Education colleges.

In partnership with an educational institution, we offer the following programmes at an appropriate cost:

* Multiple Intelligence Analysis Tool (MIAT)
* Employability Skills and Foundation (Life) Skills & Fundamental (Soft) Skills
* Leadership and Entrepreneurship
* Numeracy and Financial Skills
* Schoolvue – internationally acknowledged as the leading online, flexible data analytics tool for secondary schools
* School Audit by Internationally Recognised School Inspectors

**Re-Affiliation -** the Global Skill Partnership Certificate affiliation is for two years only. Educational institutions will need to re-apply for affiliation. Re-affiliation offers an opportunity to new members of the institution to understand the programme and thinking out-of-the-box. Global Skill Partnership Certificate is an evolving programme and out commitment is to keep the programme fresh and updated.

**Re-Affiliation Fee - \***£400 (GBP Four Hundred Only) per educational institution for two yeas.

 \* Conditions apply

**Skills-for-Schools –** asa skill enterprise, we design, deliver and accredit the programmes and qualification from UK, we assist educational institutions with the Technical, vocational and professional training, assist in digital curriculum and assessment (e-Learning and e-Assessment), assist in auditing and accreditation of training and education providers; assist in building faculty management team, guide in the selection, development and localization of content for education and training, entrepreneurship training and Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Literacy training through collaborations and expert networks so as to assist bridge the skills gap and create employable skills among the learner.  UK Skills international skill partnerships aim to deliver highly cost effective ways of transforming educational systems. Seminars, study tours and policy dialogues are used as a platform to share experience and good practices from the UK.   UK Skills provides numerous collaborations to promote **Study Tours, Partnerships**and **Projects.**