



**IMPACT  
REPORT**  
2015-16





# WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

As per ASER 2014, 260 million (76%) kids drop out. 52% of Grade 5 students can't read a Grade 2 text or do simple math. In numeracy, 74% of students enrolled in Class 5 could not complete a Class 3 division problem. The relatively well-performing states of Himachal Pradesh and Tamil Nadu ranked at the bottom globally in the 2009 Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) test conducted by the organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The assessment measures the quantitative and critical reasoning competencies of 15-year-old students across the world. The two Indian States were placed ahead of only Kyrgyzstan among the 74 participating regions, both in the reading and the Maths assessment.





# WHO ARE WE?

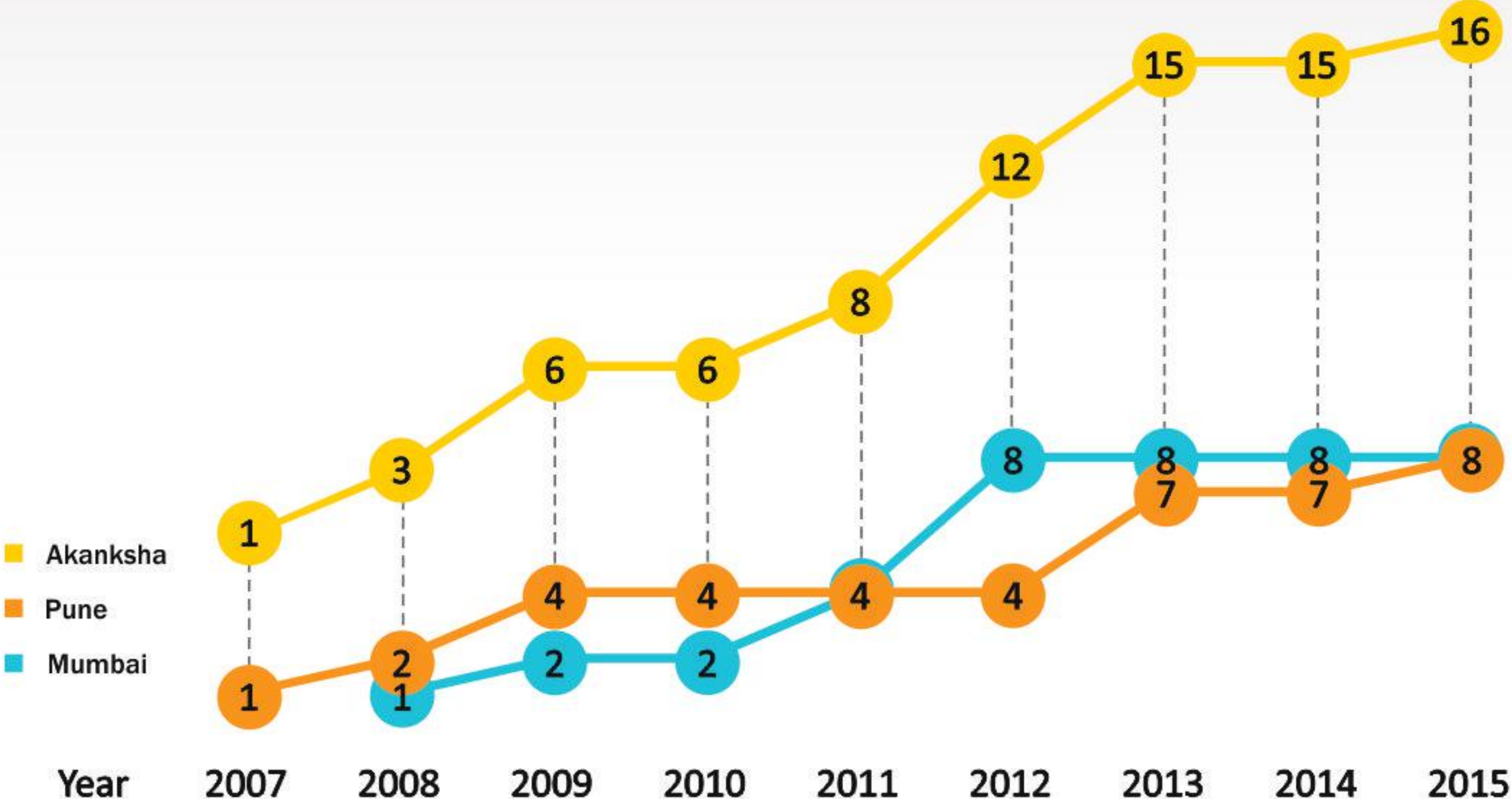
Akanksha is a 25 year old organization working towards the vision that one day all children will be equipped with the knowledge skills and character they need to lead empowered lives. Akanksha started with after school centers that focused on imparting quality education to children from low income communities.

In 2007, the Pune Municipal Corporation approached our Board Member and Chairperson of The Thermax Foundation, Anu Aga to partner with them to run Municipal schools in the city of Pune.

Thus, was born Akanksha's first school in the city of Pune. The Project has grown to 16 schools in a span of 8 years and in addition to the PMC, we now partner with the BMC in Mumbai, the PCMC in Pune and the Thermax Foundation.



# HOW HAVE WE GROWN?



In 2015, we reached out to 4748 students across two cities through the support of 393 teachers and staff.





# WHO ARE OUR STUDENTS?

The students who are enrolled in our schools come from low income communities located in different parts of Mumbai and Pune. A large majority of them are first generation learners who's parents have never had the opportunity to access quality education. Apart from these factors are the rampant social evils such as alcoholism, drug abuse and severe gender discrimination. It is hence not only education we focus on but also the lack of emotional stability, role models and conducive learning atmosphere within which they can excel.





# WHO ARE OUR PARENTS?

Our students are the children of household helpers, tailors, rickshaw-drivers and labourers that we meet everyday. Hardship, cramped spaces, lack of sanitation and water scarcity are a reality for them. Most of them have never accessed quality education, making their children first generation learners.

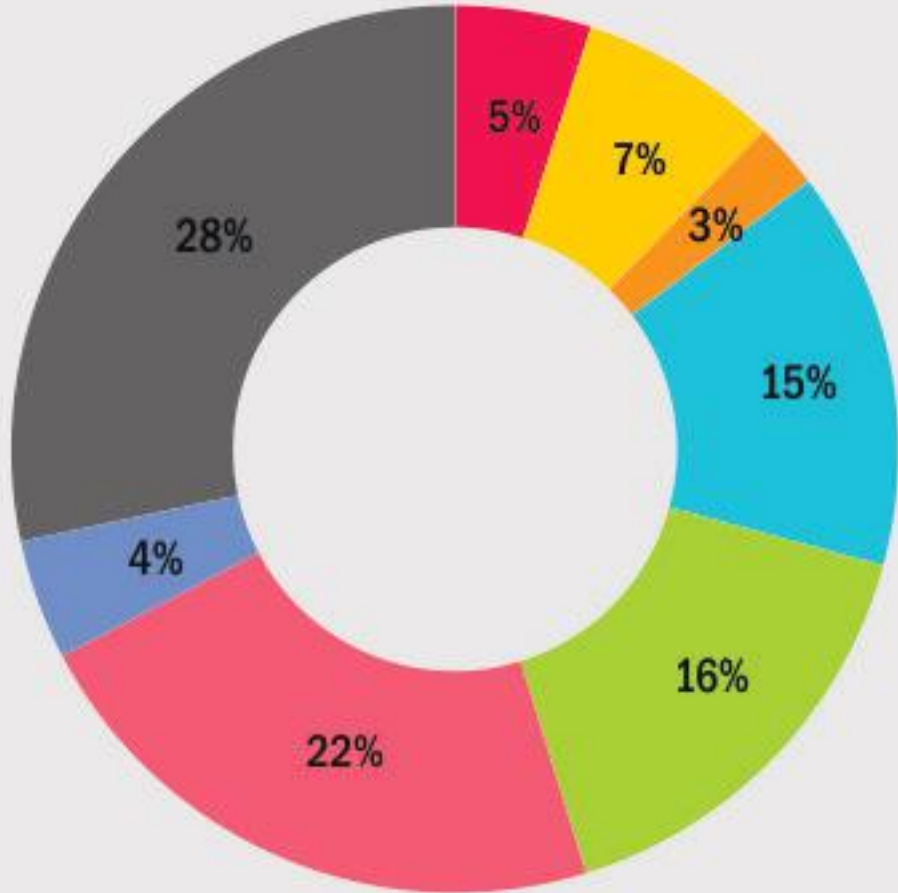
*“Apart from the strong academic practices followed here, Akanksha ensures that there is a support system in the form of social workers, counsellors and alumni assistance, something I couldn’t imagine during my school days. It is because of this that my child aspires to become a teacher himself one day.”*

Parent of Akanksha Student,  
Abhyudaya Nagar Mumbai Public School



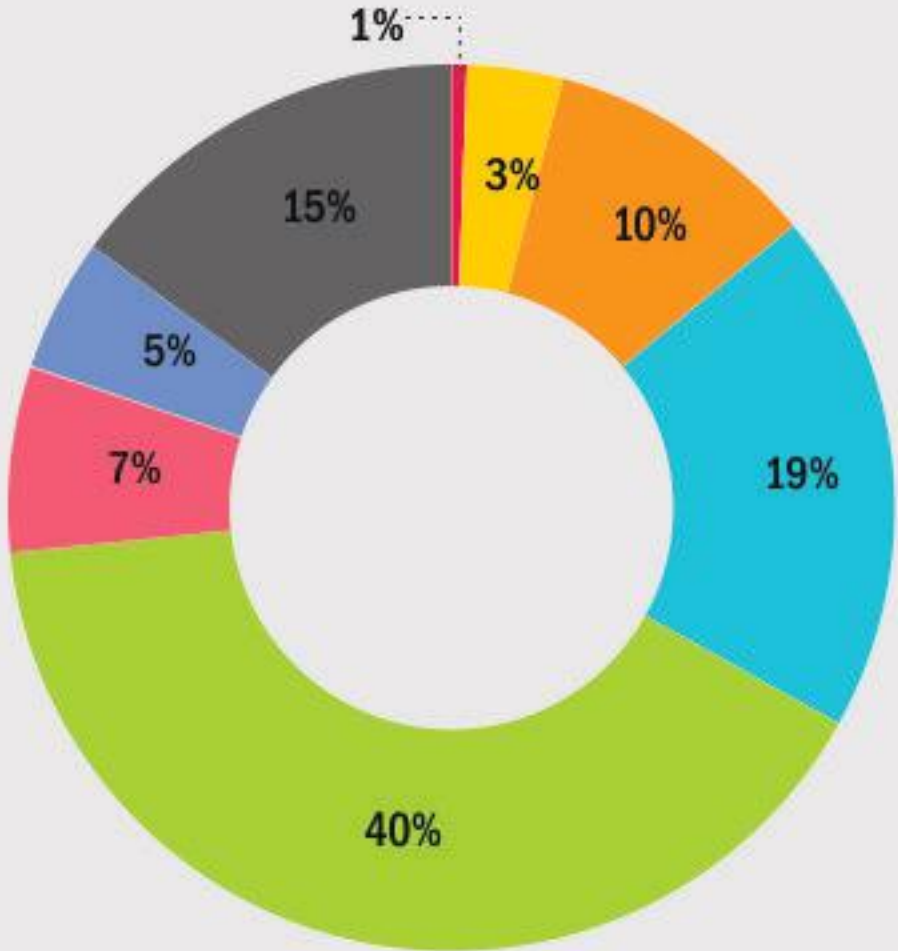
# PARENT BACKGROUND

## PARENT OCCUPATION (%)



- Business
- Driver
- Government Service
- Private/Service
- Skilled
- Unskilled
- Other
- Data Not Available

## PARENT EDUCATION (%)



- Post - Graduate
- Graduate
- HSC
- SSC
- 5th
- 1st
- Uneducated
- Data Not Available





# HOW IS AKANKSHA DIFFERENT?

Akanksha students are exposed to a wide variety of opportunities meant to give them access to sports, the arts, leadership development programs and service learning initiatives.

While we want to keep pushing the bar on student achievement, we want to ensure that each student is not just prepared to be successful on exams but also on the development of their character and the socio-emotional skills that will set them up for success in higher education and in life.

We seek to achieve this through the integration of these concepts into classroom pedagogical practice and through the offering of high-quality co-curricular and extra-curricular programming designed to meet those objectives.

Our Community engagement goals involves parents as an integral part of the child's journey in school.





### **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

Student scores will improve through the effective use of evidence and pedagogical practices.



### **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

Students will develop life skills and character strengths required to be successful.



### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Parents will be actively involved in their children's learning.





## **CHILDREN WHO ATTEND SCHOOL REGULARLY, STAY IN SCHOOL**

Low attendance creates learning gaps making the whole learning process harder. Our dedicated school team works with students and their communities to ensure that they attend classes and are up to date.

### **AVERAGE STUDENT ATTENDANCE**

**92%**

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## **CHILDREN WHO STAY IN SCHOOL, PERFORM BETTER AFTER SCHOOL**

Our model ensures that children learn to enjoy the process of learning. We ignite in them the curiosity to learn, which drives most of them to achieve to the best of their ability.

### **AVERAGE STUDENT RETENTION**

**98%**





# HOW DO WE ENSURE OUR PARENTS ARE INVESTED?

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

Getting the parents of our students involved goes toward creating a support system and effective learning atmosphere. It helps our students prioritize education when their parents are invested in them.





# HOW DO WE ENSURE OUR PARENTS ARE INVESTED?

## SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (SMC)

The Right to Education act mandates that the schools have a School Management Committee, constituted by the parents of the students, to help in the running of the school. All our schools have active SMC bodies that work towards the effective running of the school and serve as advocates of the community.

## CENTRAL SMC

The central SMC looks at city-wide issues that Akanksha faces. A consortium of parents from each of our schools form the Central SMC. The Central SMC works closely with the advocacy team to address challenges that are common across the Akanksha network of schools.

## AVERAGE PARENT ATTENDANCE

**75%**





# WHAT ARE THE SKILLS WE LEARNT?

We take pride in the performance of our students as their results are our results, reflecting directly on the quality of our work. Our students make us proud every year with their performance.



# SKILLS WE LEARNT

Our team has identified skills that are essential across all grades in order to ensure that our students have a strong academic foundation. The schools initiate imparting these skills from the junior grades and work on them throughout the child's schooling.



## ENGLISH

- Words: Vocabulary, Meaning, Context, Usage.
- Grammar: Concepts, Usage, Practical Application.
- Speaking and Writing: Punctuation, Sentence Structure.
- Context: Identifying Main Idea, Understanding Meaning.
- Interpretation: Inferring Hidden Ideas, Emotions, Expressions.



## MATHEMATICS

- Numbers: Basic Numeric Competency, Concepts.
- Data: Measurement and Interpretation.
- Concepts: Algebra and Geometry.
- Problems: Simple and Advanced Level.
- Application: Everyday Usage.



## SCIENCE

- Knowledge: Facts and Concepts.
- Classification: Organisms and Processes.
- Formulation: Hypothesis, Experiments.
- Analysis: Information, Trends
- Application: Extraction, Scientific Facts.



# HOW HAVE OUR STUDENTS PERFORMED IN THE STATE BOARD (STD. 10) EXAMINATION?

The impact of the model can be seen in the SSC exam results, (as given below) in comparison to the Maharashtra scores.

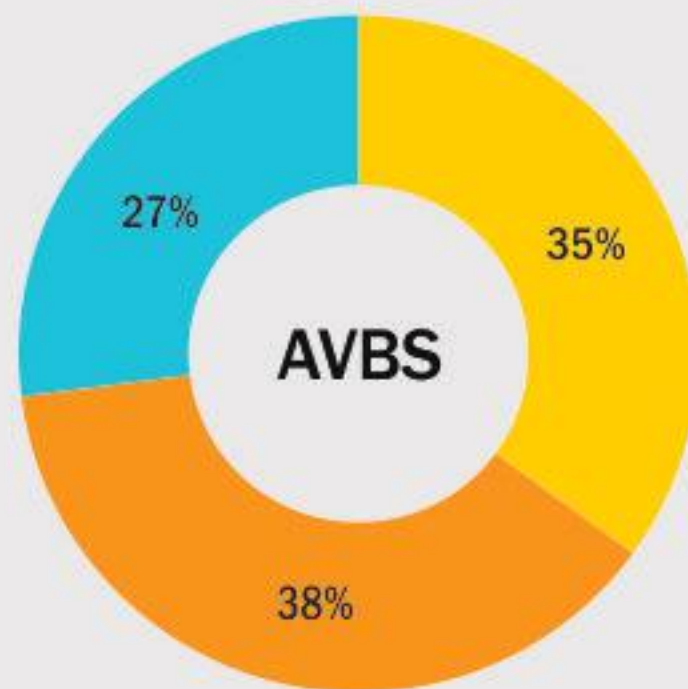
K.C. Thackeray Vidya Niketan (KCTVN), for the fourth time in a row, achieved a 100% pass percentage and 98% (all but one student) achieved a first class or distinction, a jump from 93% last year.

The highest ranked student achieved a 92.6%, with 15 students appearing on the merit list (over 85%).

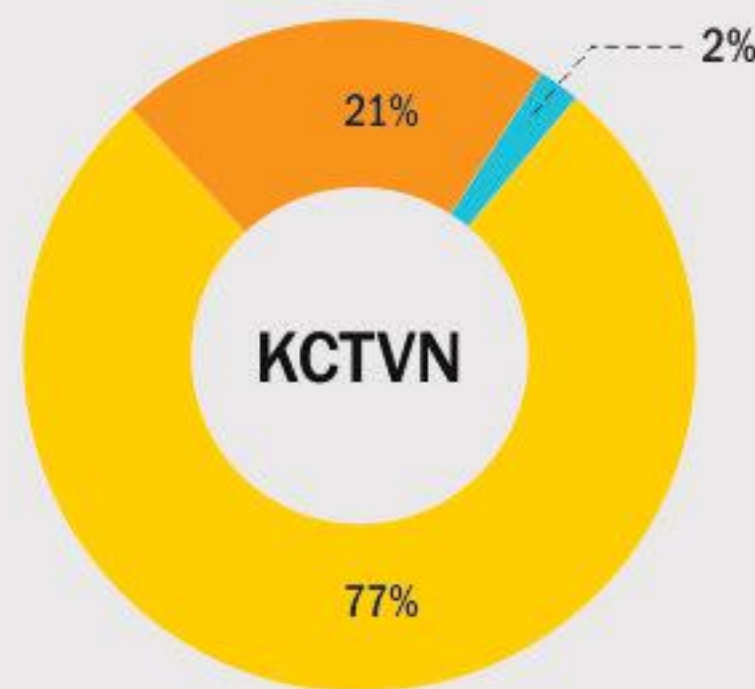
In our first English Medium Secondary School in Pune, Acharya Vinobha Bhave School (AVBS), all but one student cleared the exam on the first attempt (97% pass result).

## ACADEMICS

### AKANKSHA SCHOOLS



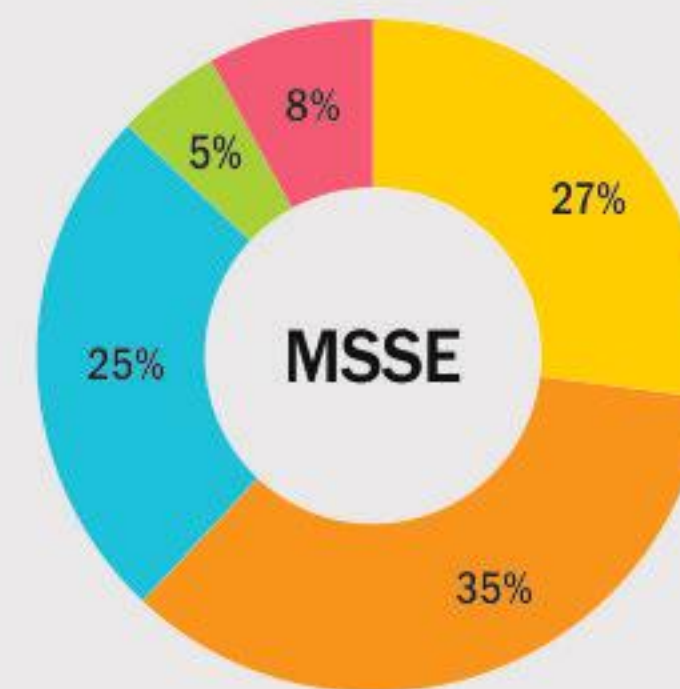
■ DISTINCTION



■ FIRST CLASS

■ SECOND CLASS

### GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS



■ PASS

■ FAIL

AVBS - Acharya Vinoba Bhave Secondary English Medium School

KCTVN - K. C. Thackeray Vidya Niketan

MSSE - Maharashtra State Secondary Examination





# LEADING THE CHANGE?

Our team of dedicated School leaders and teachers enable us to work the way we do. Under their wise and able leadership and practices, our students continue to thrive and outperform every year. Our best practices make our schools a “one of a kind” model.

Our evaluations have always shown that it not only the attendance of our students that matters. Teacher attendance and retention is a key feature of our model.

All new teachers go through a rigorous pre-service residential training program. Once the academic year begins, they are supported with constant feedback, peer observations and best practices are shared through monthly workshops that are conducted by the network support team.

**AVERAGE  
TEACHER ATTENDANCE**

**94%**

**AVERAGE  
TEACHER RETENTION**

**92%**





**WHAT  
ARE THEY  
SAYING  
ABOUT US?**





“

*“Credit Suisse has been associated with Akanksha for a few years now. I think it's a great program and Akanksha is doing a great job.”*

...

**Mihir Doshi**  
Managing Director & Country Head,  
Credit Suisse



“

*“In my assessment, excellent education is the need of the hour and the program is superb. Very well done to Akanksha, keep this going!”*

...

**Sudhanshu Vats**  
Group CEO,  
Viacom18 Media Pvt. Ltd.





*"I am glad CNBC TV 18 could partner with Akanksha and I was able to interact with their students. It left me feeling inspired and excited."*

...

**Shereen Bhan**  
Managing Editor,  
CNBC-TV18



*"I feel lucky to have been given this chance to study at Akanksha which opened so many doors for me. Apart from academics, it has also made me a confident and well rounded individual. I hope some day, every child has access to the kind of education I received."*

...

**Komal Raut**  
Intern at KPMG Consultancy,  
Akanksha Alumni





**THANK YOU**