



# EXPLORE

The Corporate Newsletter of the MMI Group



***REACH THE TOP  
with BIG DREAMS.***

*“For Those Who Dare to Dream Big”*

*-Dr T Chandroo*



**MMI INDIA**  
Opening of  
their 2nd  
centre Pune  
in India

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**MMI THAILAND**  
School Photo  
& Class Photo

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*Dr Chandroo's book "Reach the Top with Big Dreams" is a well grounded inspirational book. It is a great road map to success with hard work and integrity.*

**Shiv Khera**

*International Motivational Speaker*

*Author of the International Best Selling book "You Can Win"*

*22 December 2015*



**REACH THE TOP with BIG DREAMS.**

***"For Those Who Dare to Dream Big"***

**“** So here's a question I would like you to ask yourself, what can I do to empower my personal space of growth? What character of action should I maintain constantly? Whom should I see about it? What impact will my decisions have?

*Asking yourself these questions forces you to bust free from your comfort zone and demands of you to push your boundaries because there is a warrior in all of us, waiting to come out. ”*

*- Dr T Chandroo*

**The official launch of Dr T Chandroo's Motivational Book,  
"REACH THE TOP with BIG DREAMS - For Those Who Dare To Dream Big"**

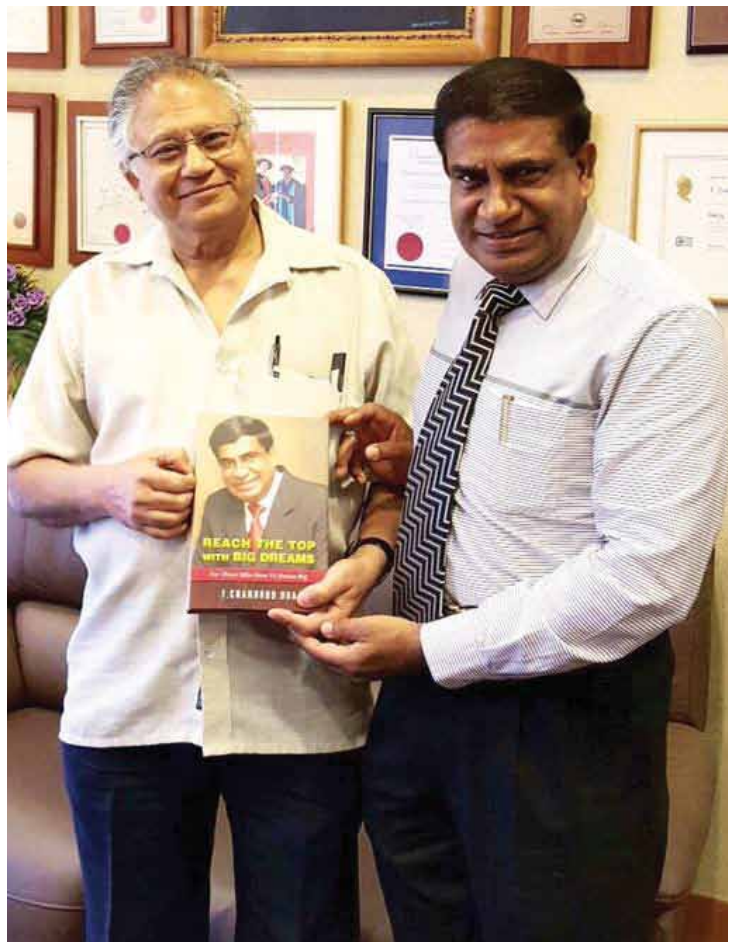


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**Guest of Honour :**  
**Mr S Iswaran**  
**Minister for Trade and Industry (Industry)**

**Venue:**  
**Mochtar Riady Auditorium,**  
**Singapore Management University**

▶  
**Humbled to be presenting a copy of my book  
"REACH THE TOP with BIG DREAMS - For Those Who  
Dare to Dream Big" to Mr Shiv Khera, an Interna-  
tional Motivational Speaker and Author of the  
International Best Selling Book, "You Can Win".**

**- Dr T Chandroo**



This term the MMI Croydon Manager has made an appearance in one of the most popular Preschool magazines in the UK. Irena took part in case study about professional development of early years' practitioners and how important training is to give the best education for the children.

One of the compulsory training for all early years' staff is a safeguarding and child protection training. Everyone who works in the early years settings must have knowledge in knowing what to look out for and how crucial is for everyone to be alerted.

The child protection training is available through local authority or privately. Not only are the early year's practitioners aware of the child protection procedures but parents too. The training gives the confidence to all staff in early years' sector.

## Case study 'Gaining confidence'

Irena Daskevici, manager at Modern Montessori, Croydon, has recently updated her safeguarding training.



I've been working in early years for over eight years now, coming into a Modern Montessori International setting with a Level 3 qualification in Early Years Childcare. I went on to take my Level 4 after my first year. Ideally I'd love to work towards a full degree in early years and this is something I'm definitely planning to do in the future.

'All Modern Montessori staff here receive safeguarding training through Croydon Council as part of their CPD. Personally, I feel child protection training has given me more confidence in knowing what I should be looking out for, in terms of warning signs. It is also about understanding how to work with parents and pass information on to families, which I do during parent meetings.

'You might think you know just about everything you should about the subject, but once you start the training, it's surprising how many new aspects there are to consider. This includes the importance of gaining the bigger picture around the child and understanding what to do in terms of communicating with colleagues if there are concerns.'

## continuing professional development

# How to make a difference

Safeguarding training is a necessity rather than a matter of choice. Karen Hart looks at the latest policy developments and recommends courses that meet the new requirements at basic and advanced levels.

Are you up to date with safeguarding? It is a challenging area of practice, and frequently subject to new legislation and policy requirements. While high levels of expertise and experience are required by safeguarding leads, and those with a designated safeguarding role, it is also important that all staff in an early years setting have basic safeguarding training, to meet the current requirements, which now include the Prevent Duty.

**What is meant by safeguarding?**  
Safeguarding is the action that is taken to protect the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

This means:

- Protecting children from abuse and maltreatment.
- Preventing harm to children's health or development.
- Ensuring children grow up with the protection of safe and effective care.
- Taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best possible outcomes.

### Safeguarding children in your care

Organisations are required to make sure the way they work with children keeps them safe and does not place them at unacceptable risk of harm.

This can be done by:

- Establishing, implementing and following good safeguarding policies

and procedures, including safe recruitment.

- Ensuring all staff and volunteers are aware of, and follow, their organisation's safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Ensuring that all staff and volunteers receive child protection training.

For more detailed information see the policy document, Working together to safeguard children, and the Safeguarding and Child Protection Manual in the EYF5 Statutory Framework.

### New areas

#### Prevent Duty

From July 2015, all schools and childcare providers, including early year's providers, are required to recognise the need to prevent them from being drawn into extremist/terrorist.

The Government has designed extension to the Prevent strategy as 'used as a means of opposition to fundamentalist ideologies, including:

extremism, the rule of law, individual liberty and social justice and equality.'

While much of this will already be covered during PSHE activities, many child protection courses are now incorporating Prevent Duty awareness and training. An Ofsted requirement is now that 'Practitioners promote children's welfare and promoting inclusiveness and extension.'

#### Online safety

This will include any training under increasing scrutiny from Ofsted. Nannies and preschools are now expected to see the world of good internet practice early in a child's education. It is also hoped that early years professionals will gain their online safety knowledge on in-house members within their groups.

#### Accessing a course

Your first port of call for training should be your local authority, many of which will provide free training in basic safeguarding, which all staff need to undertake.

These is a designated person role will have undertaken advanced courses and will need regular refreshers to keep them up to speed with policy.

Samantha Greening, is a qualified safeguarding trainer and director and manager of Lifelong Memories, in Cuscliffe, Leicestershire. She specialises in providing local authority support for safeguarding training, which has proved extremely valuable.

She says: 'We're fortunate in that our council will teach child protection/safeguarding

'It is vitally important that each individual feels they can say something - it may be crucial'

training for preschool workers, which is tailored to personal requirements and provides a comprehensive knowledge of the subject.

Female genital mutilation (FGM) for example, is covered in the training. Some say it's not applicable - but it is, it happens, so it's relevant.'

A few years ago, as part of her training, Ms Greening was given the opportunity to partner a member of the probation service. 'This was a great opportunity to see things from both ends of the spectrum,' she says.

Ms Greening reports that all her managers and some deputies take the Level 1 National Day Nurseries (NDNA) Child Protection course as part of their induction process. 'This provides a great foundation in child protection,' she says. 'One thing I have learnt from the training is that you do not watch off little alarm bells ring - either at work or in a civilian role. It is vitally important that each individual feels they need to say something. I could be the one person to make a difference.'

### Courses

#### NDNA

**Basic safeguarding**  
A two-to-five course for everyone in your setting, covering what is required by the law, recognising the signs and symptoms of abuse, understanding how to respond and protecting a child's autonomy of child protection.

#### Advanced safeguarding

This is for early years practitioners acting as safeguarding leads, who can then train all staff within your setting. Training ensures a robust safeguarding policy is in place at your setting, and supports the nursery team, children and families with any safeguarding issues or concerns. The course is delivered through NDNA's online system, and covers the Prevent Duty.

[www.ndna.org.uk](http://www.ndna.org.uk)

Call 01 484 40 70 70 to book, or other of these courses.

#### Barrow's Training and Consultancy

#### Safeguarding Training for Early Years

E-learning, blended learning and face-to-face training courses cover all aspects of child protection.

<http://www.barrows.org.uk/trainingandconsultancy>

#### Child Protection Company.com

A wide range of online and face-to-face safeguarding courses, plus a DBS/CRB quick-turnaround checking service.

<http://www.childprotectioncompany.com/>

#### PACEY (Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years)

**Safeguarding Children**  
An online course which is free to PACEY members, alternatively, the course can be purchased by non-members.

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### Further information

- Characteristics of Children in need: 2014 to 2015 - [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/435566/2015\\_characteristics\\_of\\_children\\_in\\_need\\_2014\\_to\\_2015.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/435566/2015_characteristics_of_children_in_need_2014_to_2015.pdf)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children - [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/355668/Working\\_together\\_to\\_safeguard\\_children.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/355668/Working_together_to_safeguard_children.pdf)
- The Prevent Duty Statutory Framework for Schools and Childcare - [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/435566/2015\\_characteristics\\_of\\_children\\_in\\_need\\_2014\\_to\\_2015.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/435566/2015_characteristics_of_children_in_need_2014_to_2015.pdf)
- ERTS Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements - [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/355668/ERTS\\_requirements.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/355668/ERTS_requirements.pdf)



**Photo day: 23rd March 2016** - School photo and class photo



**Chinese new year : 8th February 2016** - Children at MMI had a lot of fun getting ready for the parade and sing a song about the year of the Monkey during their small celebration in the morning in front of the parents.



**Art and book week: 14th to 18th March 2016** - MMI invited the ARC (Always Reading Caravan) that week, in order to raise money and donate books to support small schools in the North of Thailand. Ms. Yoshimi Horiuchi, the Founder and director of this association also taught our little Montessorian how to read Braille. Children had a lot of question for her and shown a lot of interest in learning about braille writing.



**Yoga with kids: 14th March 2016** - Ms. Monica an experience yoga teacher offer a yoga session in order to show the benefit of having children participate in such activities with their parents.

## MMI Malaysia Childcare Centres Activities from Jan-Apr 2016



### ▲ Chinese New Year Celebration : 19th Feb 2016 - Sg Buloh Center

- Children are given opportunity to dance around with the lion head. Parents contributed food and shared among children and teachers. Each child received an ang pow /mandarin orange/ party pack from the principal.



### ▲ Putrajaya Lake Cruise & Hand Soapz Factory Field Trip : 28th March 2016 - Kepong

- Children learnt the process in making soaps and also gained the experience riding on the cruise.



### ▲ Teachers' Appreciation Day : 16th May 2016 - Sg Long

- Presented flowers and cards made by children in front of the children during school's assembly. (To show gratitude and appreciation to teachers among the children).

## MMI Vietnam Inaugural Sports Day: A vintage Sports Day remembered by all



20th May 2016 will be forever remembered as the first ever Sports Day for MMI in Vietnam and for its colour and exuberance. The lack of experience did not deter the MMI Vietnam team from coming out with creative or even outrageous ideas to turn the whole event into Olympics' style games and celebration, much to the delight of all participants including parents, children and our own MMI staff.

The event was held at an open field near our MMI Binh Duong School. The preparation for the Sports Days was thorough and immaculate. Teachers and students practised and rehearsed the dance moves for the opening ceremony and the games for weeks before the actual event. Logistics was planned and executed meticulously. We even received help from the above. Our sports Day coincides with the rainy season in Vietnam and the sky stayed clear in that evening.

The event started at about 4:30pm with our young athletes marching proudly with their parents into the ground. The three competing teams were RED, BLUE and YELLOW. The seriousness on their face told us that they took the competition seriously.

Then it was the lighting of the MMI Olympic Torch. Minh, 3 years old, was chosen to be the child athlete to carry the torch. He ran bravely around the field with his father and finally placed it in its rightful place. It signified the opening of MMI Olympics!

The opening ceremony was unforgettable. Parent, children, teachers danced to the tune of WAKA-WAKA and more. The emotions of jubilation and exhilaration was palpable and filled up the whole mini-stadium.

Then the Games started. Four games was played and it was fiercely competed. Parents and children form strategic alliances to outwit the other teams. In the end the BLUE Team came up top by a narrow margin.

When the dust has settled, winning and losing is not the most important thing. It is the parent-child bonding and the Sports Day also created a community between parents and staff. We are like a big MMI family trying to do our best to care for and educate our children.

The Day lives in us forever! Hip Hip Hooray!





**YOU ARE INVITED**

Celebrate the growth of the MMI Pre-School as we commemorate the opening of our new Center at  
**PIMPLE SAUDAGAR**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 28<sup>TH</sup>**  
**6.00 PM**

**GRAND OPENING**



Guest of Honour: Dr. T Chandroo, Chairman & CEO, MMI Group  
Chief Guest: Mr. Sanjiv Sharma, MD, Singapore  
Venue: Modern Montessori International, Pimple Saudagar

Scan the Code to Locate Us



The most important period of life is not the age of university studies but the first one, the period from birth to the age of 6. This is the time when man's intelligence thrives, his greatest aptitudes is being formed.  
The government must be rich in resources which lead toward to activity and make the child to conduct his own experiences.

Maria Montessori

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Modern Montessori India has grown at an exponential rate in the last 4 years. We will like to congratulate Mr. Rahoul and Mr. Sanjiv on the opening of their 2nd centre Pune. Looking forward to a great long term growth with the team in the state of Maharashtra. The opening was graced by our Chairman / CEO Dr. T Chandroo.

## Countries to be featured in next issue

- MMI Sri Lanka
- MMI Nigeria
- MMI Myanmar
- MMI Kenya
- MMI Egypt

### Send your Feedback & Contributions to:

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Publisher : Modern Montessori International Group  
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