

## Vocational Skills give youth wings to fly

Vocational skills are different from academic education. Here we emphasise more on **knowledge ,skills and attitudes** that help students handle practical challenges and work situations. Skills programs emphasise only on hands on skills. However in the vocational courses done in schools we lay emphasis on the **practical skills** as well as the **underlying theoretical knowledge**. Our focus is also on the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills required to be successful in the fast changing work place. These include **communication skills, digital and financial literacy and entrepreneurship**.

This emphasis on practical's and learning a skill gives students tremendous confidence to face the real world challenges and earn their livelihood. Here we would like to share the experiences of some of our teachers and students from Punjab.

For us, nothing speaks more eloquently about the need for these programs and the impact it has on our students life journeys than their stories. Here are a few of them, in their voices and through the reflection of our passionate teachers. These are a few chosen stories from a rich tapestry of stories we see, in classrooms every day. Every month, we will continue highlighting these stories of inspiration, passion, change and success. After all, its stories like these, that make our work rewarding and real.





## **Khushdeep Singh: From Curiosity to Competence in the World of Computers**

We are thrilled to introduce you to Khushdeep Singh, an exceptional student from GSSS Jourkian, Mansa, who has embarked on a remarkable journey of growth and success. Khushdeep's passion for computers has taken him on a path filled with learning opportunities and valuable experiences.

Ever since he was a young boy, Khushdeep stood out from his peers. While others were fascinated by toys and games, he found himself drawn to the world of computers. His curiosity led him to explore the inner workings of these devices, fueling his desire to gain deeper knowledge and expertise.

As Khushdeep grew older, so did his passion for computers. Recognizing his dedication and potential, he was selected for a coveted apprenticeship training opportunity at Dashmesh Computers in Sardulgarh, Mansa. This valuable experience not only provided him with hands-on learning but also allowed him to earn a monthly stipend of Rs 1000.

"They succeed because they think they can." This powerful quote perfectly encapsulates Khushdeep's mindset. With unwavering determination, he approached his apprenticeship training, eager to absorb every bit of knowledge and skill that came his way.

In just 13 days, Khushdeep's progress has been nothing short of impressive. He has developed proficiency in installing operating systems and various applications. Additionally, he has mastered the art of repairing central processing units (CPUs). His ability to troubleshoot and resolve computer issues



has earned him the respect and admiration of his peers and mentors alike.

When asked about his future plans, Khushdeep confidently states that he intends to continue his journey in the world of computers. With the foundation he has built during his apprenticeship training, he is determined to expand his knowledge and expertise further.

We commend Khushdeep for his passion, hard work, and determination. His story serves as an inspiration to all aspiring individuals who dare to dream big and pursue their interests with dedication. We wish him continued success on his remarkable journey, confident that he will leave a lasting impact in the world of computers.

## **Kritika: Embracing Opportunities and Shining Bright in the World of IT/ITeS**



Dear Readers,

It is with great pleasure that we introduce you to Kritika, a remarkable student from Govt. Girls Sen. Sec. School Mahan Singh Gate, Amritsar. Her journey of growth and success in the field of IT/ITeS is an inspiration to all.

Kritika's academic journey began when she opted for the IT/ITeS subject in the 11th class under the National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) in 2021. Throughout her education, she demonstrated brilliance and an unwavering passion for this field, setting herself apart from her peers.

Kritika's outstanding performance and keen interest in the subject caught the attention of her teachers and mentors. Recognizing

her potential, her name was put forward for an apprenticeship training opportunity, opening doors to new experiences and learning.

Kritika's apprenticeship began at Pappu Stationary Books Depot, where she worked as a desk attendant. Her responsibilities included billing, printing, and photocopying documents. Throughout this training period, Kritika embraced every opportunity to learn and grow, displaying a deep passion for the field.

Her dedication and hard work did not go unnoticed. Impressed by her enthusiasm and commitment, her employer offered her a job upon the completion of her training. With this opportunity, Kritika will now earn a monthly salary of Rs 2500, marking a significant milestone in her professional journey.

Kritika's success story serves as a testament to the power of seizing opportunities and pursuing one's passion. Her journey from a diligent student to a skilled professional is an inspiration to her fellow classmates and all those aspiring to excel in the field of IT/ITeS.

We applaud Kritika for her exceptional achievements and commend her for the determination and perseverance she has shown. Her dedication and thirst for knowledge are exemplary, and we have no doubt that she will continue to shine bright in her chosen career path.

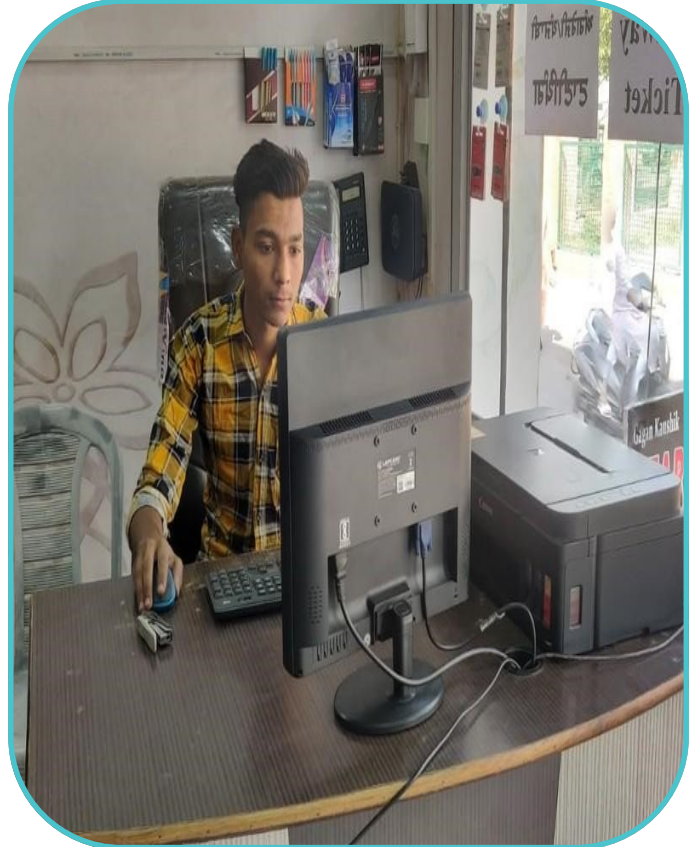


## **Karamveer Singh: Embracing IT Skills and Surfing Towards a Bright Future**

We are thrilled to introduce you to Karamveer Singh, an exceptional student from Govt. Girls Sen. Sec. School Parwahi, Barnala. Karamveer's journey in the field of Information Technology (IT) is a shining example of determination and ambition.

As the saying goes, "The perfect time to begin is now." Karamveer's hard work and dedication led him to an apprenticeship opportunity at Star Shine Barnala. Karamveer works as an Apprentice Trainee at Star Shine Barnala, where he earns a monthly stipend of Rs 3000. This hands-on experience not only allows him to apply the theoretical concepts he learned in his NSQF program but also helps him develop practical skills in a real-world work environment.

Karamveer's ambition goes beyond his current role. He envisions a future where he can open his own Internet shop. His passion for technology and his love for surfing the internet have inspired him to create a space where he can combine his interests with entrepreneurship. By pursuing what he loves most, Karamveer aims to not only earn more money but also build a career that brings him joy and satisfaction.



We congratulate Karamveer on his accomplishments and commend his determination to explore new horizons in the IT field. His story serves as a reminder that with the right support and a passion-driven mindset, one can achieve great heights.

## **Davinder Singh: Combining Passion and Part-Time Pursuits for a Promising Future**



We are excited to share the inspiring journey of Davinder Singh, a talented student from Govt. Girls Sen. Sec. School Ranipuri, Kapurthala. Davinder's passion for computers has propelled him towards new opportunities and opened doors to a brighter future.

Since an early age, Davinder has demonstrated a keen interest in computers. His passion was nurtured by his supportive teacher, Ms. Kulwinder Kaur, who consistently encouraged him to expand his skill set and explore new avenues in the world of technology.

Upon completing his +2 education, Davinder was eager to pursue higher studies. Seeking guidance, he approached his teacher, Ms. Kulwinder Kaur, to discuss his plans. After a thoughtful conversation, Ms. Kulwinder Kaur

suggested that Davinder should consider higher education alongside part-time work, maximizing his potential and gaining valuable practical experience.

During their discussion, Ms. Kulwinder Kaur informed Davinder about an upcoming public attraction near Phagwara. She advised him to apply for part-time work at the popular fast-food chain, KFC. Encouraged by his teacher's guidance, Davinder decided to take a leap of faith and submitted his resume to the KFC manager.

Days went by, and Davinder eagerly awaited a response from KFC. The anticipation was palpable, and Davinder couldn't help but wonder if he would be chosen for the job. Finally, the call he had been waiting for arrived—an offer from KFC as a store operator and computer-based order taker. His proficiency in computer skills, honed through his schooling, had played a crucial role in securing this position.

Now, Davinder proudly works at KFC from 5 PM to 11 PM, balancing his job responsibilities with his studies. The part-time job not only provides him with a monthly salary of Rs 8000 but also allows him to support his parents and cover his educational expenses.

We applaud Davinder's dedication and resourcefulness in pursuing both his passion for computers and his commitment to higher education. His story is a testament to the power of perseverance and seizing opportunities when they arise.

## **Ankush Kumar: From Village School to IT Success**

We are delighted to share the incredible success story of Ankush Kumar, a determined Information Technology student hailing from the village of Nara in Hoshiarpur. Ankush's journey exemplifies the transformative power of skill development and the unwavering support of his vocational trainer, Mr. Arvind Kumar, from GSSS Nara.

In today's world, where the demand for skilled IT professionals continues to rise, Ankush Kumar has emerged as a shining example of what can be achieved through hard work and determination.

With Mr. Arvind Kumar's guidance and support, Ankush successfully navigated the world of IT, taking advantage of every opportunity that came his way. He embraced the challenges and dedicated himself to acquiring the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in his field.

Ankush secured a position at Sabi Photographers, where he has been working for the past six months. Despite starting with limited financial resources, his passion and determination have propelled him forward. Today, he earns a monthly salary of Rs 1500, a testament to his hard work and commitment to his craft.



Now, Ankush feels like he is on the right track, building the foundation for a promising future in the IT industry. His determination, combined with the skills acquired through his vocational training, has set him apart and opened doors to lucrative opportunities even before graduation.



## Empowering Success: Shining Bright in IT&ITes Trade



We are delighted to introduce an exceptional student from GSSS Talwandi Chowdryan in Kapurthala district, who is making remarkable strides in the field of IT&ITes. Meet our talented student who believes in the power of freedom and hard work, carving her path to success.

In her pursuit of excellence, she chose to join the NSQF program under the IT&ITes trade, showcasing her determination to thrive in the dynamic world of technology. Through her dedication and commitment, she has secured a position at Kapoor Cloth House in Talwandi Chowdyan, where she works diligently, earning a monthly salary of Rs 4000.

She firmly believes in the transformative

power of freedom. According to her, when people have the freedom to make their own choices, they are more likely to pursue their passions, be it in a positive or negative direction. However, she also acknowledges the importance of guidance and the potential confusion that arises when others impose their will on individuals, clouding their judgement of right and wrong.

With this understanding, she is a strong advocate for personal growth and self-reliance. She emphasizes that true success comes through perseverance and unwavering effort. Regardless of the challenges encountered along the way, she encourages everyone to stay determined, never losing sight of their goals.

"That goes for women too!" she adds, highlighting the importance of empowering women to seize opportunities and achieve greatness in their chosen fields. She believes in breaking barriers and shattering stereotypes, paving the way for a more inclusive and progressive society.

In her inspiring journey, she exemplifies the spirit of resilience and hard work, reminding us all that nothing worth having comes easy. Her dedication to her craft and her unwavering work ethic are the driving forces behind her accomplishments.

## Building Success and Camaraderie: Manpreet Singh's Journey in IT&ITes

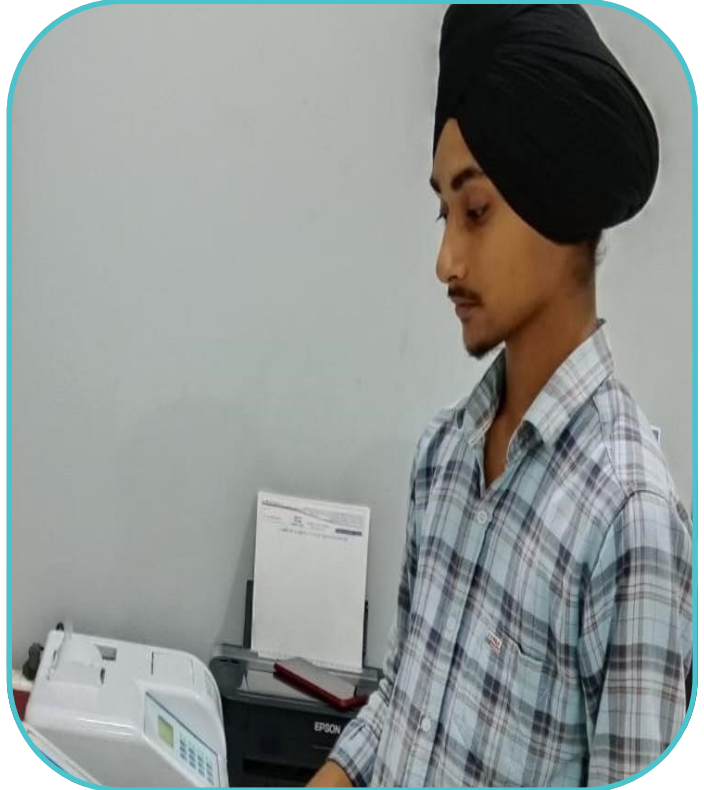
We are excited to introduce Manpreet Singh, a talented student from the NSQF program under the IT&ITes trade, who has been making significant strides in his career while fostering a close-knit work environment. Join us as we delve into his inspiring journey.

Manpreet Singh is currently working at Punjab Diagnostic Lab, his hometown, where he has been a valuable team member for the past three years. Through his dedication and hard work, he earns a commendable monthly income of Rs 2000.

"It's not always easy, but it's worth it," shares Manpreet, highlighting the commitment required to succeed in the ever-evolving field of IT&ITes. Despite the challenges he faces, his unwavering determination and passion for his work keep him motivated.

One aspect that Manpreet particularly cherishes about his workplace is the close-knit nature of the team. The familiarity among team members creates a supportive and collaborative atmosphere, making the work environment enjoyable and fulfilling.

Having spent three years at Punjab Diagnostic Lab, Manpreet has gained valuable experience through various project works. He appreciates the ample opportunities provided to learn and expand



his skill set, which contributes to his professional growth.

Manpreet notes that the camaraderie among colleagues is exceptional. As they work closely together, seeing each other every day, a strong bond forms, fostering a sense of unity and creating a fun-filled workplace. He believes that if you're seeking a place to work that combines a lively atmosphere with great people, Punjab Diagnostic Lab might just be the perfect fit for you.



## Twinkle Kumar: Illuminating the Path to Success in IT&ITes



Today, we bring you an inspiring story of Twinkle Kumar, a talented student from the NSQF program under the IT&ITes trade. Twinkle's journey is a testament to the power of passion, hard work, and seizing opportunities. Let's dive into his remarkable tale.

Twinkle Kumar is currently employed as a Computer Operator at Sanjivini Hospital, where he showcases his skills and earns a monthly salary of Rs 3500. His love for computers has been a driving force behind his journey towards success.

"Getting started is the most important part," shares Twinkle, emphasizing the significance of taking that initial step towards one's goals. He has always been fascinated by computers and yearned to learn more about them. With his determination and enthusiasm, he applied for a position at the hospital where his current employer works as a computer operator.

Twinkle's prior knowledge and proficiency in the fundamental aspects of computer operations enabled him to quickly adapt to his new role. He was ready to embrace additional responsibilities and make a meaningful contribution to the hospital's operations.

Twinkle Kumar's story is not just about his admirable accomplishments but also his infectious smile that lights up the room. His journey is a testament to the dedication and hard work he has invested to reach this level of success.

We celebrate Twinkle's passion for computers and his eagerness to expand his knowledge in the field of IT&ITes. His story reminds us that pursuing our interests can lead to fulfilling career opportunities and personal growth.

### Simran: From Brushstrokes to Bytes - An Inspiring Journey

Today, we are delighted to share the inspiring journey of Simran, a talented student from GGSSS Railway Mandi Hoshiarpur. Simran's story encapsulates the power of adaptability, passion, and seizing new opportunities. Let's delve into her remarkable tale.

Simran, a dedicated student, successfully completed her 12th class during the session 2022-2023. Her journey into the world of art began early on when she chose drawing as an elective subject from 6th to 8th class. Her artistic flair and dedication were evident, but little did she know that her path would soon take an exciting turn.

However, as fate would have it, Simran stumbled upon the IT/ITeS subject, which ignited a newfound curiosity within her. Driven by her desire to broaden her skill set and explore the world of technology, she made the bold decision to leave her previous elective subject and opt for IT/ITeS in the 9th standard. Her passion for this field continued to flourish as she advanced to the 11th standard.

After her exams, Simran was presented with an opportunity for apprenticeship at Prabhnoor Collection. Excited to explore new horizons, she eagerly embraced the experience. Simran's employer commended her obedience and witnessed her tremendous growth as she immersed herself in the work with utmost enthusiasm.

Simran's dedication and thirst for knowledge did not go unnoticed. In pursuit of her dreams, she confidently appeared for an interview at the esteemed Advance Net Institute, aiming for the position of Trainer. The outcome was nothing short of exceptional – Simran



was selected for the coveted role, a testament to her talent, determination, and remarkable growth.

Now, Simran proudly holds the position of Trainer at Advance Net Institute, where she imparts her knowledge and expertise to aspiring learners. Her commitment to her craft shines through as she helps shape the future generation of IT professionals. In recognition of her efforts, Simran receives a monthly salary of Rs 3000, a testament to her skill and dedication.

Simran's journey reminds us that embracing new opportunities and following our passions can lead to remarkable transformations. Her transition from brushstrokes to bytes showcases the power of adaptation and the endless possibilities that await those who dare to explore new paths.

As we celebrate Simran's achievements, let us draw inspiration from her unwavering dedication and resilience. Her story serves as a reminder that well-told stories have the ability to turn moments of great crises into moments of new beginnings.

Stay tuned for more stories.