

EXTRACTS FROM THE JUDGEMENT OF HIGH COURT

PRONOUNCED ON : 27TH JANUARY, 2012

REGARDING ENTRY AGE FOR PRE-SCHOOLS

1. In those schools where Pre-School education is imparted, it has to be treated as entry level and entry level would not start from Pre-Primary in respect of such schools. As a fortiori, children admitted at Pre-school at the age of 3+ will get promotion to Pre-Primary in the next year and for that, they will not have to undergo the admission process all over again.

2. In those schools where there is no Pre-school level, it would be the Pre-Primary which would be treated as entry level where admission is to be given to the children at the age of 4+.

3. The focus on 'care' and 'education' at Pre-school level has to be altogether different. The children are not to be burdened with any textbooks or home-works. Schools also have to keep in mind the specific curriculum framework for ECCE which keeps in mind the guiding principles like play as basis of learning, art as the basis of education, recognition of specific features of children thinking, etc. The ideal teacher-child relationship which is required at this stage allowing the children to express their feelings, sharing their trials and triumphs and teachers being responsive, reaching out to children, is to be given due attention.