

POCSO AND JJ ACT WORKSHOP

"Childhood should be carefree playing in the sun, not living a nightmare in the darkness of the soul"

On June 30th 2025, Summer Fields School, Greater Kailash- 1, organized a dynamic workshop conducted by Ms. Janhavi Singh who is a law graduate. Her early career has been forged in Fast-Track Special Courts, including exclusive POCSO benches in Ghaziabad.

Childhood is the time where memories are the best treasures. Any neglect or cruelty can have severe and long lasting effects on a child's physical, emotional and psychological well being. Keeping this in consideration the workshop covered and touched the aspect of **The Protection of Children from Sexual Offence** (POCSO) Act 2012 Act and Juvenile Justice(JJ) Act 2015.

Children are among the most vulnerable members of society and need special protection from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. The Government of India has introduced several laws to ensure the safety and rights of children. Two of the most important ones are the POCSO Act, 2012 and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. These laws are integral to the CACA (Child Abuse and Child Awareness) initiative.

The workshop started by understanding basic rights of the children and explaining how they are a vital part of the society and how their well-being and development are crucial for the future. Today, child abuse is a very serious issue that has long lasting and devastating effects on the children. For safeguarding their well being The **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act**, enacted in 2012 by the Government of India was launched. It is a comprehensive law to protect children (below 18 years of age) from sexual assault, harassment, and pornography, and to ensure a child-friendly legal process for handling related cases. It was enacted in response to the rising number of child sexual abuse cases and the need for a specific law to address these issues. The Act was further amended in 2019 to enhance punishments, especially for aggravated sexual assault, including the death penalty for the most severe offences. The Act is gender-neutral and applies to both boys and girls.

The POCSO Act plays a vital role in protecting children's rights and ensuring justice for victims of abuse. Its implementation is crucial in building a safer

environment for children across the country. The importance of this Act in current situation was highlighted. Various POCSO special, child centric strict laws were also discussed and conversed.

Then after, a brief about JJ (Juvenile Justice) Act 2015 was provided. Both the POCSO Act and the JJ Act, are often referred to together in child protection contexts in India. The JJ Act, revised in 2015, in India is dealing with Children in conflict with law (those accused of crimes) and Children in need of care and protection (abandoned, abused, or neglected children). Different aspects of Children's court and orders passed by the Juvenile Justice court were addressed and talked about in the workshop.

Ms. Janhavi made the workshop interactive and highly informative. It was a valuable platform for awareness and training regarding child abuse and their protection against the same. The workshop highlighted the overall act and the key provisions of both the Acts leading to a deeper understanding.

Heartfelt gratitude to our Principal Ms. Shalini Agarwal on behalf of the teachers, for organizing such an insightful and enlightening session.

PRINCIPAL Shalini Agarwal