



ANGEL XPRESS FOUNDATION

Mid-year review 2021-22

December 2021



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Founders speak

If 2020 was the year of adversity, 2021 is proving to be one of great opportunity. With the pandemic, unprecedented shutdown and move to online classes, we faced several challenges – drop in active student numbers, challenges faced by volunteers in adapting to the online mode, lack of devices and internet access for our students and the constant struggle to ensure our students stayed engaged and progressed in their learning journeys.

But this period of adversity revealed opportunities that we may have never explored in normal circumstances. Our experience with online teaching has helped overcome constraints around location, technology and a limited volunteer base. We used our online experience to grow and in addition to our 20 free learning centers, we now have 12 digital centers, including our first ones outside Mumbai city! With the improving situation, we hope to convert many of these into physical or hybrid centers over the next year.

We have been fortunate to see an expanding base of online volunteers with several students, working professionals and academics now part of our family. This has helped us introduce new programs, including a one-on-one spoken English curriculum for all students from grades 2 onwards. We have also expanded our Youth Engagement Program and School Curriculum coaching to assist our students from grades 8 to 12 studying in English, Hindi and Marathi medium schools.

The online shift has brought new collaborations – we have successfully partnered with Byju's, Vedantu and Embibe for online learning programs. As always, we have found angels all around us who continue to bring joy into the lives of our students through fun programs around dance, music, art and craft as well as assist in health related programs and access to essentials. As we move into the second half of this academic year, we are grateful to be able to impact the lives of around 2,800 students through over 1,800 volunteers. We welcome you all on this journey – may our tribe continue to grow!



Anubha Sharma
Founder and CEO



Beenaa Advani
Co-founder and COO



Significant developments
during the year

Going digital

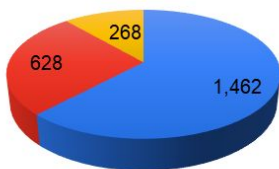
In addition to our 20 Free Learning Centers (FLCs), 12 new digital centers were established during this academic year. While most centers are operating in an online mode at present, we expect that some will transition to physical classes or operate as hybrid centers as the situation normalizes further.

All centers run English and Mathematics classes based on the AXF curriculum for grades 2 to 7. In addition, under the Youth Engagement Program (YEP) our centers offer tutoring based on school curriculum to students of grades 8 to 12. From this year, we also offer individual, online spoken English sessions to our students.

AXF has expanded its footprint outside Mumbai city for the first time with a digital center each in Pune, Nashik and Bengaluru. We also have volunteers from Dubai who take online classes for students from all over India. Our digital initiatives have helped us regain and now exceed our pre-pandemic student and volunteer numbers.

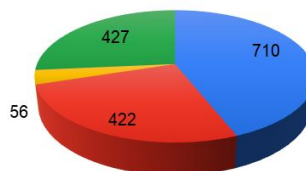
Our students have received free access to learning applications from Byju's (Grades 10 to 12), Vedantu (Grade 9 English medium) and Embibe by Reliance (Grades 6 to 8). We are excited to see how technology can help tap their learning potential and hope to build on these initiatives in future. Our total student and volunteer strength across our 20 FLCs and 12 digital centers is highlighted below for all AXF programs.

Total FLC students - 2,358



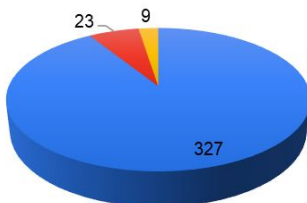
- AXF curriculum
- YEP - SSC curriculum
- YEP - HSC curriculum

Total FLC volunteers - 1,615



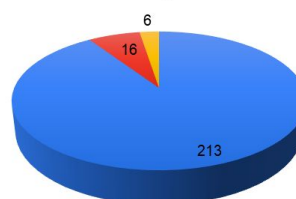
- AXF curriculum
- YEP - SSC curriculum
- YEP - HSC curriculum
- Spoken English

Students at digital centers - 359



- AXF curriculum
- YEP - SSC curriculum
- YEP - HSC curriculum

Volunteers at digital centers - 235



- AXF curriculum
- YEP - SSC curriculum
- YEP - HSC curriculum
- Spoken English

Continuing COVID relief efforts

Due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic we decided to continue with our COVID relief efforts at the start of this academic year. We ran a distribution drive during the months of May to August 2021 to raise contributions and assist the families of our students with essential supplies and mobile data recharges. We also arranged for mobile devices to students in need so that they could continue with online learning.

We received substantial support and were able to assist over 2,000 students across our centers. The following is a summary of our distribution efforts:

Items distributed	Amount in INR	No of Units/kits
Mobile phones and accessories	3,09,649	37
Grocery/ration kits distribution	23,50,230	2,239
Mobile data recharges	4,13,750	1,550
Books and stationery	3,98,446	Multiple items
School fee assistance	3,00,471	27
Total	37,72,546	



YEP! We are growing...

Our Youth Engagement Program (YEP) was established in order to improve employability by providing our students with relevant skills. The YEP is divided into the following segments:

- SSC tutoring – online coaching based on school curriculum for students in grades 8 to 10 in order to prepare them for board examinations. At present we have around 650 students in this program across our FLCs and digital centers.
- HSC tutoring program – online coaching based on relevant curriculum for students in the Sciences, Arts and Commerce streams in grades 11 and 12. We also assist students who are interested in attempting competitive examinations such as JEE, NEET, CET, etc. At present we have around 270 students in this program across all centers.

This year we have significantly expanded our SSC coaching to include students across Hindi, Marathi and English medium schools for all subjects.

In addition to academic assistance we run a range of skilling programs that build career awareness and employability in our senior students. These are:

- Career Aware program for grades 9 and 10 and CareerReady program for students of grade 12 and above in collaboration with Antarang Foundation.
- Career guidance session and Volunteer Teacher Training by Shailja Mullay
- Soft skills training in collaboration with PwC and similar organisations
- Employee engagement and volunteering programs by L&T and Morgan Stanley for our spoken English students
- Employability skills workshop by the MBA students of NMIMS
- Career awareness programs in collaboration with Indian Hotels Company
- Digital literacy program in collaboration with UMIT college (SNDT University)
- Scholarship programs in collaboration with EY, Kotak Wealth Management and Udayan Shalini Fellowship program

In addition to the above, students from several Mumbai colleges are also associated with us as volunteer teachers and for extra-curricular activities

Our shining stars ...

It has always been our mission to ensure that bright first-generation learners at AXF receive the right opportunities and support to be the best version of themselves. We are delighted that 35 AXF high scorers in the SSC Board Examinations 2021 have received scholarships that will assist them with material and mentoring support until they complete graduation.



Kotak Wealth Management has generously sponsored 21 AXF students with scholarships to support their higher education

E&Y Foundation has provided a scholarship to 11 AXF high scorers. The DishaEY Scholarship Program will provide financial assistance annually until graduation



Supriya Inarkhas won a scholarship from the Udayan Shalini Fellowship Program and will receive financial assistance as well as career counselling and mentoring support

Collaborations and sponsors ...

We have been blessed to find supporters, well-wishers, collaborators and sponsors from all walks of life – individuals, partner NGOs, corporates, creative ventures, schools and more! In addition to the collaborations mentioned above for our YEP and scholarship initiatives, there were several others. Some of these are highlighted below.

Corporate sponsors/ volunteers

L&T, Moser, Godrej, Raymond, SBI Life, BNP, Moonfrog, Dream 11, Matrix, Cipla, EY, Mahindra, Tata Pro-engage, Morgan Stanley, JL Morison, PwC, Lufthansa, Exceed

Clubs/NGOs for learning and health support

Rotary, Lions, NGO Muqaam, Open Mind Open Door, Indian Cancer Society, Ekta, We can we will, MAD Foundation, Positivity, Mumbai 1

CAS – schools and colleges

DAIS, DBIS, Cathedral, Oberoi International, Billabong, Ecole Mondiale, Jamnabai, Beacon High, American School, Bombay Scottish, Xaviers, HR, Jai Hind, NM, Symbiosis, Jasudben, SP Jain

Extra-curricular activities

ConnectFor, Reliance Foundation, I-volunteer, Guidestar, Sunaparanta, Robofun Lab, Maitri Foundation, Lil Dew Drops, Team Spreading Smiles, Intershala ...
and many more!

We are also grateful to innumerable individual donors and volunteers, who have contributed funds, health and nutritional support, extra-curricular workshops, life-skill awareness, essential supplies for our students, stationery and books, phones/other devices and most of all devoted their time and energy to help us bring a positive impact in the lives of our students.



Celebrations @ AXF



Festive joy ...

Despite the challenges arising from online interaction and pandemic-induced restrictions, our volunteers and students found innovative ways to celebrate festivals such as Ganesh Chaturthi, Navratri, Diwali - or special occasions such as Independence Day, Yoga Day, Gandhi Jayanti, etc. Here's to celebrating the precious bond of love and gratitude that brings us all together. Here are some glimpses.



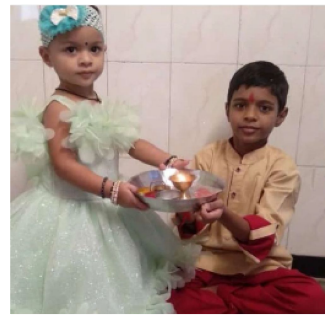
AXF Thane - Children's Day



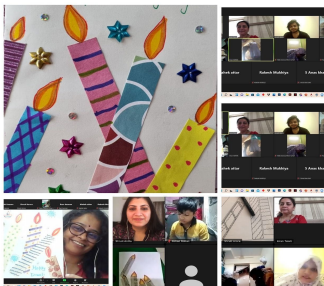
AXF Bandstand - Yoga Day



AXF Colaba – Corona Quilt Project



AXF Sewri – Rakhi celebration



AXF Juhu – Diwali activity



AXF Mulund – Navratri celebration



The AXF experience



Students speak



Aarya Santosh Pethe
AXF Ghatkopar

I am a resident of Vidyavihar 15 years old, studying in Std 9 in R. N Gandhi High school. I joined AXF in 2020 when the situation was very bad – the whole world was suffering from the deadly COVID pandemic but AXF not only helped in my studies by providing quality education but also helped my family by providing ration during difficult times . With all our studies going online it was difficult to manage with one phone in the family . AXF has given me a mobile so I can continue my studies without difficulty. There are no words to express my gratitude for the support which Sulekha ma'am Amisha ma'am have given us. In future I want to become a pilot. I am very lucky to be part of AXF and I hope they will continue to bless us and take care of us.

Just as my journey in AXF started in 2021, I was unable to pay school fees and the school didn't give me my LC and SSC result . I had filled my Government online admission for and got admission in Mithibai college and just because of not uploading LC and SSC certificate I could lose my seat. I decided that I will not take but after a few hours I got a call from Baisakhi Miss asking me about my admission. She immediately told me not to worry and go to school and that AXF will assist with the remaining amount. After that I got my LC and SSC certificate then I uploaded them in college website and finally I got admission in one of the big and famous colleges in Mumbai. This is just because of AXF support. I will work hard and give my best results . They even helped me when my mother was suffering with low level oxygen problem. AXF has helped me get the Kotak scholarship, which helped me to return the money my parents borrowed for college fees. My goal is to be a CS (Company secretary) as I am working for this in the present time



Sugriv Sharma
AXF Malad

Volunteer diaries



Siddhika Parekh
AXF Amboli

I am a Chartered Accountant working in a big four firm. My experience of volunteering at AXF started with the beginning of the school year in 2021. I observed that the pandemic had severely disrupted school life for these kids, and most of them do not have any external help with their studies. This led me to join AXF because I thought I could make a difference to their education by using technology to my advantage. I decided to teach Math. I was allotted a batch of kids and was also made in charge of one of the grades. From the very first interaction, I saw enthusiasm in the kids. We understood concepts, watched videos released by AXF, and solved many worksheets. It's an interactive and competitive environment. The efforts taken by AXF to go digital and continue teaching is commendable. It gives an opportunity to the students to enhance their education and learn values as well as soft skills. I look forward to math classes with my kids on weekends and it's an enriching experience.

I am a student at DJ Sanghvi College of engineering. I started volunteering in June 2021, so I've been volunteering for almost 6 months now. A friend recommended that I join them since they had been with AXF for a year then. I had asked them about it multiple times in their previous term and was very interested in joining the team. The experience has been great and I love teaching the students. It's not always easy but it's a great experience, and I'm learning a lot from AXF myself. Teachers have an impact on a child like no other, and I feel when students register themselves to study at such an organisation, they are genuinely interested, and that interest is a spark as a teacher. It makes the job easier and makes learning fun. They learn a lot of things apart from studies. These will surely help them in the future with a clearer vision and concept of the subject.



Ansh Shah
AXF Goregaon



Overview of academic performance

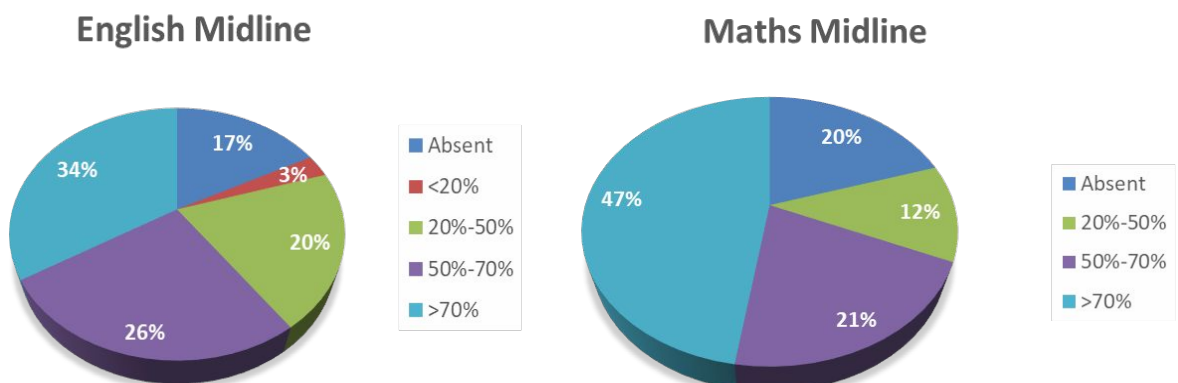
Midline academic performance

We held our mid-line examinations during the month of October 2021 for approximately 1,000 AXF curriculum students (Math and English) as well as over 200 SSC and 150 HSC curriculum students. Most of our students participated enthusiastically and gave their best efforts to the examination. However, in this academic year several students continued to face significant challenges in attending classes and appearing for assessments due to the pandemic situation and online format of learning. Some of the common issues faced are highlighted below.

- Online school, online tutoring and online AXF classes resulted in scheduling challenges for several students since they had to juggle multiple online commitments
- There is online fatigue due to the extended pandemic situation. Many of our students are eager to return to a face-to-face learning format as they enjoy the learning experience in person.
- Despite ongoing efforts to assist our students with mobile data recharges and access to devices, many of them face constraints since devices are shared between two or more siblings, parents need to use the devices for work, there is limited connectivity if the students are attending from their hometowns/villages.

Despite these challenges, our students make us proud with their sincerity and commitment to learn. We present below a snapshot of our midline results across all centers and for all our programs.

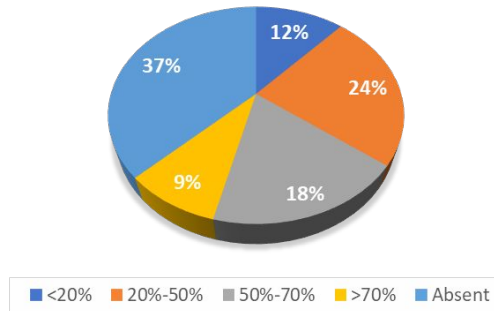
AXF curriculum mid-line results distribution



Midline academic performance

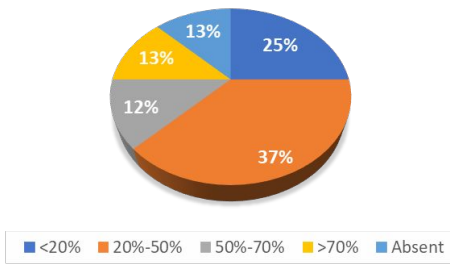
SSC curriculum midline results distribution

Grades 8 to 10 SSC midline

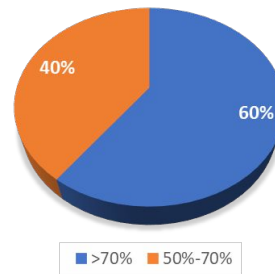


HSC curriculum midline results distribution

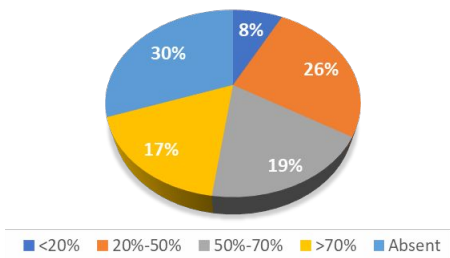
Grade 11 Arts



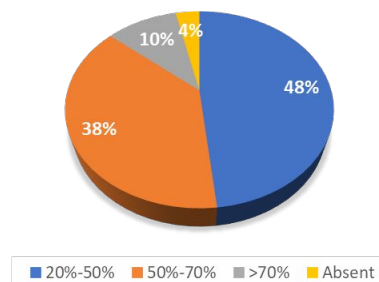
Grade 12 Arts



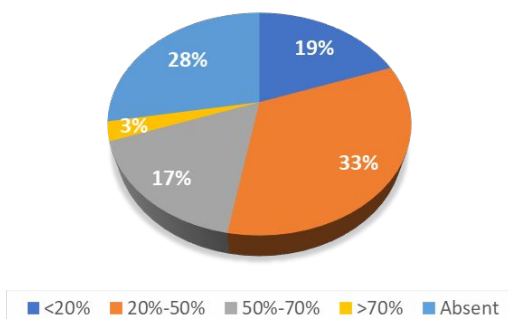
Grade 11 Commerce



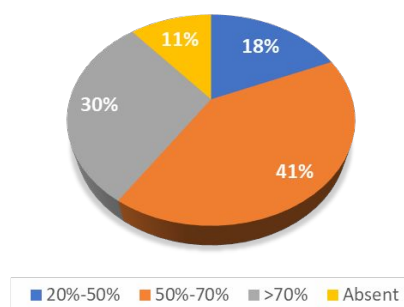
Grade 12 Commerce



Grade 11 Science



Grade 12 Science





A snapshot of our Free
Learning Centers

What's the latest @ FLCs

AXF Bandstand

120

41

- Started operating in a hybrid mode to assist students with limited access to devices, resulting in an increase in the number of students
- Distribution of stationery and hygiene products by Rotary Innerwheel Club, Khar and MRV school



Kusum Sharma
Center Head



Sulekha Vasant
Center Head

AXF Ghatkopar

98

61

- YEP program started for SSS and HSC students. Successful mobile drive for YEP students to ensure regular attendance
- Pranayama and meditation sessions conducted for students once a week
- An interesting session on acts of kindness was conducted by a student of an International school

AXF Powai

77

77

- YEP program established for SSC and HSC students
- Successfully ran a drive to collect phones for students
- Published a newsletter to commemorate 5- year completion of the FLC which was well received



Rekha Gupta
Center Head



Mili Singh
Center Head

AXF Romell

67

62

- Online attendance of students motivated by announcing awards for students attending regularly
- The students were invited to a small get together with the volunteer teachers to the McDonald at Hub Mall just before Diwali

What's the latest @ FLCs

AXF Santacruz

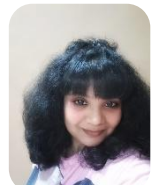
182

162

- Online classes made effective by creating smaller student groups
- Organised activities such as Fun with Maths, Best-Out-Of-Waste etc., by collaborating with external organizations.
- Students made a heartfelt video to appreciate the efforts – which encouraged volunteers



Shivangi Verma



Ashlesha Kedari

Center Heads



Punita Singh
Center Head

AXF Sewri

161

105

- 6 students got scholarships – 4 from Kotak wealth management and 2 from E&Y
- Spoken English and career awareness program conducted with the help of 'Antarang' team
- Soft skills training program conducted by PWC team
- Various extra-curricular online workshops conducted for the students to keep them engaged.

AXF Juhu

186

86

- Cubing classes conducted by a 11th Grade IB student for AXF students of grade 5th - 8th has got kids very excited
- One student has been selected for the E&Y scholarship based on good SSC scores



Debika Ajmani



Ulka Kishinchand

Center Heads



Surabhi Mohta
Center Head

AXF Amboli

65

37

- YEP program established for SSC students
- Online teaching using Whatsapp has progressed to Zoom sessions with volunteers being trained in-house
- 'My Pen My Friend' conducted for our students writing research-based articles.

What's the latest @ FLCs

AXF Colaba

160

145

- Created smaller class-groups which helped increase effectiveness in online mode
- 2 students won the Kotak Wealth Management scholarship
- Financial literacy classes introduced for senior students



Heena Mulchandani
Center Head



**Punita Singh/
Tanmai Hebbar**
Center Heads

AXF Dosti

257

119

- Two ration drives conducted to aid students and families .The ration distribution program was featured in CNN 18 news channel
- Two students won scholarships – one from E&Y and one from Kotak Wealth Management
- Stationary and hygiene kits distributed

AXF Andheri East

120

151

- Two HSC students are pursuing Chartered Accountancy coaching
- Five students have received the merit Scholarships from Kotak Wealth Management and E&Y
- Online workshops on story telling, photography, public speaking, upcycling, zentangle etc. were organised



Maya Rohera
Center Head



Aspar Hussain
Center Head

AXF Santacruz RC

188

175

- 100% of students passed SSC and HSC out of which 4 HSC students have received scholarships from E&Y and Kotak Wealth Management
- Online workshops on Spoken English, Digital Literacy, Soft Skills conducted for students
- Use of applications like EMBIBE, BYJU's, etc. has encouraged students improve academic learning

What's the latest @ FLCs

AXF Goregaon East

155

102

- Offline to online mode posed challenges in training volunteers and ensuring data pack/mobile for students
- Team managed to fix these issues by training, recruiting more volunteers and providing data pack
- Workshops on storytelling, puppet making, bookmarks etc. were organised.



Sweta Tibrewal
Center Head



Balraj Katyal



Nirmala Mahesh

Center Heads

AXF Bhakti Park

99

99

- 7 of 10th grade students won scholarships from E&Y and Kotak Wealth Management
- Various online workshops we conducted for the students - Origami, no fire cooking, mosaic craft to name a few.
- In collaboration with KC College Rotary center, 3 different age-based workshops on story telling, toga and basic Spanish were organized for the very excited students.

AXF Malad

82

51

- 5 of the 10th grades pass outs, got scholarships this year from E&Y and Kotak Wealth Management
- An online event celebrating completion of 6 years of the center was organised. , where the kids participated in various activities like singing and dancing on folk themes. This helped in raising the morale of volunteers and students



Baisakhi Nair
Center Head

What's the latest @ FLCs

AXF Mulund

154

51

- One student received Kotak Wealth Management scholarship
- To help the students appearing for boards during these trying times, the volunteers at the Mulund center undertook structured counselling sessions to help them manage their anxiety levels and bring their focus back on academics.



Dolly Shah
Center Head



Seema Chadha
Center Head

AXF Karwe Gardens

36

17

- English worksheet banks junior levels were created to aid online teaching
- Special games were played during Diwali time when ration was distributed.
- Students participated in many events organised online by different organisations like the Financial Literacy and Yoga Sessions for YEP students, drawing and craft workshops etc.

AXF Poisar

35

8

- A hybrid system of classes has been established at the center to teach the school syllabus to the students
- The center has distributed groceries, shoes, story books and Diwali sweets to the students
- To enable smooth hybrid classes, data packs, test papers and guides were distributed



Chitra Saldana
Center Head



Shailja Patodia
Center Head

AXF Worli

48

51

- The center used online resources for story telling as well as videos to make online teaching interesting
- In collaboration with The Decimal Foundation, medical camps along with distribution of high protein snack boxes were conducted
- Art and craft activities were undertaken to keep the students engaged online.

Contact us

Find us here

To volunteer for online classes

Punita Singh

+91 9821822636

punita.axf@gmail.com

To donate funds

Contact our founders on angelxpressfoundation@gmail.com
or click [here](#)

To donate a device

Devices may be dropped off/couriered to:

Beenaa Advani

601 Satguru Drishti

Khar Pali Road

Khar West

Mumbai 400052

To know more

Visit our website www.angelxpress.org

